

## **Burnt Store WRF wins safety award - Administrator's Update for 7/24/13**

### **By Ray Sandrock, County Administrator**

Charlotte County Utilities' Burnt Store Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) has been chosen to receive the Florida Water and Pollution Control Operators' Association (FWPCOA) 2012 Safety Award for Class "C" Wastewater Plants. The award will be presented in August at a luncheon in Fort Pierce. Selection for the award is based upon the sound safety and health programs in place, as well as the standard operating procedures in place. A good safety program must embody proper attitudes toward injury and illness prevention by employers, supervisors and employees, with cooperation among all parties. The Burnt Store WRF had gone 1919 days without a lost work time accident, a testament to solid safety procedures and practices. Certifications of staff for First aid, CPR, AED, and other training relating to safe work practices also counted toward selection of this year's winner. The Burnt Store WRF is designed to operate as an extended aeration, activated sludge treatment facility with a rating of 0.5 MGD annual average daily flow (AADF) permitted capacity, to produce public-access reuse-quality water.

### **Smoke detectors**

The Charlotte County Fire/EMS department reports that so far this year the engine companies have already checked and provided over 140 smoke detectors within our community through the smoke detector program. This is a substantial number considering we are only half way through 2013. This service is provided by on duty firefighters/EMTs addressing resident's requests to come and check their smoke detectors and replace them if necessary. Residents also are provided a "home safety check" which identifies possible safety issues but also praises and reinforces any safe practices. Statistics and surveys show that over 94 percent of all homes in the United States have at least one smoke alarm, however one-third to one-half of them do not work because the battery is either dead or missing. A resident has nearly a 50 percent better chance of surviving a fire in their home with working smoke alarms.

### **Winchester corridor**

The Winchester corridor project proposes the construction of a new 4 lane divided roadway from state road 776 to Placida Road (county road 775). In order to start the construction process of the new roadway and remain eligible for FDOT funding, Charlotte County has opted to construct the intersections at SR 776 and CR 775 as soon as design and permitting are complete. Roadway construction between the two intersections will begin once the intersections are complete and FDOT funding becomes available. Signalization of the Winchester/SR 776 intersection has been added to this contract. The Charlotte County community development engineering division recently provided the latest set of plans to the purchasing department to begin the procurement process. The complexity of the project will require extensive review to ensure the quality of the contract documents.

### **Library survey**

The Charlotte County Library system is working on future visions. A survey is available to gather input from patrons and visitors on their experiences at the libraries. The survey also asks about library services and provides an opportunity to send in comments, new ideas and suggestions for improvements on current services. Available until the end of the year, the survey can be completed on paper at every county library, as well as online through the county website: visit [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov) and click Libraries in the links on the left.