



Monthly Report October 2022



Charlotte County Hurricane Ian debris

Charlotte County's Hurricane Ian debris contractor, AshBritt, passed a major recovery milestone when it collected its 1.5 millionth cubic yard of debris. The final debris tally will be about 2.5 million cubic yards and could take several more months.

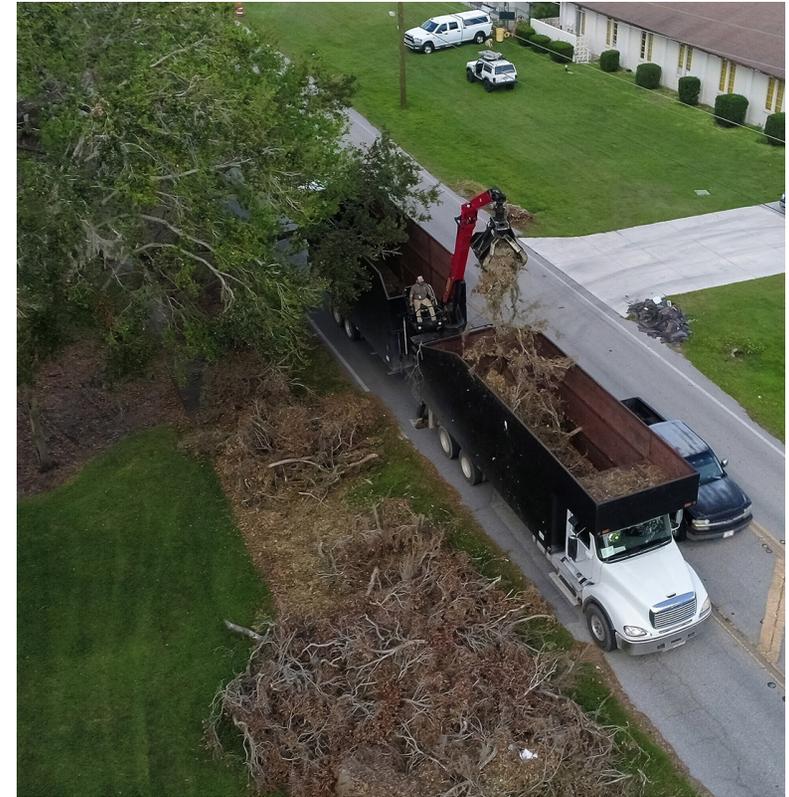
To view a dashboard featuring a heat map of where debris has been collected, visit www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/debris.

We continue to operate two temporary debris drop-off sites, one at 7000 Florida St., east of Punta Gorda and another next to the Placida West boat ramp at 12560 Placida Road. Residents can also use the mini-transfer facilities on 19765 Kenilworth Blvd., in Port Charlotte and

7070 Environmental Way in Englewood.

Residents have taken advantage of these debris drop-off sites by the thousands. Since Oct. 6, when the Mid-County Transfer and Recycling Facility reopened, more than 15,000 loads of debris have been dropped off at the four locations.

Waterway debris removal from county waterways began Nov. 2 in the Hayward Canal in El Jobean. Our contractor, Zulu Discovery, began collecting in navigable marine waterways to remove hazards to navigation and will then proceed to fresh-water canals and lakes and primary ditches. We'll have a waterway debris removal dashboard up and running once we have more collection data compiled.



Three libraries have reopened, including Punta Gorda Charlotte Library.

Some parks, pools, libraries reopened

Three recreation centers, Centennial Park, South County Regional Park and Harold Avenue Regional Park are open.

The Centennial Park pool reopened Monday, Nov. 7. The South County Regional Park pool reopened Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Three libraries have reopened from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., daily. They are: Library hours, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., daily:

Punta Gorda Charlotte Library, 401 Shreve St. Punta Gorda, Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N Access Rd., Englewood Port Charlotte Public Library, 2280 Aaron St., Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Some parks and facilities are open, but with limited amenities.

For parks, rec center, pool and library hours and programs, visit www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/activeagain.

Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month



Customer Satisfaction % Positive

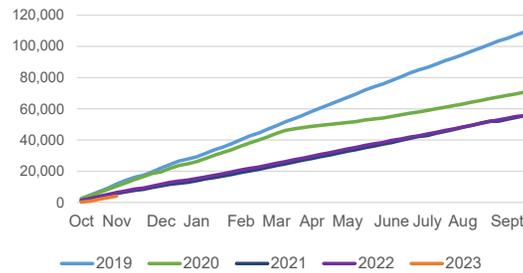


Transit

Transit Calls Average Handling Time (minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



Director Highlights

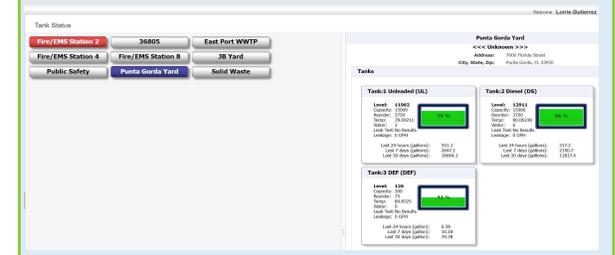
Hurricane Ian - Fuel

During Hurricane Irma in 2017 the County realized we needed a better way to monitor our fuel storage and usage. Since that time we have centralized fueling operations under Fleet Management, developed emergency procedures, secured a new fueling system and installed sensors in all of our 50+ tanks across the County. As a result, during Ian we were able to monitor fuel usage real time and ensure adequate levels where needed.

Annually, we use about 750,000 gallons of fuel. During the 10 days surrounding Hurricane Ian we distributed 108,000 gallons. In addition to our normal fleet we also provided fuel for the Sheriff and other law enforcement agencies, hospitals, ambulances and constitutional officers. One of the most significant efforts was continuously fueling the numerous generators running lift stations, traffic lights, buildings and emergency operations.

Below is a sample screen shot from Fuel View system showing real-time monitoring

October 2022



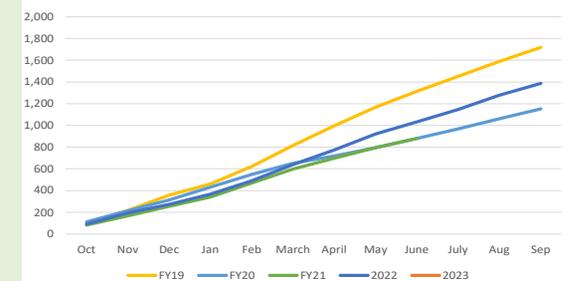
Health Center

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.



Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen

18600 Veterans Blvd., Port Charlotte
7,974 sq. ft. restaurant.



FedEx Distribution

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



Aaron Street Medical

2343 Aaron St., Port Charlotte
28,100 sq. ft. medical office building redevelopment.

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.



Babcock Ranch Field House & Shelter

43301 Cypress Parkway Punta Gorda
51,494 sq. ft. recreational center for sporting and other school events. Includes ability to be used as a hurricane shelter.

PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

Babcock Update

- Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016: 1,719
- Single Family Permits Issued October: 35

West Port Update

- Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued since April 2021: 134
- Single Family Permits Issued October: 19



October Permitting:

Total Single Family Permits Issued: 209

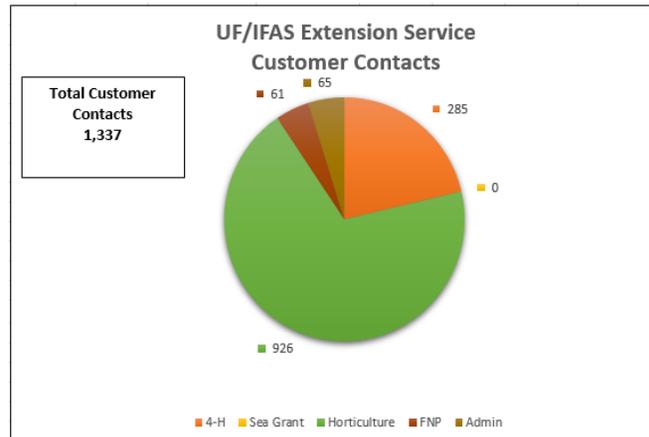
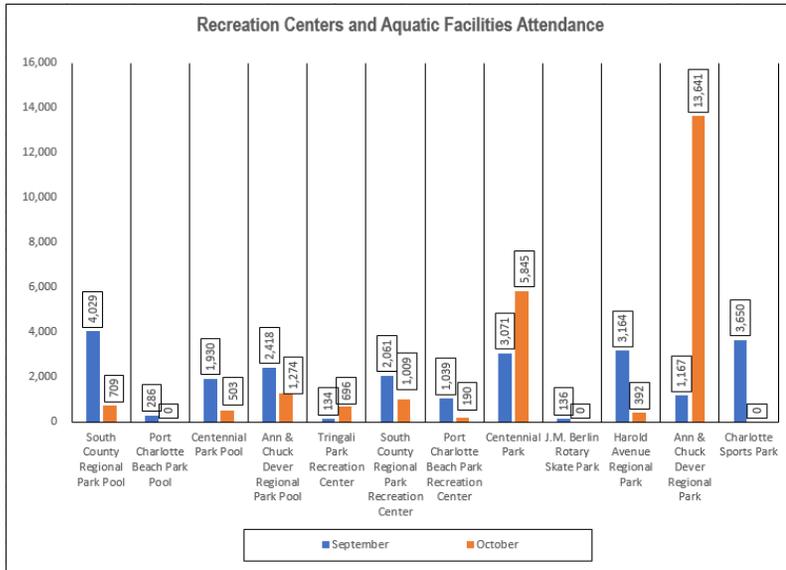
Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 95

Total Permits Issued for the month: 6,032

Total Permits Issued FY21-22: 41,319
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2021—Sept. 2022)

Total Permits Issued FY22-23: 6,032
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2022—Sept. 2023)

PERMITTING SNAPSHOT



Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance

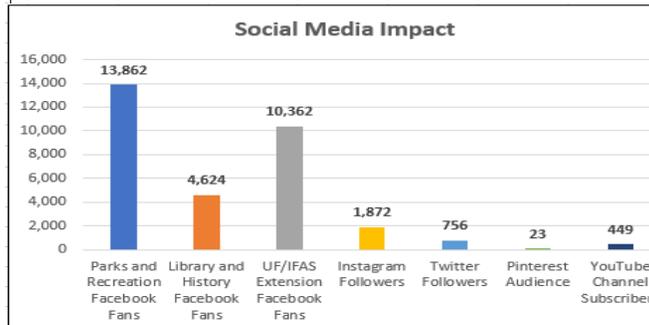
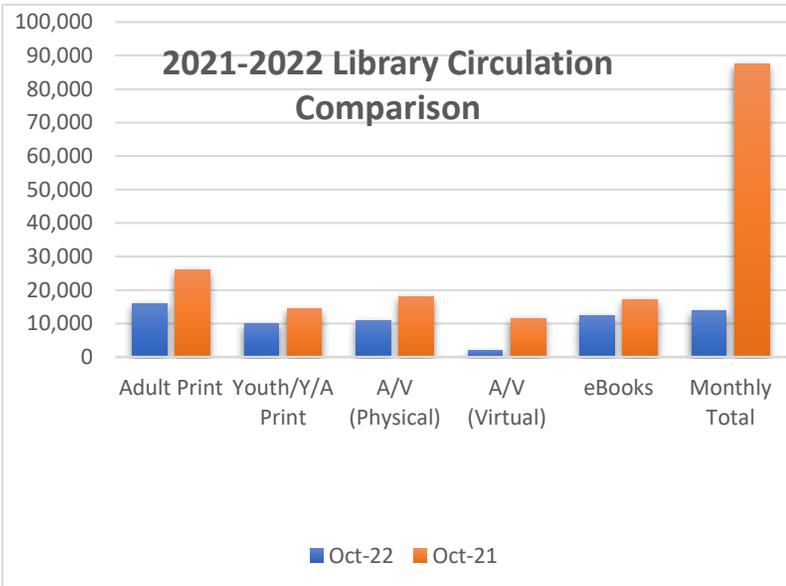
- 0 youth leagues and adult softball practices
- 529 trash bags collected
- 4 recycling bags collected

Land Management

- 0 miles maintained
- 0 acres mulched
- 0 exotics/invasives acres treated

Project Management

- 45 projects, \$6.4 MM



Coastal Management

Abandoned/Derelict Vessels

- 179 Could not be found
- 152 accessed
- 6 In progress by USCG
- 5 In progress by responsible party
- 1 Relocated
- 8 Pending
- 26 Removed

Coastal Lighting

- 9 Permit Reviews
- 1 Inspections
- Sea Turtles
 - 2,013 Nests
- Eagle Nests
 - Active – 2
 - Nests – 2 fledged chicks
 - Destroyed- 3 nest trees

Hurricane Ian Response and Recovery

The Economic Development Office has focused on business outreach following Hurricane Ian. We have reached out to businesses to provide recovery resources and conduct the FloridaDisaster.Biz [Business Damage Assessment Survey](#). We partnered with CareerSource Southwest Florida to open a call center to reach out to Charlotte County businesses. As of November 9th:

- 625 outreach calls have been made to Charlotte County businesses.
- 4,500 resource postcards were sent out to local businesses.
- Approximately 200 Business Assessment Surveys have been completed.
- \$117 million in business damages have reported so far
- 5,173 resource emails have been sent

We are working hard to reach all Charlotte County businesses to offer recovery resources and support. If your business was impacted by Hurricane Ian please consider completing the [Florida Business Damage Assessment Survey](#). If you need information or assistance please visit our website:

SWFL Business Recovery Centers are Open!

Need help with the following business disaster loans?

- SBA Physical Disaster Loan
- SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)
- Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program

Visit a BRC and speak with a business disaster specialist today!

Locations:

- **Bonita Springs:** SWFL, Inc | 25071 Chamber of Commerce Dr, Bonita Springs, FL 34135
◦ Sun-Sat: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- **Cape Coral:** Kiwanis Club | 360 Santa Barbara Blvd S., Cape Coral, FL 33991
◦ Mon-Thurs 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
- **Naples:** The Naples Players | 701 5th Ave S, Naples, FL 34102
◦ Mon: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm | Tue-Sun: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- **Port Charlotte:** Promenades Mall | 3280 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL 33952
◦ Mon-Thurs 9:00 am - 4:00 pm



THE BUSINESS DAMAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEY IS AVAILABLE



FLORIDADISASTER.BIZ

Did you know?
SBA provides low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters and businesses.





RECOVERY

DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE




CTC Powerplant Certification

Congratulations to Charlotte Technical College for obtaining their powerplant certification for their Aviation Maintenance Technician program.

Read more: <https://hubs.la/Q01r19G30>

#1 Florida



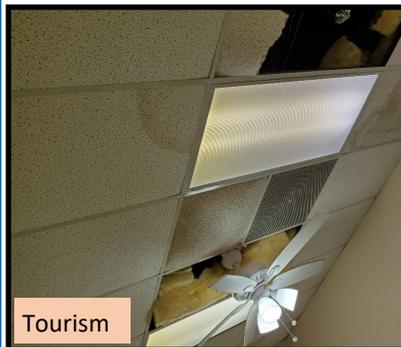
- Education Attainment: **+14.5%**
- Jobs: **+4.3%**
- Skilled Jobs: **+12.2%**
- Migration (2020): **82,126**
- Competitive Effect: **199,817**
- Skilled Job Openings per 1,000: **20**

Florida Ranks #1 in Talent Scorecard

Florida's focus on training workers with the technical skills and credentials is paying off as the Sunshine State has been named number one in the U.S. for attracting and developing a skilled workforce. Governor Ron DeSantis announced this ranking as a part of Lightcast's 2022 Talent Attraction Scorecard. Read more: <https://hubs.la/Q01rQJ4q0>

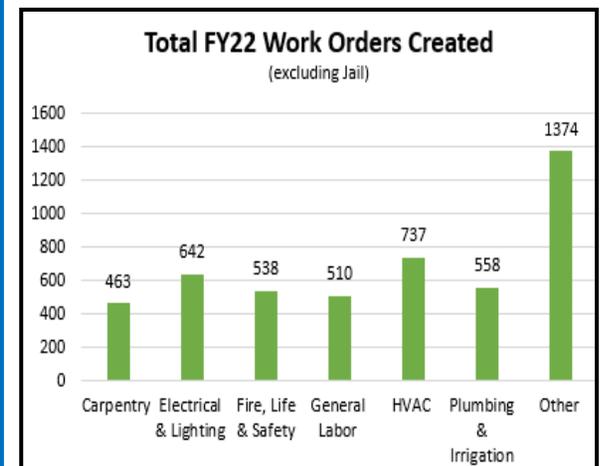
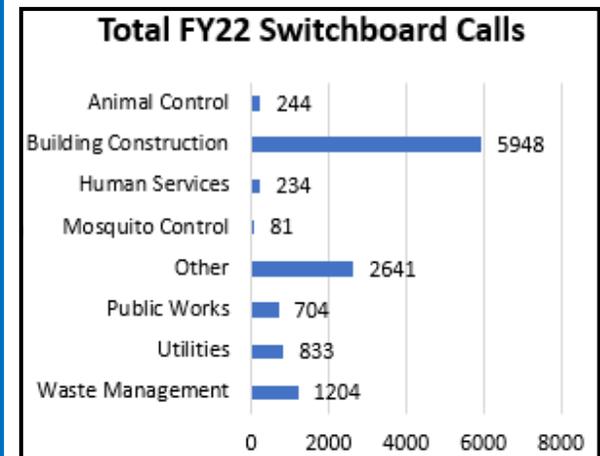
October 2022

Much of October was addressing the effects from Hurricane Ian. Staff assessed buildings, mitigated damages, cleared debris, and documented storm-related efforts.



- ◆ A draft scope of services for a Request for Letters of Interest for a Barrier Island Accessibility Feasibility Study was sent to Purchasing. The study is planned for a two phase approach, with the public input process as the initial step.
- ◆ The following new facilities are in the schematic design phase: CCSO District 4 office/Training/K9; CCSO Administration Headquarters/911 Center; and the Supervisor of Elections Warehouse. The next step is the design development stage of design refining the building layout and elevations.
- ◆ Negotiations are underway for the design consultant and construction manager at risk for the new Babcock Ranch Fire Station 9 and CCSO District 5 office.

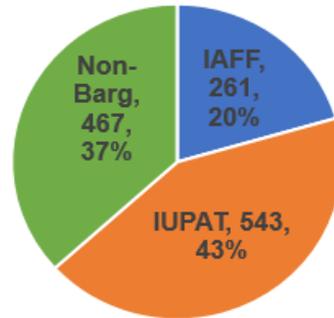
Reports and dashboards created to illustrate end of FY22 data.



166 SMALL PROJECTS closed in FY22

Workforce

Employee Count 1,271
Avg Age 46
Avg Hourly Rate \$26.92
Avg Years of Service 8.47



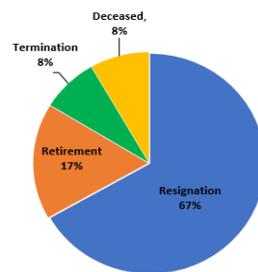
Retention of New Hires	October	YTD
% completing probation	83%	83%

Succession Planning

Ee's in FRS DROP the next 5 years	2.7%
% of Workforce Retired this FY	0.2%

Separations

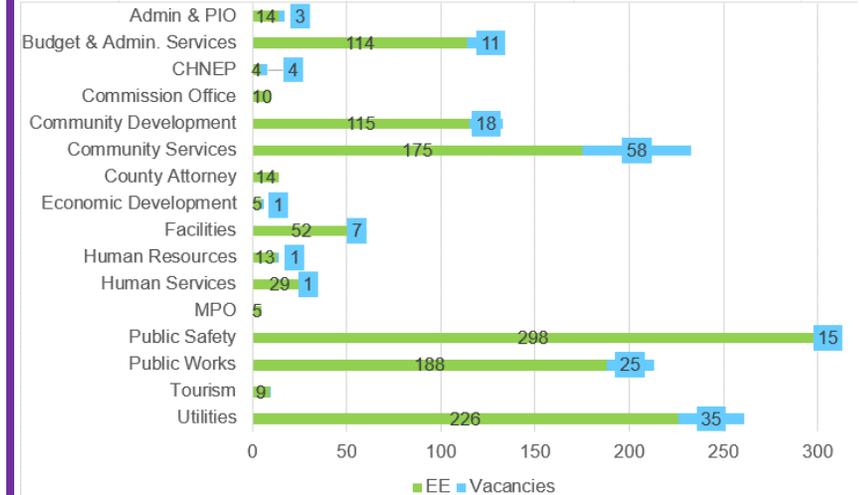
	October	YTD
Turnover	0.9%	0.9%
Separations	12	12



Training & Development

Training	73 EE's	12 hrs	876 contact hrs
% using Tuition Reimbursement		1%	

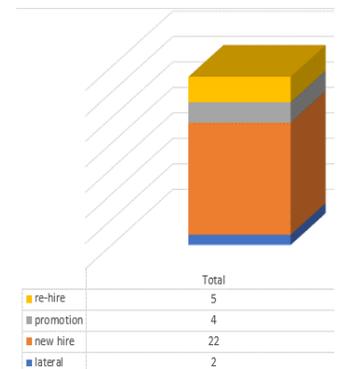
Employees vs Vacancies



Total Vacancies: 180

Recruitment

Applications Taken	496
Job Posting Hits	23,494
New Hires	22
Recruited Pos FT	48
Posted PT/Sea/Intern	13



SHIP - Insurance Deductible Assistance

In mid October, Gov. Desantis visited Charlotte County to provide residents with hurricane recovery updates. He announced that he was working in conjunction with the Florida Housing Agency and \$5 million would be awarded to Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Sarasota and Desoto counties through the State Housing Initiatives Program (SHIP). This program is managed by the our Neighborhood Services Division, and with little notice, they created an application process, prepared online and printed application packets and opened a short application window for residents to complete and submit required paperwork. The department had an overwhelming response and received over 1,300 applications over this four day period.



View of the Family Services Center Lobby on Friday 10/28/2022. Hundreds of applicants met with casemanagers throughout the day.

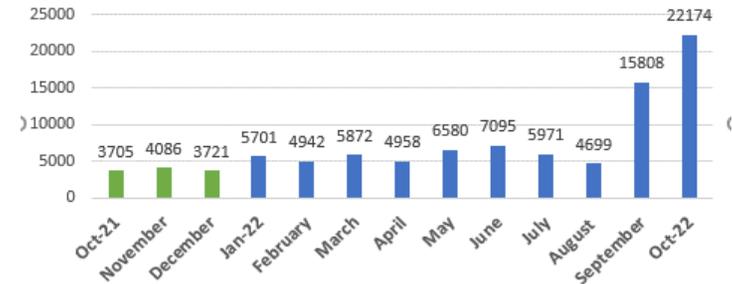
Human Services Long Term Recovery Activities

Hurricane Ian made landfall on September 28th and in its wake left a trail of destruction that will take months if not years to correct. To manage the clean-up and recovery efforts, a "Long Term Recovery Group" (LTRG) has been established directly connected to this weather event. The group is a cooperative body that is made up of representatives from faith based, non-profits, Charlotte County staff business, and other organizations working together within the community to assist individuals and families as they recover from Hurricane Ian. LTRG's are organized in a variety of ways to reflect local needs and the Human Services Department immediately worked in conjunction with the Charlotte Community Foundation and the COAD, to create a **Long Term Recovery Intake Survey**, which all residents impacted by the hurricane are encouraged to fill out and send using the following link:

<https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/CHARLOTTECOUNTYLTR/Participant>

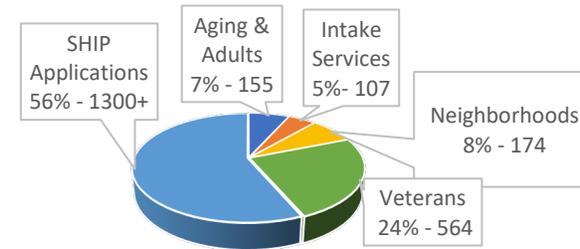
*"We help you navigate life's choppy waters"
Our Mission: Connecting people and resources.*

October 2022 - Department Numbers One Year Call Volume



The regular flow of calls and clients served over the past two month has fluctuated dramatically as a result of increased number of hurricane recovery calls and full department participation in processing SHIP applications. In October, 24,174 calls were received at the EOC and Human Services Offices and over 1300 financial relief applications were received.

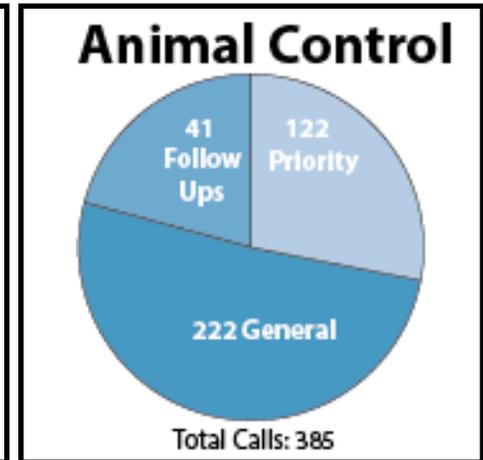
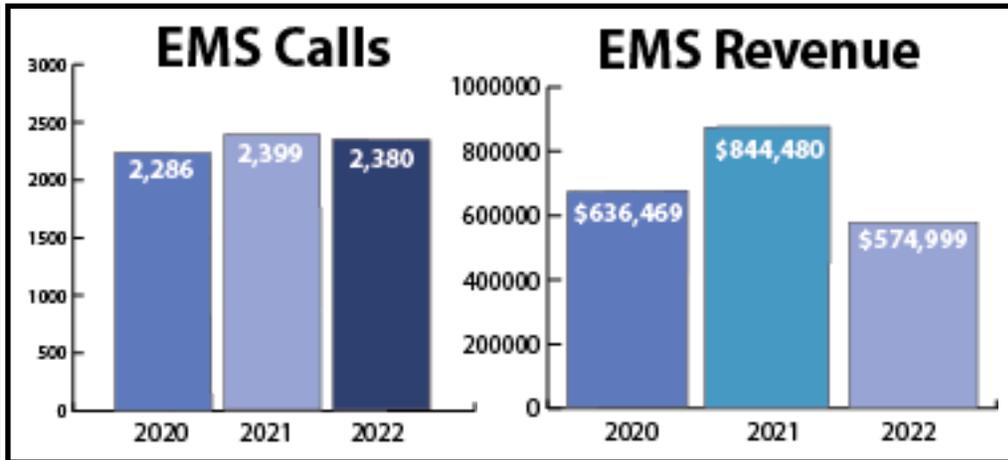
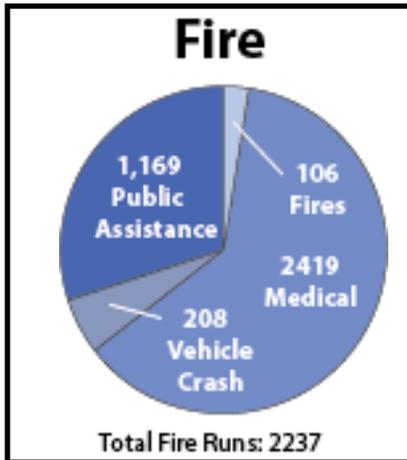
October 2022 - Percent and Number of Clients Served



New Staff

Four new intake Coordinators have joined the staff at the Family Services Center. Martina Neal and Grethel Mancha originally worked with the department as temps during the Covid-19 pandemic, answering 211 calls and assisting with the processing of hundreds of COAD financial relief applications. Kelly Gammon and Jeanette Calvert also started just before or after the hurricane and were quickly thrown into response efforts. Also a warm welcome to Ruth Agosto, Administrative Services Coordinator, Ruth comes to us from the Facilities Dept. and will be assisting staff and partners at both the Loveland Blvd. facility and Family Services Center.

Public Safety



Back to Normal

For many of us, the primary focus of October was recovering from the aftermath of Hurricane Ian and getting back to normal. Like many of our coworkers in the county, Public Safety employees worked tirelessly to help get the county back on track while trying to find time to make repairs, salvage, and or rebuild their own homes.

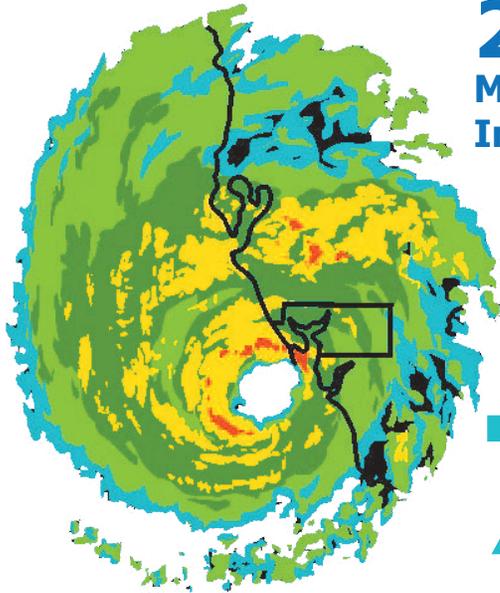
We are thankful for the efforts of all our employees who work without complaint. We are also thankful for all the assistance we received from outside agencies and new friends who came to help us during our time of need.

One of the first “normal” activities during October was the official ribbon-cutting event for our new Station 5 on Burnt Store Road. A few neighbors joined county commissioners, staff from Wharton-Smith, and county and fire department staff to celebrate the new station. The new building survived



Hurricane Ian with only minor damage, keeping our first responders safe inside and allowing them to quickly respond and check on residents in neighborhoods in the south county area as soon as the dangerous winds passed.





2200 Miles County Maintained Roads Impacted From Storm

2 Days Major & Critical Roads Cleared

7 Days County Maintained Roads Cleared

118 Traffic Signals Damaged by the Storm



117 Traffic Signals Repaired

Application Requests Received

219

Completed

233



101 Sites Identified Storm Damage to Roads And Rights Of Ways, Bridges, or County Owned and Maintained Easements

Engineering Division is working with partners to find solutions to correct the damage

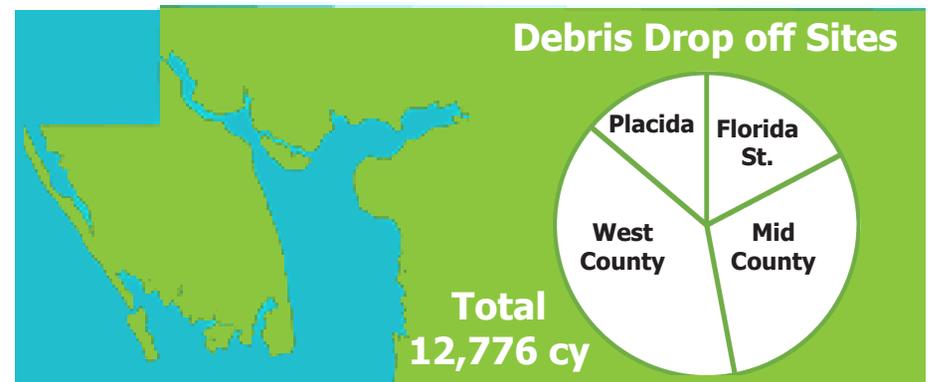


2,947 Critical Safety Signs Corrected

95% of the 80,519 County Maintained Signs Impacted

9 Roads Open with Temporary Repairs

14 Roads Closed
10 Storm Damage
4 Resource Sites



995,335 cy Debris Picked up

Key Performance Indicators

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT

(Current Month)

Sep-21	\$347,249	↓ -2.6%
Sep-22	\$338,283	

TDT YTD Collections (Pacing)

Sep-21	\$6,071,982	↑ 27.8%
Sep-22	\$7,762,508	

PureFlorida.com

Website Traffic

Users: 27,426

Pageviews: 61,516

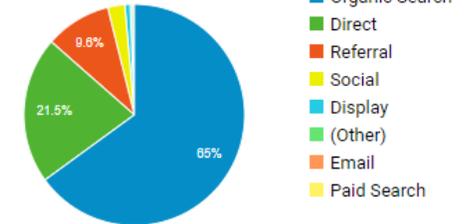
Top Origin Markets:

FL, GA, VA, NY, OH, MI, IL, PA, IN, NC

New vs. Returning Visitors: 75.9% vs 24.1%

Digital Channel Breakdown

Digital Channel Breakdown: October 1 – 31, 2022



Sales October 2022

SPORTS

Sports Corner

We had to cancel all sports tournaments for October and November after hurricane Ian ravaged the west coast and tested our community, yet again. It was truly amazing to see the support of other communities across Florida and throughout the country.

The Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitors & Convention Bureau's Sport Division reached out to our partners at the Florida Sports Foundation for any assistance they could offer our residents. They graciously coordinated with Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Florida State Games to acquire new branded short sleeve and long sleeve t-shirts. Each respective State Games mailed boxes of t-shirts that were brought to the United Way of Port Charlotte to hand out at disaster relief sites for displaced residents.

After working a shelter all week for displaced Charlotte County residents and pets, the Sports division worked side by side with over 60 volunteers helping to clean up and repair Charlotte BMX track, and Carmalita Park in Punta Gorda. The passion of these volunteers, made up of men, women, and kids, was overwhelming as they dedicated their time, resources, and equipment to get our parks back up and running for both our residents and visitors.

We have been in contact with all clients coordinating our future calendar for tournaments, trainings, and events. Happily, all have rescheduled for future 2023 dates.

Fun Fact

Anyone participating in a sport, works to achieve the same goal!

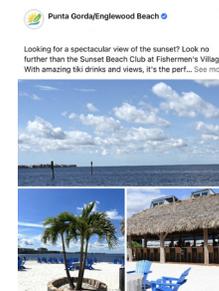
This month's fun fact highlights the hundreds of amazing people that worked diligently or volunteered their time for complete strangers to accomplish one big goal. The goal was to focus on taking care of others while simultaneously getting our beautiful community back up and running for all to enjoy, yet again.

We tip our ball caps to all and thank you all from the bottom of our hearts!

Public Relations/Media October 2022

A total of 12 media placements were secured. These placements had a reach of approximately 219,655,654 and a media ad value of approximately \$412K.

The Tourism office hosted 5 journalists from the International Food, Wine & Travel Writers Association on a familiarization trip on September 16 – 18. We've already received some positive coverage and expect more to come.



22 comments 31 shares

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

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



CHARLOTTE COUNTY UTILITIES

should be your first call for
utility issues.

STAFF IS AVAILABLE 24
HOURS, 7 DAYS A WEEK

941-764-4300



If you are experiencing a sewer backup or emergency, please call us at 941.764.4300. There is no charge for our 24/7 response service.

Our staff will investigate if it is a Charlotte County Utilities or homeowner issue. A plumber will need to be called if it is a homeowner issue. If a plumber is called to the home before Charlotte County Utilities investigates, the homeowner will be responsible for the plumbing costs even, if it is found to be a Charlotte County Utilities issue.

Thank You!

We appreciate all that you do!

Kudos to our staff who worked 24/7 after Hurricane Ian. Because of them, we were able to provide safe, reliable drinking water and wastewater service for our customers even in the most challenging times.

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 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. Construction is expected to be complete next month.
[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:** 7,636
- **Call Wait Time:** 3 minutes 10 seconds
- **Sewer Connections:** 44,201 (70 increase from Sept.)
- **Water Connections:** 66,787 (30 increase from Sept.)

Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- **25 Misc.—Utilities Department**
- **37 Utilities Billing**
- **81 Utilities Department Service**

143 Total

Increase due to Hurricane Ian

[Charlotte County Utilities Facebook](#)
2,222 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 and the East Port Environmental Campus, located at 25550 Harborview Rd. is currently closed.

Water shutoffs and late fees have been suspended due to Hurricane Ian.

Contact us at 941.764.4300 or
CCUSupport@CharlotteCountyFL.gov

Payment Options