

Charlotte County Social Media Terms of Use



Charlotte County social media are designed to communicate official Charlotte County news, information and events to citizens and visitors in convenient, online forums. The use or posting of any content on any social media site administered by Charlotte County by any visitor, follower, subscriber, or fan constitutes acceptance of these Terms of Use.

Charlotte County social media are not to be used in emergency situations to seek emergency services. Anyone in need of emergency services should call 9-1-1.

These terms of use must be displayed to users on all Charlotte County social media sites or made available by hyperlink on Charlotte County social media profile(s) and CharlotteCountyFL.gov where applicable.

Disclaimer

Comments expressed in Charlotte County Social Media accounts do not necessarily reflect the opinions and position of Charlotte County, or its administrators, officers, or employees. Charlotte County reserves the right to remove or hide comments that are in violation of these Terms of Use without prior notification. Charlotte County does not endorse any content, viewpoint, product, or service linked from its social media sites and shall not be held liable for any losses caused by reliance on the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of shared information. Furthermore, Charlotte County bears no responsibility for the accuracy or legality of these materials.

Limited Public Forum

All social media sites administered by Charlotte County are designated as Limited Public Forums. Content, comments and postings are limited to topics related to the official business of Charlotte County, Florida. Charlotte County welcomes a person's right to express his/her opinion regardless of viewpoint and encourages posters to keep comments relevant to the topic in question. Charlotte County reserves the right to remove or hide comments that are not related to the official business of Charlotte County or that otherwise violate these Terms of Use.

Comments & Interactions

Charlotte County reserves the right to repost, share, like, or retweet content from other social media accounts. A like, share, or retweet of content does not constitute or imply an endorsement of that content.

Likewise, comments expressed on any Charlotte County social media page do not necessarily reflect the opinions and position of Charlotte County, its administrators, officers or employees. Comments may be rejected or removed (if possible) when the content:

- Does not pertain to Charlotte County news, information or events;

- Contains obscenity, pornography, or material that appeals to the prurient interest;
- Is threatening, harassing, defamatory or discriminatory;
- Circumvents or attempts to circumvent Public Records and Open Meetings Laws;
- Incites or promotes violence or illegal activities;
- Contains information that reasonably could compromise individual or public safety;
- Advertises or promotes a commercial product or service, or any entity or individual; or advertises or promotes any candidate for any partisan political office.

No Endorsement

In addition to information provided by Charlotte County, social media accounts may contain comments and opinions from unrelated third parties which are being provided as a convenience to the public and for informational purposes only. These comments or opinions do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Charlotte County of any of the views or comments posted.

Charlotte County following or “friending” a person, entity, or organization on a social media platform is not an endorsement by the County of the person, entity, or organization, and is only intended as a means of communication. Any reference or link to a specific person, entity, product, service, or organization posted by an individual on a County social media platform should not be considered an endorsement by the County or any of its departments, employees, officers, agents, or elected officials.

The County does not review, sponsor, or endorse any other websites linked to its website or other social media platforms. The views and opinions of authors expressed on a linked website or other social media platform do not necessarily state or reflect the opinion of the County and may not be quoted or reproduced for the purpose of stating or implying any endorsement or approval of any person, entity, product, service, or organization by the County or any of its departments, employees, officers, agents, or elected officials. Further, the County makes no warranty, or guarantee or promise, express or implied, that the data or material accessible via a linked website is either accurate, complete, up to date, or fit for any use whatsoever. The County is not responsible for the content of any off-site material linked to the County’s web pages or social media accounts.

“Say Cheese” Photo Policy

Program participants may be photographed/videotaped by Charlotte County and the local media for publicity of our programs. Unless you request otherwise, you or your child’s participation in these programs will be considered permission for Charlotte County to photograph or audio/video tape you or your child for use in our publications or promotional materials, in any medium, without restrictions. Charlotte County understands some participants may object to this use. Please notify the County at the time of your registration or participation if you object to Charlotte County using your image or your child’s image in this manner.

Public Records and Sunshine Laws

County social media sites are subject to applicable public records and open meeting laws, including but not limited to, the Florida Public Records Act, Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes, and the Government-in-the-Sunshine Law, Section 286.011 of the Florida Statutes. Social media content is

archived by the County and retained in keeping with Public Records retention schedules. Any content maintained in a social media format related to County business, including communication posted by the County and communication received from citizens, is a public record and may be obtained by any person upon request.

Under Florida law, Section 668.6076 of the Florida Statutes, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to the County and do not provide your e-mail address via any County Social Media platform. Instead, contact the County by phone or in writing.

Indemnity

By use of the County's social media accounts, the User agrees to indemnify and hold Charlotte County and its officers, employees and agents harmless from any claim, liability, loss, expense or demand, including attorney's fees, related to the user's violation of these Terms of Use or the use of the services and information provided on any of the County's Social Media accounts.