



Monthly Report

August 2022

Jubb named Champion of Building



The Charlotte-DeSoto Building Industry Association honored Assistant County Administrator Claire Jubb with the Champion of Building Award at the 2022 Professional Women in Building Bella Donna Awards.

Claire was awarded the Champion of Building award, which commemorates one outstanding woman who works for the public sector supporting the building industry. Congratulations Claire.

County helps veterans access benefits

Did you know 75-90% of the claims submitted for Veterans Administration benefits in the United States come through a county veterans service office? The Charlotte County Human Services Department is proud to have a division solely dedicated to assisting veterans and their families.

Our county veteran service officers are accredited veterans trained to navigate the VA system. Since 2017, our CVSOs have realized more than \$16.2 million in retro awards and more than \$3.3 million monthly recurring awards for Charlotte County veterans and their dependents.

The recently enacted PACT Act is one of the largest health care and benefit expansions in recent history. It expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for veterans with toxic exposures and veterans of

the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras. It adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures. It adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation. It requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every veteran enrolled in VA health care

If you're a veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits. Charlotte County Veteran Services help veterans and their families receive better access to services. There is no fee or cost for applying for VA benefits. Our services are also free of charge.

If you need help in obtaining veteran benefits, please contact us and we will do our best to help you. Call 941-764-5579 to speak with a veteran service officer.

Charlotte County celebrated Water Quality Month in August

August was Water Quality Month. Charlotte County is committed to making the most of the water we have, because having clean water is crucial to our individual health and our environment.

The county has adopted the U.S. Water Alliance's One Water concept, which states "water in all its forms

has value — water in our lakes, seas, rivers and streams, drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater — the full water lifecycle can be optimized to build strong economies, vibrant communities, and healthy environments."

The Punta Gorda/Englewood Visitor & Convention Bureau markets the county to visitors who generate more

than 10,000 jobs and an economic impact of nearly \$1 billion. Tax revenue generated by visitors reduces each household's tax liability by an average of more than \$700 a year

To learn about Charlotte County's efforts to protect and preserve our vital waterways, visit www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/one-charlotte-one-water.



Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month



Customer Satisfaction % Positive

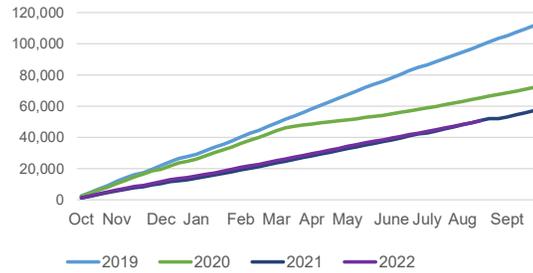


Transit

Transit Calls Average Handling Time (minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



Director Highlights

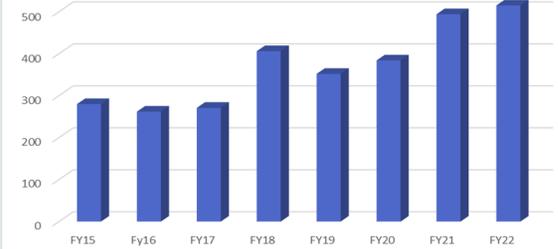
Release of Easements

Real Estate Services division oversees the County's release of easement program. A release of easement is necessary when a property owner wants to put a permanent structure within an easement dedicated for public use. These are normally drainage and utility easements. Since the County maintains in excess of 150,000 easements this is a very important function. A release of easement serves two main purposes.

1. It ensures that the public no longer has an interest in the publicly granted or dedicated easement.
2. Should the owner ever sell the property, a recorded release of easement clears up a potential cloud on the title should a survey reveal a permanent structure encroaching in a public easement.

August 2022

Occupation & Release of Easements



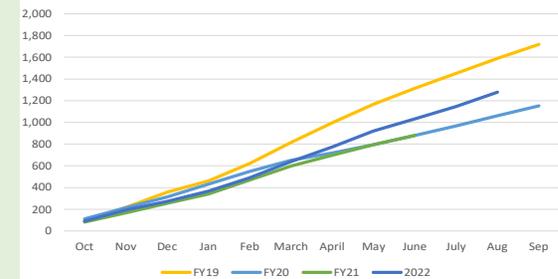
Health Center

Employee Health Center Monthly Appointment Utilization Summary



Records Management

Record Requests



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?



PLANNING STAGE



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



COMPLETED!!



Dunkin'

19220 Veterans Blvd., Port Charlotte
1,737 sq. ft. fast food donut shop with drive thru.

North Port Plaza

14520 Chancellor Boulevard, Port Charlotte
A one-story 15,300 sq. ft. shopping plaza.

RaceTrac Gas Station

6100 Duncan Rd., Punta Gorda
8,100 sq. ft. fueling station with truck stop.

Whiskey Joe's

5000-5054 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
8,939 SF of restaurant, and 2,100 SF of outdoor bar area with manmade beach.

Starbucks

18501 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte
2,500 sq. ft. Starbucks with double drive-thru lanes.

Gerber Collision

4701 Taylor Rd., Punta Gorda
9,705 sq. ft. automotive collision repair facility.

West Port Phase II

17372 Toledo Blade Blvd., Port Charlotte
460 single family units, 300 multi-family units, and 662,911 sq. ft. of commercial located in Murdock Village.

Culver's Restaurant

26440 Jones Loop Road, Punta Gorda
4,190 sq. ft. restaurant with an outdoor patio and a drive thru.



O'Reilly Auto Parts

24000 Beatrix Blvd., Port Charlotte
7,453 sq. ft. auto parts store.



FedEx Distribution

9301 Piper Rd, Punta Gorda
250,950 sq. ft. distribution center.



General Aviation Terminal

27450 Challenger Blvd., Punta Gorda
13,892 sq. ft. General Aviation Terminal and associated infrastructure, in conjunction with new hangars.

Village Marketplace

1799 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
2,495 sq. ft restaurant with a drive thru and three 1,286 sq. ft. units of retail space.



Sunseeker

4949 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
Mixed-use development consisting of 783 hotel units, restaurants, bars, and retail, located in the Charlotte Harbor CRA.



PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

Babcock Update

- Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016: 1,693
- Single Family Permits Issued August: 28

West Port Update

- Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued since April 2021: 115
- Single Family Permits Issued August: 38



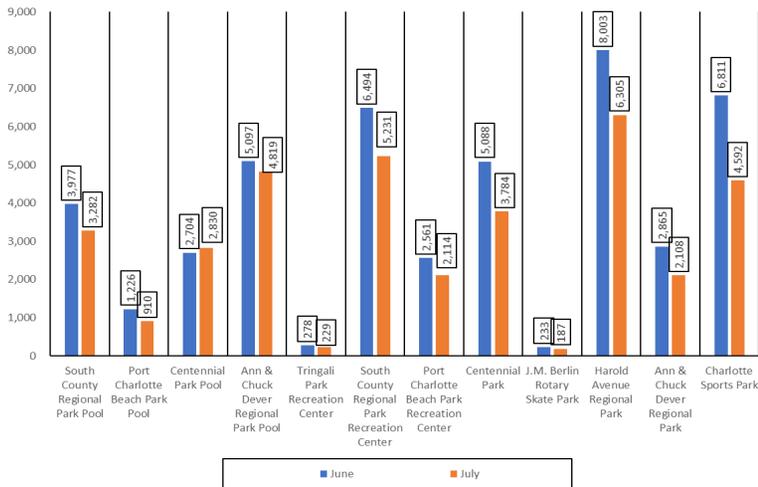
August Permitting:
Total Single Family Permits Issued: 427
Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 200
Total Permits Issued for the month: 3,723
Total Permits Issued FY20-21: 35,240
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2020—Sept. 2021)
Total Permits Issued FY21-22: 38,765
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2021—Sept. 2022)

PERMITTING SNAPSHOT



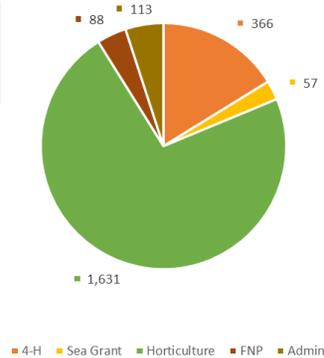
August 2022

Recreation Centers and Aquatic Facilities Attendance



Total Customer Contacts
2,255

UF/IFAS Extension Service Customer Contacts



Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance

- 456 youth leagues and adult softball practices
- 4,440 trash bags collected
- 658 recycling bags collected

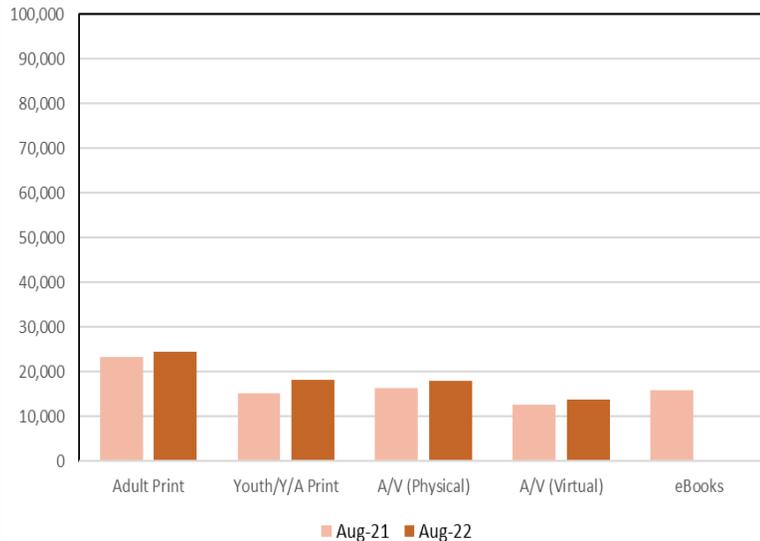
Land Management

- 78.9 miles maintained
- 12 acres mulched
- 9 exotics/invasives acres treated

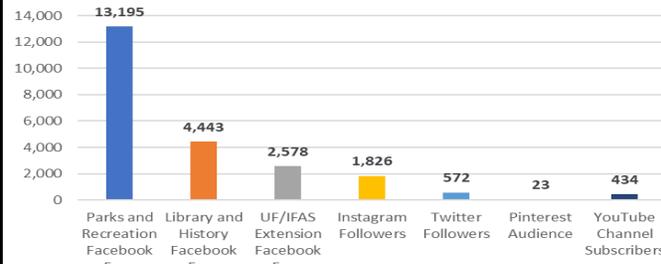
Project Management

- 45 projects, \$6.7 MM

2021 - 2022 Library Circulation Comparison



Social Media Impact



Coastal Management

Abandoned/Derelict Vessels

- 1 Cited
- 4 Open Cases
- 1 Reopened
- 5 Ready to be removed
- 1 Relocated
- 2 Pending
- 1 Removed

Coastal Lighting

- 22 Permit Reviews
- 7 Inspections
- Sea Turtles
 - 2,013 Nests
- Shorebirds
 - Adults – 338
 - Nests – 2 fledged chicks

Equus Breaks Ground on Logistics Center

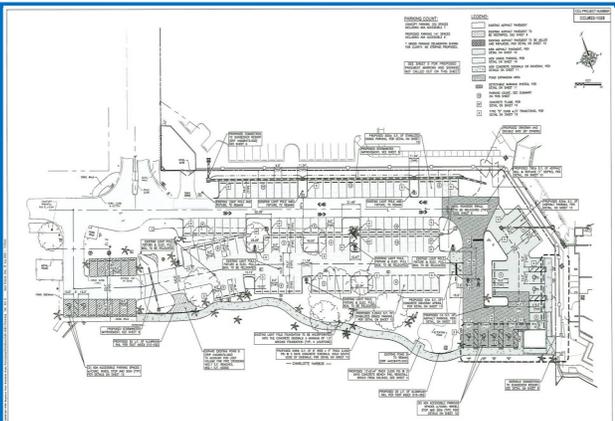
Equus Capital Partners, Ltd., one of the nation’s leading developers and real estate investment managers, announced that it has broken ground on a 378,000 square-foot speculative warehouse logistics facility. The project, named Florida Gulf Coast 75 Logistics Center, is being constructed within the Enterprise Charlotte Airport Park (ECAP) and possesses immediate access to I-75. “To have a national developer with the experience and expertise of Equus commit to a speculative project of this magnitude in Charlotte County showcases the desirability of this location that many companies desire,” said Dave Gammon, Director of the Charlotte County Economic Development Office. “We are very excited about the opportunity to bring a new, Class A speculative warehouse logistics facility to this market,” stated Dan DiLella Jr., Senior Vice President of Equus. “The west coast of Florida is one of the strongest and fastest growing regions in the Southeast U.S.” The Florida Gulf Coast 75 Logistics Center will be a 32’ clear, single side loaded industrial facility and will possess 54 loading docks and 73 trailer storage spaces opposite the loading docks. Additionally, the project will consist of Class A industry standard LED lighting, 7” concrete floor and an ESFR sprinkler system. Read more [HERE](#).



Punta Gorda Airport Air Center Ribbon-Cutting



Charlotte County officials, leaders and staff celebrated the ribbon cutting of the new PGD Air Center at Punta Gorda Airport last month. The new 13,000 square-foot facility, located at 27450 Challenger Blvd, not only provides services for general aviation pilots, but also houses aviation-based companies. In addition to the FBO operations, meeting and event space, offices, pilot lounge, and aircraft parking; the Air Center will house a restaurant and bar open to the public. The Charlotte County Airport Authority commissioners approved a lease agree with Rosati’s Pizza to fill the 2,500-restaurant space. “Eventually, the capacity of the restaurant is up to 120 seats,” said Commission Chair Rob Hancik during the ceremony. “In the interim, we will have some areas in there for public meetings and groups that want to meet out here and enjoy the new full-service restaurant.” The new PGD Air Center is the second phase of a three-phase, \$18 million project, referred to as PGD AviEx. The first phase, completed earlier this year, added 510,000 square feet of ramp space and extended Taxiway E. Phase 3 is underway now and will include 19 box hangars and 24 T hangars that will be completed by the end of the year. Construction for an FBO hangar adjacent to the Air Center is scheduled to begin in 2023. The Punta Gorda Airport is a strong economic driver for Charlotte County, and this development will help expand a thriving aerospace and aviation community. With only 60% of the airport’s 2000 acres developed there is plenty of space and opportunity for expansion for current tenants and to bring in new businesses to the county.



Bayshore CRA Grass Parking:

The project encompasses the design and construction of a surface parking lot with pedestrian connection to Sunseeker Resort Charlotte Harbor's promenade for public use, located at the east end of Bayshore Live Oak Park. This parking lot is designed as stabilized grass surface with associated drainage. The design and construction must be compliant with Florida Communities Trust (FCT) requirements for land management, including preservation of canopy trees.

The pedestrian promenade project is intended to provide connectivity and improve pedestrian mobility in the Charlotte Harbor Riverwalk sub-district. This connection allows the public to access the Charlotte Harbor Riverwalk from Bayshore Live Oak Park.

◆ **Ainger Creek Boat Ramp:** A kickoff meeting was held with Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc. for the engineering and design which will incorporate the master plan including the relocation of the current boat ramp, improved parking and traffic flow, and a pre-manufactured restroom building.

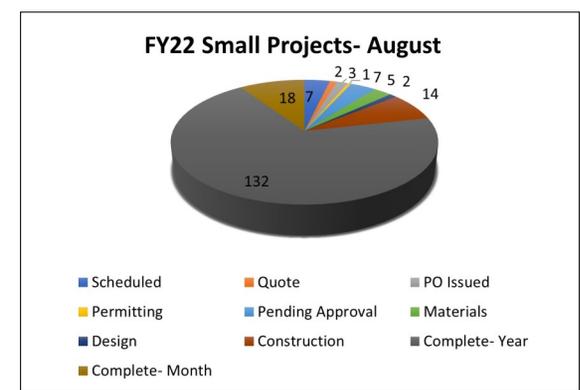
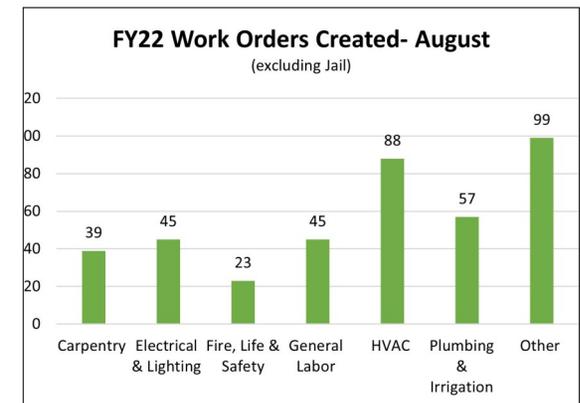
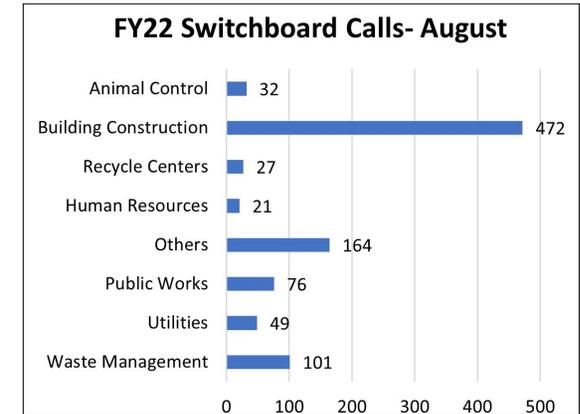
◆ **FY23 Capital Maintenance Plan:** Florida Premier Contractors submitted their Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for Board approval of the FY23 Capital Maintenance Plan (CMP).

◆ **Punta Gorda Charlotte Library:** Final safety improvement work is finishing at the drive through book drop.



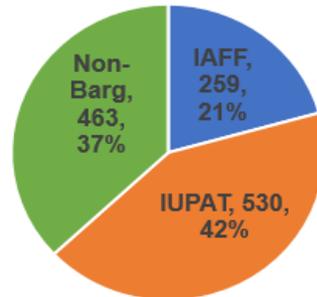
◆ **CCSO District 4:** The new CCSO District 4, Training Center and Office building is in the conceptual design phase. Schinkel/Shultz is the design firm with Wharton-Smith as construction manager. This new \$10.5M facility is located at 25500 Airport Road in Punta Gorda.

◆ **William R. Gaines Jr. Park Kayak Launch:** A US Army Corps of Engineers project manager was assigned to this project to review plans.



Workforce

Employee Count 1,252
 Avg Age 46
 Avg Hourly Rate \$25.74
 Avg Years of Service 8.49



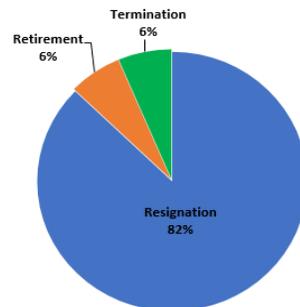
| Retention of New Hires | August | YTD |
|------------------------|--------|-------|
| % completing probation | 100% | 86.3% |

Succession Planning

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Ee's in FRS DROP the next 5 years | 2.6% |
| % of Workforce Retired this FY | 3.6% |

Separations

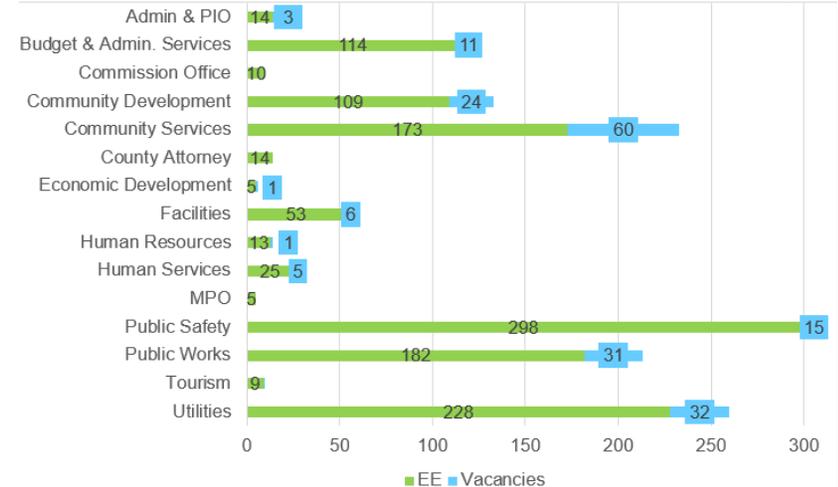
| | August | YTD |
|-------------|--------|-------|
| Turnover | 1.4% | 11.4% |
| Separations | 17 | 201 |



Training & Development

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|--------|--------------------|
| Training | 754 EE's | 19 hrs | 14,326 contact hrs |
| % using Tuition Reimbursement | | 1% | |

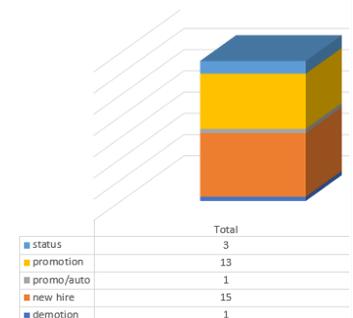
Employees vs Vacancies



Total Vacancies: 190

Recruitment

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Applications Taken | 687 |
| Job Posting Hits | 28,982 |
| New Hires | 15 |
| Recruited Pos FT | 79 |
| Posted PT/Sea/Intern | 11 |



Mental Health Awareness & Resources Available at the Family Services Center

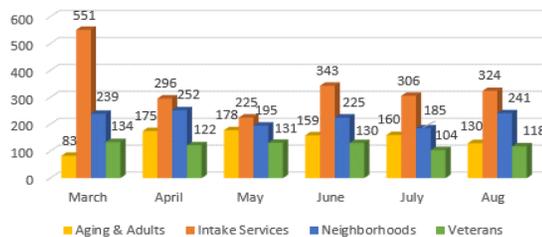
For the past couple of years, employees as well as the residents we serve throughout Charlotte County, have experienced various levels of stress and upset as the result of the ongoing pandemic, rising inflation or the unsettled state of the world. The Family Services Center is now partnering with the Charlotte Behavioral Health Center, Lutheran Services of Florida, Charlotte County Sheriffs Office and Valaries House; all of whom provide access to a wide array of mental health information, programming or counseling. If you or someone you know is struggling, please reach out for help by checking our website at :

[Human Services | Charlotte County, FL \(charlottecountyfl.gov\)](http://charlottecountyfl.gov) or call (941) 833-6500.

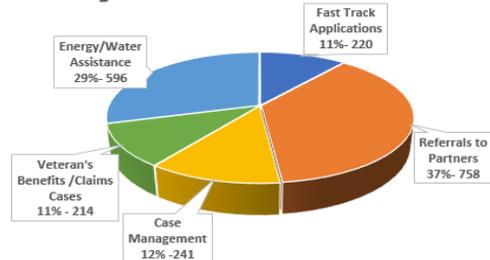


August 2022 Department Numbers

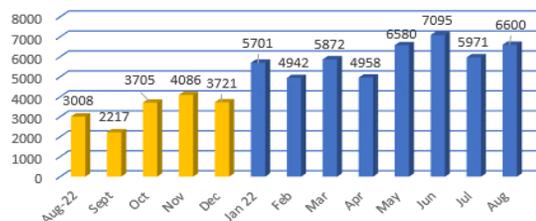
6 Month Comparison - Number of Clients Served per Division



August 2022 Services Provided



Information & Resource Call Volume



County Veteran Service Officers Having Impact on Community

Did you know, 75-90% of the claims submitted for Veterans Administration benefits in the United States come through a county veterans service office and here in Charlotte County we are very proud to have a division solely dedicated to assisting veterans and their families.

Our small staff of County Veteran Service Officers (CVSOs), is comprised of accredited veterans, trained to navigate the complicated VA system. They help veterans gather the necessary paperwork to support, file, or assist in appealing claims that have been previously denied. Since 2017, our CVSOs have realized more than \$16.2 million in retro awards and more than \$3.3 million monthly recurring awards for Charlotte County veterans and their dependents.

With the recent enactment of the PACT Act, one of the largest health care and benefit expansions in recent history, our office has seen a sharp increase in calls and requests for appointments. The legislation expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for veterans with toxic exposures and veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras. There are now:

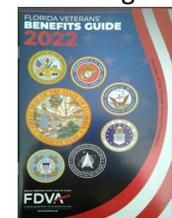
- It adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures,
- It adds more more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation and,
- the VA must provide a toxic exposure screening to every veteran enrolled in VA health care.

Our qualified CVSOs are here to help veterans and their families receive better access to services and there are no fees or cost for applying for VA benefits. If you want assistance or need help in obtaining s, please contact us and we will do our best to help you.



Call 941-764-5579 to speak with a veteran service officer.

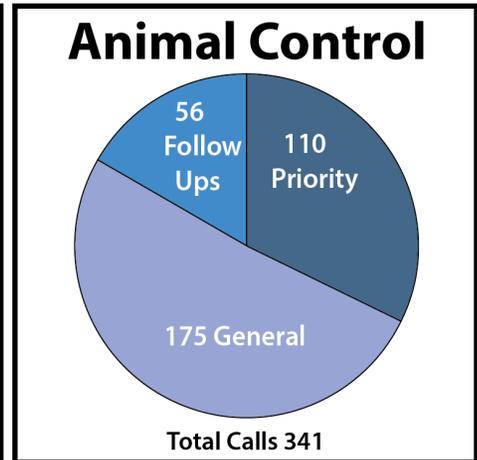
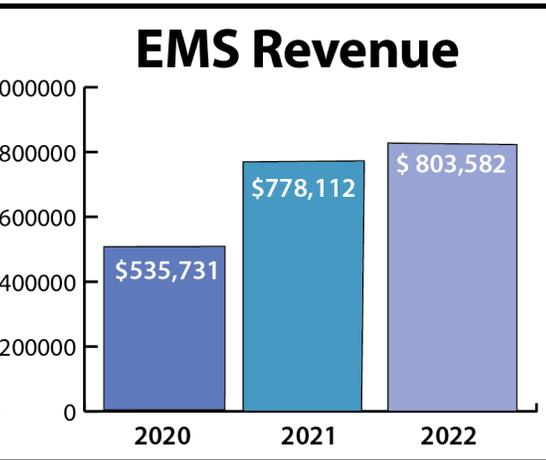
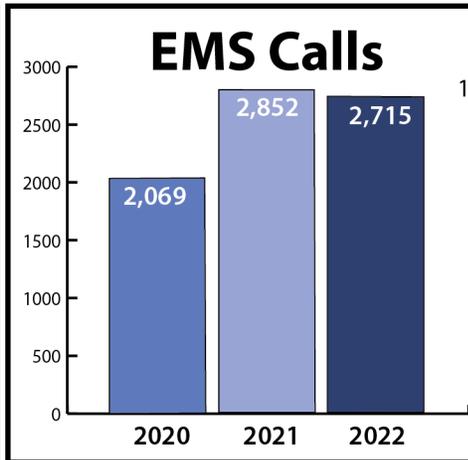
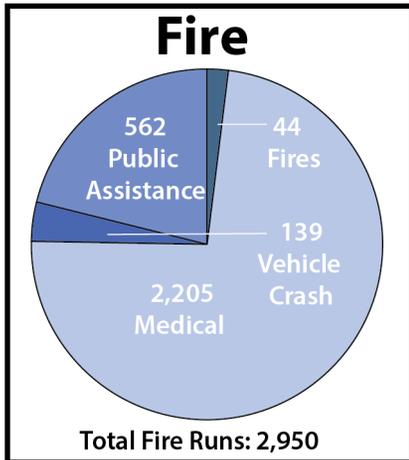
**Appointments are required for office visits. We have two locations:
Main Office, 1050 Loveland Blvd., Port Charlotte and**



"We help you navigate life's choppy waters"

Our Mission: Connecting people and resouces.

Public Safety



Stay Storm Ready

Just because we have had a slow start to hurricane season doesn't mean we should relax. According to the National Weather Service, "no tropical cyclones formed in the basin during August. This is quite unusual and is the first time that has occurred since 1997, and is only the third time that has happened since 1950."

Experts warn that it only takes one bad storm to make a hurricane season bad for you. You should prepare the same for every hurricane season, regardless of how much or little storm activity is predicted. Sept. 10 is the traditional halfway point of the hurricane season, and forecasters warn not to become complacent.

Make sure you have an adequate basic disaster supply kit on hand. Some basic supplies include one gallon of water per person for several days, non-perishable food, a battery or

hand crank powered weather radio, flashlights, a basic first aid kit, extra batteries, a whistle to signal for help, and cell phone charges, and a backup battery. For more info and tips on emergency preparedness and kits, visit www.ready.gov/kit

BUILD A KIT

Include enough food, water, and medical supplies for your needs in your emergency kit to last for at least 72 hours.



Ad Council Ready

READY.GOV/MYPLAN

In the Works

Mosquito biologists began deploying BG Counter traps in remote locations of the County to be able to continually monitor mosquito activity from afar. These traps use CO2 as an attractant and have a downdraft fan that sucks mosquitoes through a sensor. The sensor counts each mosquito that passes through and is able to discern small insects, like gnats, as well as large insects, such as deer flies, from the medium insects that are usually mosquitoes. Data is transmitted every 15 minutes to a website and creates graphs showing all mosquito activity within a 24-hour period.



Did You Know

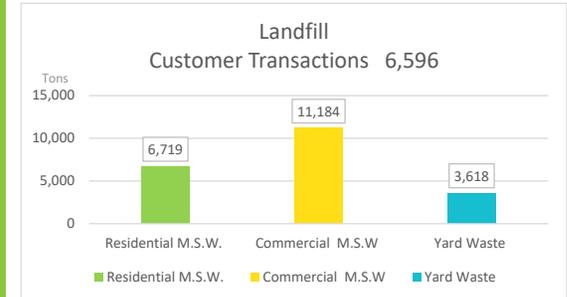
Public Works Director, John Elias presented Certificates of Honor at our Year in Review to:



- Brian Greig, Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control Specialist
- Carly Hobson, Asset Management Coordinator
- Denise Davison, Engineering Services Coordinator
- Rhonda Harvey, Keep Charlotte Beautiful Florida Coordinator

These individuals were nominated by their division managers for going above and beyond delivering exceptional service.

Solid Waste



| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Larvicide: | 2,094 acres or 3.3 sq. miles- 32.0 treatments |
| Adulticide: | 201,013 acres or 314 sq. miles- 77 treatments |
| Landing rate counts performed | 416 |
| Number of CDC traps distributed and collected | 121/5 |
| Total number of mosquitos collected and Identified | 3369 |
| App Complaints resolved | 36 |
| Telephone complaint resolved | 63 |
| Aquatics invoiced | \$57,141.00 |

Charlotte County Application Requests August 2022

Requests Received

219

Requests Completed

233



Key Performance Indicators

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT

(Current Month)

| | | | |
|--------|-----------|---|------|
| Jul-21 | \$578,083 | ↑ | 3.7% |
| Jul-22 | \$599,348 | | |

TDT YTD Collections (Pacing)

| | | | |
|--------|-------------|---|-------|
| Jul-21 | \$5,401,585 | ↑ | 30.6% |
| Jul-22 | \$7,056,246 | | |

PureFlorida.com

Website Traffic

Users: 46,805

Pageviews: 94,064

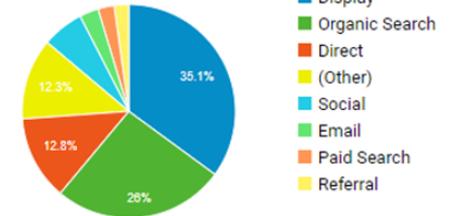
Top Origin Markets:

FL, OH, IL, NY, GA, MI, MA, CA, PA, VA

New vs. Returning Visitors: 85.5% vs 14.5%

Digital Channel Breakdown

Digital Channel Breakdown: August 1 - 31, 2022



Sales August 2022

SPORTS

In August, we had one USSSA Softball Tournament and one baseball academy training cancel and reschedule for a later date. A combination of the summer travel ball season ending, kids starting school, and the increased cost of traveling all were factors in their low registration turnout.

Sports Corner

During the pandemic many industries developed new efficient and effective ways to operate their business. One obvious tactic that has been embraced is the video conference call. In the sports tourism industry, an event rights holder would generally fly to the destination looking at potential facilities while experiencing what the destination has to offer their athletes, coaches, and families. Now, many are taking advantage of utilizing a video conference call to see everything virtually. Convention and Visitors Bureaus are now using technology to provide a 360-degree virtual tour of facilities, hotels, restaurants, accommodations, and other pertinent assets to showcase during the selling process. This still provides the one-on-one contact while alleviating the added time and cost to fly or drive. Our VCB is also embracing this technology and working towards a plan to infuse this experience in our sales department. This new platform will ultimately enhance the presence of our industry partners as well.

Fun Fact

Research shows that participating in youth sports can lead to immediate benefits for youth, their families, and communities.

- 73% of parents feel youth sports benefits their child's mental health
- 88% of parents feel youth sports benefits their child's physical health
- 40% of youth who play an organized sport end up playing all year round

MEETINGS

Connect Marketplace, an industry leading show, took place August 8-11 in Detroit, MI. Jeff attended the Corporate track for corporate meetings and events during three days of business development, networking, one-on-one appointments, and great speakers. Jeff met with nearly 30 meeting planners to learn more about their needs and promote the county's meeting and event facilities for future conventions.



Public Relations/Media August 2022

A total of 8 media placements were secured. These placements had a reach of approximately 2,596,313 and a media ad value of approximately \$4K.



Check out our top social media posts for the month of August @realpureflorida

Visitors to Charlotte County save local residents an average of **\$875** per household in taxes every year.



Fertilizer Use

The use of fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorus is prohibited from June 1 to September 30.

TAKE A BREAK!

Help improve and protect our water quality!
Do NOT use fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorus on any turf or landscape plants between June 1 to September 30.



Plumbing issue? Sewer back-up?
No water? Give us a call!

Charlotte County Utilities
should be your first call
for utility issues.

Staff is available 24 hours,
7 days a week

941-764-4300



Call us first! There may be a system problem causing your issue. We will confirm that if it's our responsibility or the homeowner's.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- **SR 776 Sewer Force Main Project:**
Upsizing the existing sewer force main to 12-inch and 16-inch lines along SR 776 from Biscayne Dr. to the Charlotte Sports Park. This is an in-kind project for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Consent Order.
- **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 are currently underway. Crews have installed the new water mains throughout the project area and are completing final testing this month. Zone 1 sewer connections are expected to begin early next year. Zone 2 installation agreements have been sent out to residents. Please return them as soon as possible. For project information: AckermanProject.com
- **Deep Creek Sewer Force Main Project:**
Construction of a larger sewer force main to improve transmission capacity for the Deep Creek neighborhood. Construction of the force main is complete. Crews are paving driveways and restoring the project area. [Project Map](#)
- **Cochran Reclaim Project:**
Construction of reclaim water mains along the right-of-way of Cochran Blvd. from Quesada Ave. to Peachland Blvd. Construction is expected to start this month. [Utilities Projects | Charlotte County, FL \(charlottecountyfl.gov\)](#)

OPERATIONS

- **Calls Presented:** 8,107
- **Call Wait Time:** 1 minute 50 seconds
- **Sewer Connections:** 43,979 (108 increase from July)
- **Water Connections:** 66,573 (287 increase from July)

Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- **8 Misc.—Utilities Department**
 - **2 Utilities Billing**
 - **3 Utilities Department Service**
- 13 Total**

[Charlotte County Utilities Facebook](#)
1,585 Follows

2021 Water Quality Reports:

- <https://tinyurl.com/2021-CCR-Peace-River>
- <https://tinyurl.com/2021-CCR-Burnt-Store>

Remember, every drop counts! 💧

Important Information:

The Customer Support Center located at the East Port Environmental Campus, 25550 Harborview Rd. is open!

Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Customer Support Center assisted **839** individuals for the month of August.

Contact us at 941.764.4300 or
CCUSupport@CharlotteCountyFL.gov

Payment Options