

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

Published 10/20/15

Community Development

Community Development received approval from the Board of County Commissioners to hire a dedicated code compliance officer for Department of Health environmental compliance issues.

As part of the County's commitment to advocate for our citizens in the ongoing FEMA Risk MAP (Mapping, assessment and planning) project, staff is piloting a program with FEMA to review data and model results throughout the process. This week, staff and the County's consultants participated in an interim meeting with FEMA where model verification and climatology was discussed. Staff then has the ability to formally submit questions about the data and results to FEMA. This is part of a long term project which will not be finalized until at least 2018.

Cheney Brothers, one of Southwest Florida's Leading Food Distributors, begins operations in Punta Gorda this week.

Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Perfect Games Baseball Tournament held between October 8th and October 11th had an approximate attendance of 2500 spectators.

Harold Avenue Recreation Center

Harold Avenue staff held its officials training this past Saturday for its Youth Basketball League. Officials learned the rules of the game and are getting ready for the Fall/Winter Basketball Session. Harold also held its Volunteer coaches meeting. Volunteers came out to learn about coaches, players, and parent conduct. They also got a refresher on the rules and were updated of any rule changes for the upcoming season. Coaches were encouraged to give their opinions on enhancing the program. Some suggestions and ideas that are being looked into are the creation of a Basketball Council to deal with any concerns/issues that come up during the season and the possibility of offering some sort of tutoring program for kids in the program. Everyone came away from the meeting with their voices heard and a good understanding of what to expect for the upcoming season. One week left of signups and basketball will be back in full swing! This past week Harold Avenue also started a Pickleball League on Friday's for its regular attendees at Open Pickleball. There are currently 18 players in the league.

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center

There was an awards presentation for Charlotte County Fire EMS on Thursday, Oct. 8. There were 120 people in attendance from 4:00pm until 10:00 pm. Saturday, Oct. 10, the center was booked from morning through evening as the preparations started with the caterers then to the actual event, a wedding with 145 guests attending. Sunday, Oct. 11 we had a wedding attended by 112 guests. Fun was had by all. This next week we are getting ready for the Regatta.

South County Regional Park and Pool

For the week of 10-7 through 10-14, South County Regional Park Pool had 118 paid admissions, was visited by 212 pass holders and had 72 water aerobics participants. The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 7 swim

practices resulting in approximately 140 “splashes.” The Charlotte High Swimmers returned with 7 swim practices resulting in 413 “splashes.” CCSO used 3 lanes to conduct a swim test for 3 officers.

Extension Services

- Home and Garden Show – October 10 and 11 – Event Center – Theme- Native Plants
- Newspaper Article for October 12 – “The pitch apple”
- Charlotte Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting – October 12
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ - Groundcover Choices – October 12
- Managers Meeting – October 12 – Charlotte Sports Park
- Parks That Teach – Bayshore Live Oak Community Park – October 15
- Turf Program – Dr. Trenholm – October 15
- CED Reception – Immokalee– October 16

Parks

Installed new Osprey Platform on a pole for the Osprey’s to build their nest at Harbour Heights.

Natural Resources

Currently Staff is working to develop a GIS layer to contain and track the Scrub Jay data from past year’s surveys. This data will be valuable in HCP monitoring and tracking Jays in Charlotte County. This layer will establish continuity and consistency within the framework of the Habitat Conservation Plan.

This week Staff attended a wet lands delineation training hosted by DEP. This training opportunity benefits the county in future projects where wet lands may be a concern. In addition to the wet land aspect the course focused on plant identification.

This week Staff also met with SCRP staff to discuss landscaping issues regarding safety in relation to play grounds and site security.

In addition to these activities Staff continued the ongoing efforts of exotic flora control.