

Administrator's Update for 11/26/14
By Ray Sandrock, County Administrator

Our government access television station CC-TV is now broadcasting on both CenturyLink Prism TV and Comcast. CC-TV provides viewers with live broadcasts of Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners meetings and Code Enforcement Special Magistrate meetings. Additional programming includes previously recorded Punta Gorda City Council meetings, Construction Industry Licensing Board meetings, special documentaries and local, state, and national satellite programming. Viewers can also find informative programming on Florida environmental and historical topics, public service announcements, and more.

CC-TV is broadcast 24 hours a day on CenturyLink Prism TV channel 96 and on Comcast channel 20 (in some areas south of Punta Gorda the broadcast is on Comcast channel 96). The broadcast is also streamed live online and the schedule is posted weekly on the CC-TV web pages at www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov. Call CC-TV at 941.623.1090 for more information.

Burnt Store Road update

The Burnt Store Road widening project (phase III) includes widening Burnt Store Road, between the Lee County Line and a point north of Zemel Road, to a four-lane divided suburban typical section. The construction includes stormwater management, drainage improvements, street lighting, six-foot wide sidewalks on both sides of the roadway, and utility additions and relocations. Construction began earlier this year and is projected to be complete in September 2015.

Work is progressing on the box culverts at the Clark Canal. Work is on hold for the box culvert at the Bear Branch Creek until a traffic change takes place in January 2015. Once traffic shifts, the west side of the box culvert will be completed. Crews are continuing on the installation of street lighting and IT conduit on the east side of the project. FPL is relocating the poles on the east side of the project and has approximately 65 percent of the poles set and ready to receive new electrical wire. In addition, the contractor has completed 20 percent of the stabilizer/base on the northbound travel lanes and 7 percent on the southbound travel lanes.

Holiday Cleanup

Thanksgiving is one of the few days each year that there is no curbside garbage collection. Areas regularly serviced on Thursdays will receive pickup on Friday, Nov. 28; Friday service areas will receive pickup on Saturday, Nov. 29. The Zemel Road Landfill and both mini-transfer facilities will be closed Thursday, Nov. 27. The landfill will reopen Friday, Nov. 28 but the mini-transfer facilities will remain closed that day.

Recently there was an unscheduled school closing due to a sewer backup caused primarily by non-biodegradable materials being flushed into the neighborhood sewer collection system. As you prepare for the holidays and clean up after the parties, Charlotte County Utilities (CCU) offers some tips to help maintain a free flowing system and avoid septic and wastewater system issues. Oil and grease do not mix with water, and so should never be poured down the drain or in the toilet. Other common items to avoid include so-called "flushable" wipes, cotton balls, cotton swabs, rags and anything that is not biodegradable. Kitchen garbage disposals are another area in which to be careful—they are great for certain small jobs, but should not have anything put in it that is not going to break down in the septic or sewer system. Be mindful of what is put down the waste systems, and have a happy and healthy holiday.