

# Monthly Report

## March 2021

## Vaccine doses near 140,000 in Charlotte

COVID-19 vaccinations in Charlotte County as of April 12, 2021 neared 140,000 doses, with more than 91,000 residents having received at least one dose. More than 52,000 residents, about 29.5% of the county population are fully vaccinated.

The average age of newly infected residents has fallen to 57 as vaccine distribution to over 65 residents has increased.

A Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine clinic for ages 16 and up will be held Saturday, April 24. Minors must have a legal guardian present. Please bring a completed consent form: <https://tinyurl.com/dohform>.

The clinic will be located at Tringali Park Community Center, 3460 N Access Road, Englewood. Second Shots will be at the same location on May 22.

[Register here.](#)

## Centennial Boulevard dedication



Charlotte County Commissioners joined executives from Kolter Group to dedicate Centennial Boulevard in the developing community of West Port on March 25, 2021.

## Sales tax projects update: Sailing center, Family Services Center, airplane fire trainer

Work has been completed on the Charlotte County Justice Center renovations, including a new secure-entry pavilion, new courtrooms, and expanded or reconfigured spaces for the offices of the state attorney, public defender and clerk of court. The work also included the



installation of a generator that will allow the Justice Center to continue operating during power interruptions. That part of the project was funded by the 1% local option sales tax approved by voters in 2014.

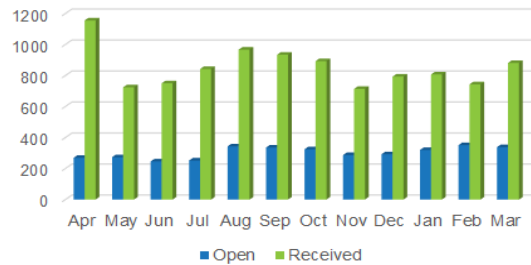
The new Family Services Center in Port Charlotte is moving along very quickly. The 17,000-square-foot center will house the county's 211 department as well as commu-

nity nonprofit partners providing vital services to residents. The new building is the first of two phases for the project. Funding for Phase 2 will be provided the 2020 1% local option sales tax approved by voters in November.

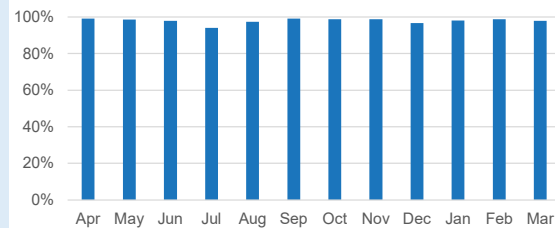
Another sales tax project making quick progress is the community sailing center at Port Charlotte Beach Park. A ribbon-cutting will be held in April.

## Information Technology

### Service Tickets by Month

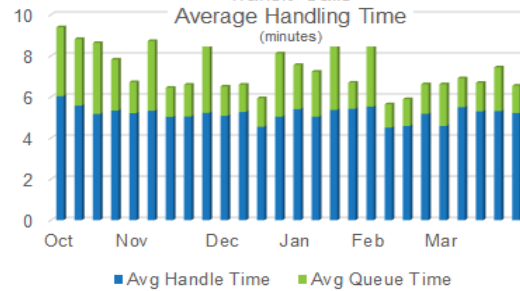


### Customer Satisfaction % Positive

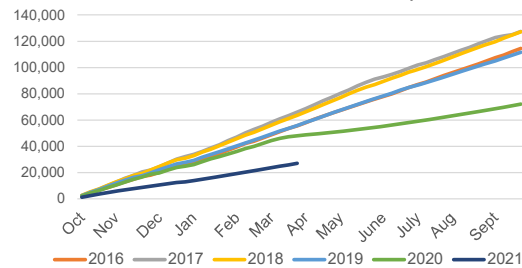


## Transit

### Transit Calls Average Handling Time (minutes)



### Annual Cumulative Ridership

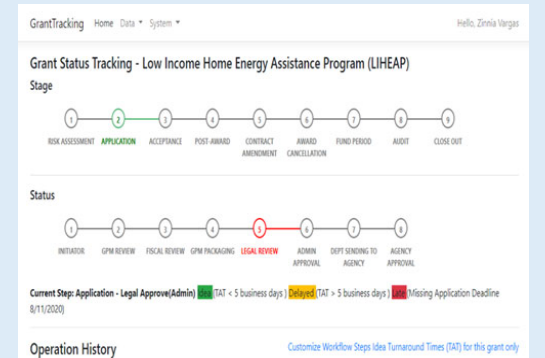


## Director Highlights

### Grants Website

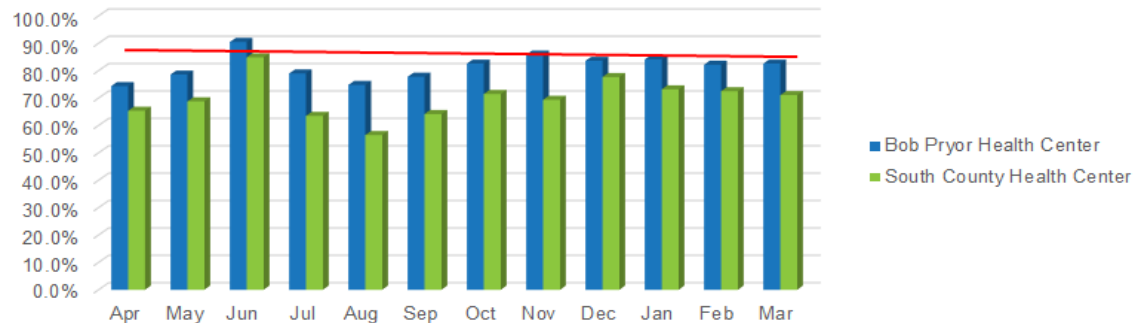
The new Grants Site is now live! This new system, produced by our IT department, enables users to manage the grant cycle from application to closeout by automating the current forms and routing them to obtain authorizations and electronic signatures. Grant documentation will reside in the new system and is accessible across departments and the Clerk's office. The main features of the new site include real-time notifications and reminders via email, detailed activity status, and staff assist function. In FY20, the Grants Section managed 175 grants and processed 46 new Federal/State/Local grants totaling \$57.3M. The new Grants Site can be found on the Budget and Fiscal page on Connect at Work.

### March 2021



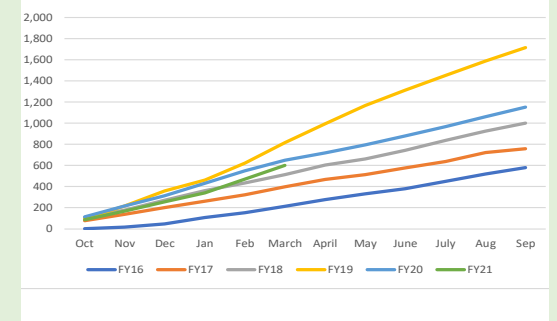
## Health Center

### Employee Health Center Monthly Appointment Utilization Summary



## Records Management

### Record Requests





# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?

## IN PLANNING

- **Cochran Corners Subdivision Parcel C**— (Preliminary Site Plan) The project consists of 8,618 ± sq. ft. retail (salon) building and is located at 19669 Cochran Boulevard, Port Charlotte.
- Final Site Plan approval for 2,050 sq. ft. Dunkin Donuts, 4,085 sq. ft. Heartland Dental and an additional 2,600 sq. ft. retail and is located at 5605 S. McCall Rd., Englewood.
- **Jacaranda Place**— Final Detail Site Plan approval for an 88 unit multi-family apartment complex located at 1200 Loveland Boulevard, Port Charlotte.
- **Firefighter training facility** — Preliminary & Final Site Plan for a Firefighter training facility with a simulator, equipment shed, propane tank, water storage tank, one building and a proposed future building, located at 26597 Airport Road, Punta Gorda.

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- **Gas station** — Gas station and convenience store, with drive thru restaurant, stand-alone automated car wash at 19100 Peachland Blvd., Port Charlotte.



- **Publix** — Supermarket featuring groceries, deli, bakery and meat department at 42051 Cypress Parkway, Punta Gorda (Babcock Ranch).

- **Charlotte Commons Apartments** — Apartment complex with 264 units, and clubhouse at 24150 Beatrix Blvd., Port Charlotte.



- **West Port** — 1,400 unit residential development formerly known as Murdock Village.

## COMPLETED!!

- **Tire Choice** — Tire and automotive service store at 19100 Veterans Blvd., Port Charlotte.



- **Sherwin Williams** — Paint and coating manufacturing company at 19150 Veterans Blvd., Port Charlotte.

## PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

### Babcock Update

- 1,234 Single Family permits submitted since August 2016
- 885 Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016

### Murdock Village Update

- Rezoning was approved for 400+ acres in the western section of Murdock Village in order to have mixed-use development with a maximum of 2,400 single and multi family units, commercial uses, and a 150-room hotel.
- Two preliminary plats in house for Kolter Development.
- Arredondo Pointe/Lost Lagoon Development which includes a mixture of retail, entertainment, water park, and hotel uses.

**Total Single Family Permits Issued: 224**  
Single Family Permits Issued—Babcock: 52

**Total Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 188**  
Single Family Certificate of Occupancy Issued—Babcock: 28

**Total Permits Issued: 3,475**

**Total Permits Issued FY19-20: 32,037**  
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2019—Sept. 2020)

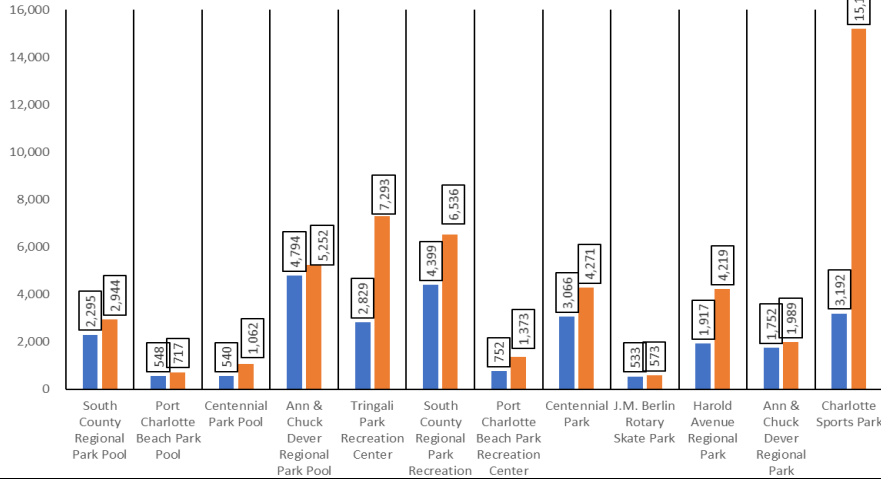
**Total Permits Issued FY20-21: 16,308**  
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2020—Sept. 2021)

## PERMITTING SNAPSHOT

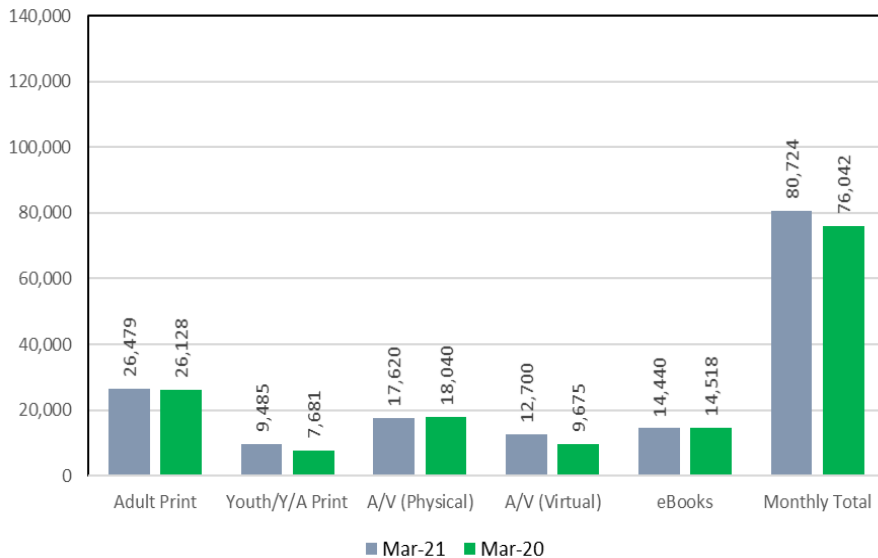


**CHARLOTTE COUNTY**  
Community Development

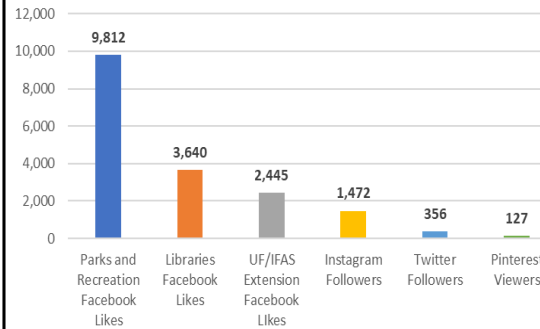
**Recreation Centers and Aquatic Facilities Attendance**



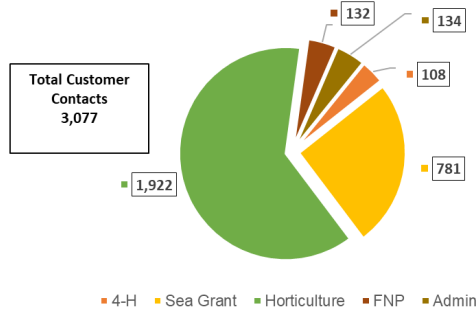
**2020 - 2021 Circulation Comparison**



**Social Media Impact**



**UF/IFAS Extension Service Customer Contacts**



**Coastal Management**

**Abandoned/Derelict Vessels Program**

- 1 removed
- 3 ready for removal
- 3 open case
- 1 cited by law enforcement
- 1 relocated

**Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance**

- 454 Youth Leagues and Adult Softball practices
- 2 Tournaments/11 fields
- 5,048 Trash bags collected
- 863 Recycling bags collected

**Land Management**

- 43.8 Miles trails maintained
- 14.6 acres exotic treatment

**Project Management**

- 53 Projects
- \$ 3,672,415

**Shorebird Monitoring**

Stump Pass State Park

Wilson Plovers	4
Black Skimmers	125
Royal terns	362
Laughing gulls	268

Palm Island Mitigation Area

Wilson's Plovers	7
Black Skimmers	75

Don Pedro/Knight Island

Least Tern	1
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Bird Island

American Oystercatcher	2
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### Centennial Boulevard Dedication & Ribbon Cutting at West Port



On March 25th Charlotte County Commissioners and Kolter Land officially dedicated the newly constructed Centennial Boulevard at the West Port master planned community. West Port is being developed by KL West Port LLC, a development company managed by Kolter Land. West Port is part of the Murdock Village Community Redevelopment Area, a public-private partnership with Charlotte County, that will bring an estimated 2,000 plus jobs and some 2,000 plus homes, retail centers, and offices over an estimated 18 year buildout. Centennial Boulevard is the main thoroughfare in the community that runs from U.S. 41 south to El Jobean Rd/Highway 776 with access to Centennial Park and Centennial Recreation Center. More information on West Port is available online at [www.WestPortCharlotte.com](http://www.WestPortCharlotte.com). More information about the Murdock Village CRA is available online at <https://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/cra/murdock-village/>

### New Industrial Building at Airport Commerce Center

Construction has started on a new spec building in the Airport Commerce Center at Punta Gorda Airport. The site pictured below will be home to a 40,000 sf industrial building. The building design is flexible and is set up to allow individual tenants to occupy multiple units. Initial construction will be the complete site, building shell, slab and all plumbing, sewer and electrical services. The building will be fully sprinklered and will have 3-phase 480/277 VAC power to allow the full range of manufacturing operations within the building. 4 of the 8 units will have dock high loading docks (2 per unit for a total of 8 loading docks). The other 4 units will have 2 each 12'x14' overhead doors for on grade drive in access.

For more information on this project contact Florida Premier Contractors at (941)205-1400 or at [www.fpcbuid.com](http://www.fpcbuid.com)



Follow us on social media for information and the latest economic development news.



Cleared4Takeoff.com

# Facilities Construction & Maintenance

## Charlotte Transit Facility

March 2021



Wharton-Smith Inc. began ground-breaking and construction of the new \$3.2M Charlotte Transit Facility. This federally-funded project will provide a new centrally located facility for Administrative and Operation office functions including a Dispatch Control Center, Drivers Lounge, and Conference Room/Training space. In addition, a secured parking lot for the County's buses is part of the project. This new location on Veterans Boulevard will greatly reduce the response time for customers. Construction is expected for completion by the end of September 2021.

## Recent Accomplishments

- ◆ The Board of County Commissioners approved the \$6.5M Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) submitted by Wharton-Smith for the Airport Rescue & Fire Fighter (ARFF) Simulator second phase located at the Public Safety Complex.
- ◆ Charlotte County hired the professional services of Sweet Sparkman Architecture and Interiors for county-wide standardization of interior and exterior building finishes. Standardizing colors and finishes will save money and establish a unified look and feel throughout the county.
- ◆ The Family Services Center phase 2 professional design services Request for Proposal was drafted and forwarded to Purchasing for final preparation. The proposal is anticipated advertising in early April.

## Forward Progress

- ◆ The Port Charlotte Beach Sailing Center is nearing completion; recent activity includes installation of the security fence, sod, and metal roofing on the three structures. Final work is being completed on the workshop including window installation and exterior stucco. Final painting and electrical work will conclude the project in the next few weeks.
- ◆ The new LED sports lighting poles installation at Franz Ross Park football field 2 is in progress, while the sports lighting retrofit at football fields 1 and 3, and tennis courts is substantially complete.
- ◆ Placida Boat Ramp Expansion resumed progress with master planning and programming following the allowable access and egress points final determination. Concept review plans are expected in early April.



## Notable Happenings

- ◆ The county hired the services of Matern Engineering to evaluate and report on the county's HVAC controls systems infrastructure. Once the report is complete, it will give the county a better understanding of HVAC controls systems and where to standardize with available funding.
- ◆ Interior painting of the Public Safety building is completed with the project's second phase of entire building carpeting beginning soon.
- ◆ In preparation for hurricane season, the Charlotte County Health Department window sealing was completed in March 2021.

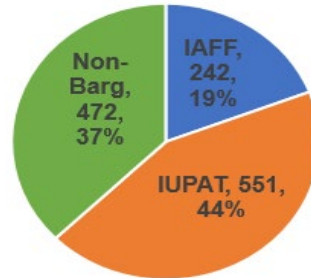




# Human Resources

## Workforce

Employee Count 1,265  
Avg Age 46  
Avg Hourly Rate \$23.85  
Avg Years of Service 9



**Retention of New Hires**  
% completing probation

	March	YTD
% completing probation	90%	90.0%

## Succession Planning

Ee's in FRS DROP the next 5 years	3.0%
% of Workforce Retired this FY	1.3%

## Separations

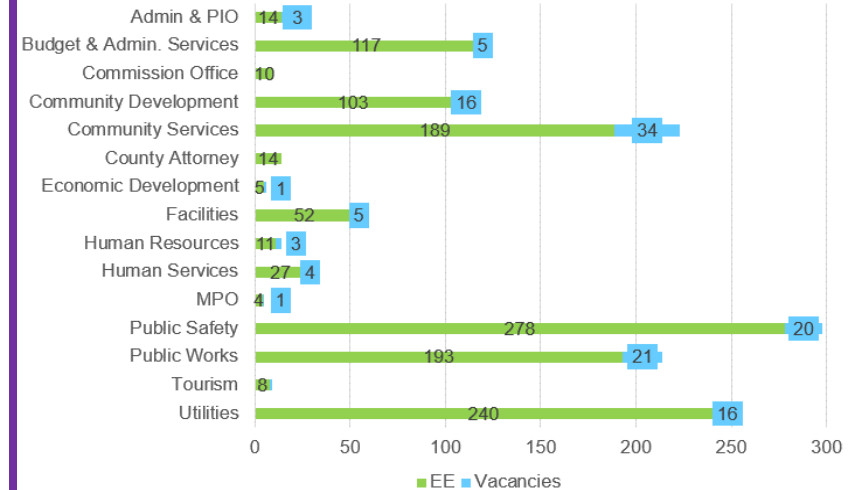
	March	YTD
Turnover	0.9%	5.8%
Separations	12	74



## Training & Development

Training	30 Ee's	15 hrs	450 contact hrs
% using Tuition Reimbursement		1%	

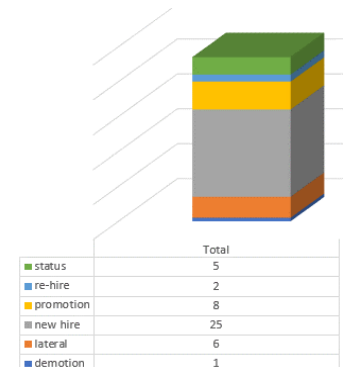
## Employees vs Vacancies



Total Vacancies: 130

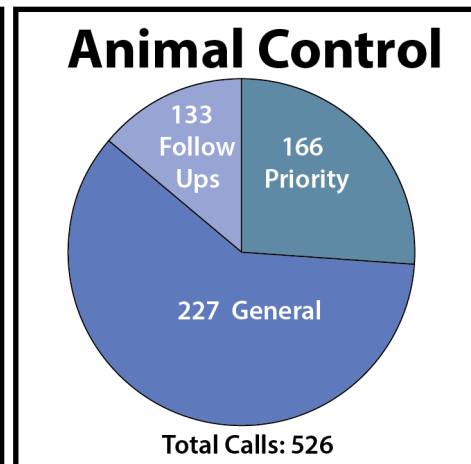
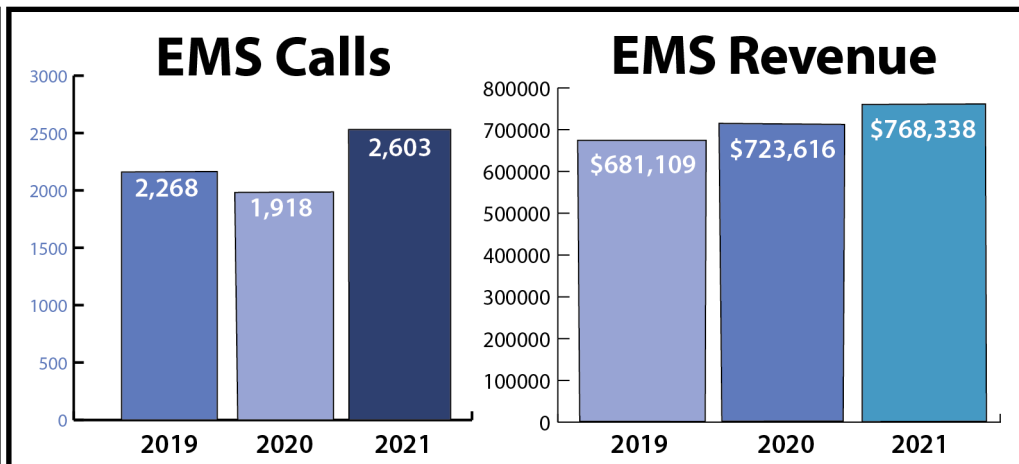
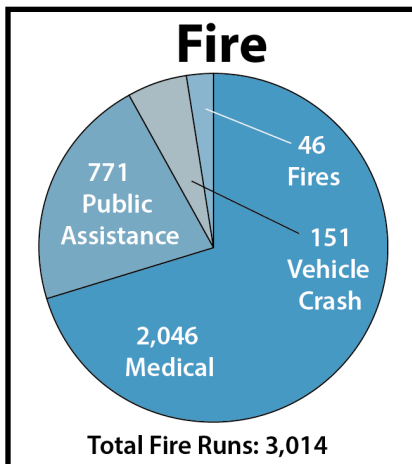
## Recruitment

Applications Taken	816
Job Posting Hits	31,573
New Hires	25
Recruited Pos FT	48
Posted PT/Sea	11





# Public Safety



## Public Education and Recognition

Things are slowly inching back towards normal BC (before COVID). This month, we finally recognized FireMedic Eddie Diaz and presented him with the Medal of Valor, the highest honor awarded to a firefighter. Eddie received his award for actions he took while off duty in Feb. 2020. While driving through his community in Desoto County, Eddie noticed smoke coming from a home. He was at the house before the first responders, but it didn't stop him from taking action even though he did not have any of his protective gear. When Eddie did not get a response after aggressively knocking on the front door, he kicked in the door to check for occupants. Eddie began searching the home until he started to get burned. He retreated from the front door and ran



around to the back door, where he found an older woman. Eddie helped the woman outside and, with the help of two park employees, walked the resident to the street to wait for the ambulance.

After more than a year of canceled public speaking events, Public Relations Manager Todd Dunn gave his first public presentation about Fire & EMS to the Peace River Power Squadron. Todd is available to speak to your group about fire & EMS programs designed to help first responders help you. He will also give an overview of Charlotte County Fire & EMS and how they work and train to protect our citizens and visitors.

Firemedic Jarrod Gavagni made the paper for going the extra mile when he provided two new shirts to a young, former patient named Ryan Harvey. Jarrod destroyed Ryan's new Salt Life shirt when he cut it off to thoroughly examine Ryan after he was involved in a severe dirt bike accident. Jarrod felt bad because Ryan was more concerned about losing his favorite shirt than his injuries.





CHARLOTTE COUNTY  
FLORIDA

# Public Works

## In the Works

The construction of sidewalks, lighting and landscaping is moving along on Manasota Key. The contractor is installing base material for the sidewalk, pouring concrete, regrading paver driveways, and will be starting to regrade and repour concrete driveways. The lighting contractor is installing conduit for wiring, the connection boxes for the wiring, and the screw bases for the decorative light poles. This project was requested by and being funded by the Manasota Key Street & Drainage MSTU.



## Did You Know

Our Traffic Signs and Markings crew has installed 90 of these beautifully customized post toppers throughout the County in celebration of our Centennial year. If you haven't seen any yet, be on the lookout!



## Working Together

Here our crew is working the Covid-19 Harry Chapin Food Bank drive. The citizens drive their cars through the line and open their trunks for our crew to load food into their cars to keep contact to a minimum.



Larvicide: **0.014 acres or 0.01 sq. miles - 2 treatments**  
Adulticide: **13,184 acres or 20.6 sq. miles - 13 treatments**

Aquatics invoiced **\$52,060.57** to MSBUs, Mitigation Sites, CCU, Parks and Right of Way

## Charlotte County Application Requests March 2021

Requests Received

**158**

Requests Completed

**122**



## Key Performance Indicators

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT (Current Month)		
Feb-20	\$731,180	↓ -13.5%
Feb-21	\$632,650	

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT (Prev Month)		
Jan-20	\$642,905	↓ -0.9%
Jan-21	\$636,834	

## PureFlorida.com

### Traffic

Website Users: 40,702

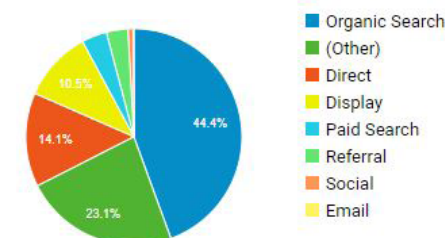
Pageviews: 92,253

Top Origin Markets:  
FL, IL, OH, PA, NY, MA, MI, IN, WI,  
GA

New vs. Returning Visitors  
85.3% vs. 14.7%

### Digital Channel Breakdown

Digital Channel Breakdown: March 1 – 31, 2021



## Sports March 2021

### Recent Events

#### Spring Fling

PicklePlex // March 19- March 21, 2021

The PicklePlex on Florida Southwest Charlotte Campus hosted their Spring Fling Tournament with 350 participants during the three days. Athletes traveled from across Florida and throughout the country to participate.



#### Prostyle Baseball Gold Bat Championship

Centennial Park // March 27-28, 2021

Prostyle Baseball hosted their 8th annual Gold Bat Championship athletes participating at three complexes within Charlotte County.



for 9U-14U with 532

#### United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) Softball - Charlotte Shoot Out

Carmalita Park // March 27-28, 2021

We hosted our first USSSA Fastpitch Softball Tournament based out of Charlotte County which generated over \$430K in economic impact and over 300 hotel room nights. This tournament had teams traveling from as far as Portland, Maine. This annual event will continue to host 10U-16U and High School athletes. We are currently coordinating dates for a Fall and Summer tournament.



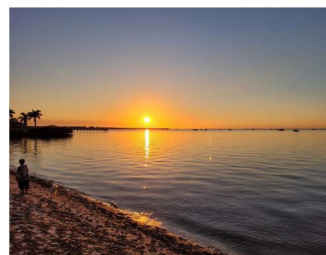
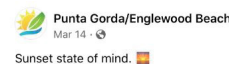
### Sports Corner

Through its specialty plate program, the Florida Sports Foundation has contributed more than \$5.7 million to Professional Sports teams' designated youth charities through the sale of professional sports license plates. A total of 72,878 specialty plates, through revenue-based reporting, were purchased during the 2019-20 fiscal year through the end of the second quarter. The money generated from the sales also provides the VCB and other destinations sports grants to assist in offsetting costs to host youth sports tournaments and training.

**Fun Fact:** We are excited to see Major League baseball back in action, so let's hear about some fun facts. Baseball fans eat enough hot dogs that can stretch from Dodger Stadium (California) to Wrigley Field (Chicago). That's 25,500,000 hotdogs and 5,508,900 sausages consumed per year at MLB games.

## Public Relations/Media March 2021

A total of 18 media placements were secured. These placements had a reach of approximately 4.3 million and a media ad value of almost \$50K.



PuntaGorda/Englewood @R... · 3/17/21 ...  
Luckily we have plenty of green (and blue) to go around today. 🌿 🌊 Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Eight members of the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers attended their board retreat which took place in Charlotte County Mar. 28-29. The VCB hosted the group by coordinating fishing charters out of Placida and two dinners in the Punta Gorda area. To date, at least four of the writers have already posted stories, blogs or social media posts illustrating their positive experiences in our destination.







**April:**  
**WATER CONSERVATION MONTH**

Water is vital to our lives, so it is important to be conscious of how we use every drop. When you conserve water you aren't just helping preserve our environment, you're also saving yourself money!

Charlotte County Utilities is dedicated to preserving our community's quality of life, especially when it comes to water. Join us for the month of April as we raise awareness for water conservation. We will be sharing tips on how to efficiently use your water and reduce usage overall, helping you save money while helping our environment!

Did you know, the average person uses over 100 gallons of water every day? Learn how to reduce your usage! Visit us each week for useful information on saving water throughout your home, from your kitchen to your bathroom and even outdoors!

**KITCHEN** **BATHROOM** **OUTDOORS**

CharlotteCountyFL.gov 941.764.4300

Visit our [Facebook](#) page for water saving tips!

## **IMPACTS**

- **Loveland Grand Master Lift Station:** Loveland Boulevard. from Midas Court to Wickens Avenue will be closed until April 30.

*The Utilities Department reminds motorists to remain alert at all times and to exercise caution when traveling in the vicinity of construction zones.*

Additional Impacts:  
[Emergency Utility Notices](#)

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- **Ackerman Septic to Sewer Project:**  
Construction of a wastewater system to service approximately 2,135 properties with sewer service. Zones 1, 2 and the vacuum station. Crews have started initial construction preparation for this project.  
For project information:  
[AckermanProject.com](http://AckermanProject.com)
- **Cape Haze Dr. Sewer and Reclaimed Transmission System:**  
This project is upsizing the existing 6" sewer lines to 12" on Cape Haze Drive and adding new 16" reclaimed lines for future customers. Crews are completing final project restoration.
- **Deep Creek Sewer Force Main Replacement:**  
Construction of a larger sewer force main to improve transmission capacity for the Deep Creek neighborhood. This project also includes pumping improvements at several lift stations along the project route. Crews will be working along Rampart Blvd.  
[Project Map](#)
- **El Jobean Septic to Sewer Project:**  
Construction of a wastewater system to service approximately 300 properties with sewer service. On-site sewer connections to the vacuum sewer system is on schedule for spring for Zones 1 & 2.  
For project information:  
[ElJobeanProject.com](http://ElJobeanProject.com)

## OPERATIONS

- **Calls:** 7,250
- **Call Wait Time:** 1 minutes 50 seconds
- **Total Customer Accounts:** 64,114
- **Sewer Connections:** 41,514
- **Water Connections:** 63,464

### Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- **6 Misc.—Utilities Department**
- **6 Utilities Billing**
- **2 Utilities Department Service**
- 14 Total**

**1,069 Facebook Page Likes**

### Important Information:

Water shutoffs and late fees have been suspended due to the coronavirus outbreak.

**The Customer Support Center is open by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call 941-764-4300. Walk-in services other than the payment drop box will not be available.**

**Customers can still drop-off their payments in the various payment boxes, pay their utility bill using the convenient electronic bill or by phone at 941.764.4300.**

[Payment Options](#)



**To provide safe, reliable drinking water, reclaimed water and wastewater service for the enrichment of the community.**