



Monthly Report

August 2023

County distributes backpacks for homeless vets

Charlotte County Commission Chairman Bill Truex, county administration, Human Services Department staff, Charlotte County Sheriff's Office deputies and officials from more than a dozen county nonprofit partners held a "Bags for the Brave" backpack giveaway at the Family Services Center in Port Charlotte.

The backpacks were donated by the health insurance company United Healthcare and filled with personal care items donated by vendors at and sponsors of the 2023 Florida

Association of Counties annual conference in June, when Truex was inducted as president of the association's board of directors. The backpacks will be distributed by the Veteran Services Division and partner nonprofits to veterans who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

"We're doubly blessed in Charlotte County to be home to more than 20,000 veterans who served our country bravely and honorably and also by the amazing organizations dedicated

to making sure those veterans get the benefits they deserve and assistance when they need it," Truex said.

If you or someone you know is a veteran experiencing homelessness or is in danger of becoming homeless, veteran services officers are available to assist at 941-764-5579. Appointments are required for visits to our two office locations at 1050 Loveland Blvd., in Port Charlotte or 6868 San Casa Drive, Unit 12 in Englewood.

County creates storm damage reporting website

The Community Development Department has launched an online Self-Reporting Storm Damage system to help us collect damage assessments. Visit www.tinyurl.com/reportingdamage, enter your address, select the type of damage and add a photo.

Reporting damage in this system gets the information to county departments quickly and eliminates the need to call it in. The information will help the county compile an extensive list of the damage caused by Hurricane Idalia.

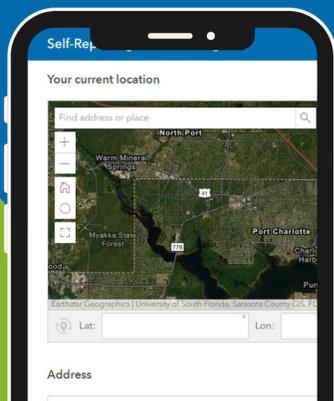


Representatives from more than a dozen non-profit organizations and county partner agencies gathered to receive backpacks to distribute to homeless veterans. The Bags for the Brave contain personal care items, hats, shirts and toiletries.



Assist in the Response - Report Storm Damage to Charlotte County

Charlotte County has an online Self-Reporting Storm Damage system to help us collect damage assessments.

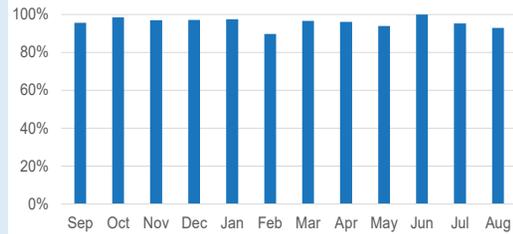


Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month

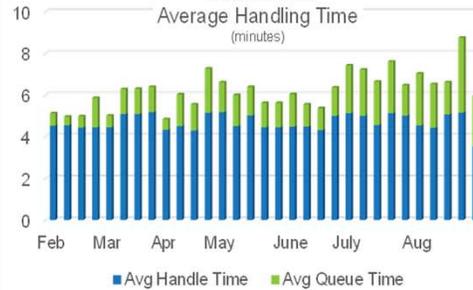


Customer Satisfaction % Positive

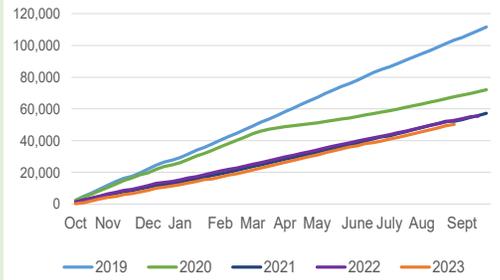


Transit

Transit Calls Average Handling Time (minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



Director Highlights

Leadership exemplified

Ray Desjardins, Senior IT Division Manager, has been a member of the Florida Local Government Information Systems Association (FLGISA) for more than 15 years. In that time, he has served in many leadership roles such as multiple terms as the Southwest Regional Director, Vice President, and ultimately as President of FLGISA. Ray's desire to learn from and assist other local government IT professionals throughout the state of Florida has positioned Charlotte County as an organization to look up to and be relied upon, whether it be researching the next best thing in technology or assisting fellow members in the aftermath of natural disasters. His leadership and passion for the organization and its mission has set an example not just for Charlotte County but for local governments across the state.

August 2023



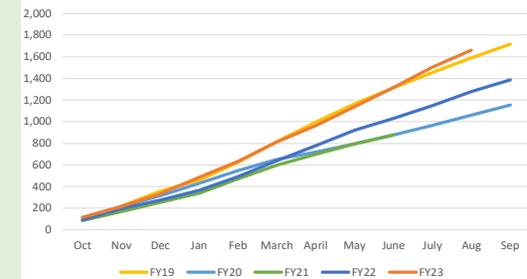
Health Center

Employee Health Center Monthly Appointment Utilization Summary



Records Management

Record Requests



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?



PERMITTING STAGE



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



COMPLETED!!



Avery Port Charlotte

1441 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
Redevelopment of Macy's site into 250 apartment units with a pool and other amenities.

Home Depot

12621 S McCall Rd, Port Charlotte
4,135 SF building addition and outdoor display area at existing West County Home Depot site,

Rick Johnson Auto and Tire

5520 Duncan Rd., Punta Gorda
7,040 SF 8-bay tire and auto service building

Elliano's Coffee

19637 Cochran Blvd., Port Charlotte
800 Sq. Ft. drive through coffee shop.

Del Taco & Buffalo Wild Wings

1490 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
2,370 SF Del Taco & 1,145 SF Buffalo Wild Wings restaurant and drive-thru.

7-Brew

4265 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
540 sq. ft. drive through coffee shop.

Mazda Car Dealership

798 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
Car dealership with wash and service bays to be constructed in two phases.



Free-standing Emergency Room

150 Tamiami Trail Port Charlotte
11,000 sq. ft. free-standing emergency room.



Manzhura Bro.'s Coffee House

844 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
800 sq. ft. drive through coffee shop.

McAlister's Deli

19570 Cochran Blvd., Port Charlotte
4,600 sq. ft. restaurant with drive-thru.



Wawa

1452 Chancellor Blvd., Port Charlotte
5,943 sq. ft. convenience store and gas station.

Elegance Plaza

14520 Chancellor Blvd., Port Charlotte
1-story 15,300 square foot shopping plaza.



August Permitting:

Total Single Family Permits Issued: 315

Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 289

Total Permits Taken In July: 4,688

Total Permits Taken in August: 4,823

Total Permits Issued for August: 4,882

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

Total Permits Issued FY22-23: 77,086
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2022—Sept. 2023)

PERMITTING SNAPSHOT

PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

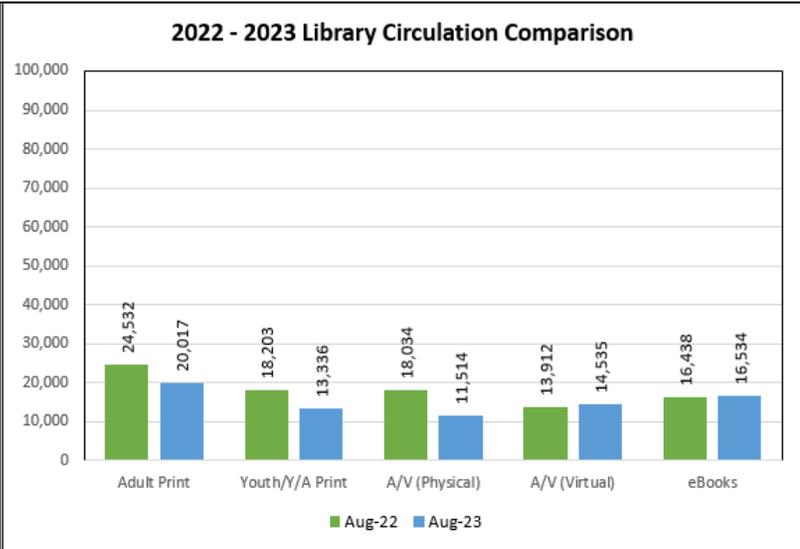
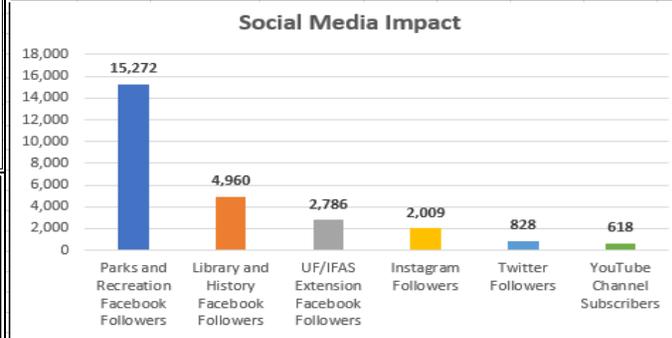
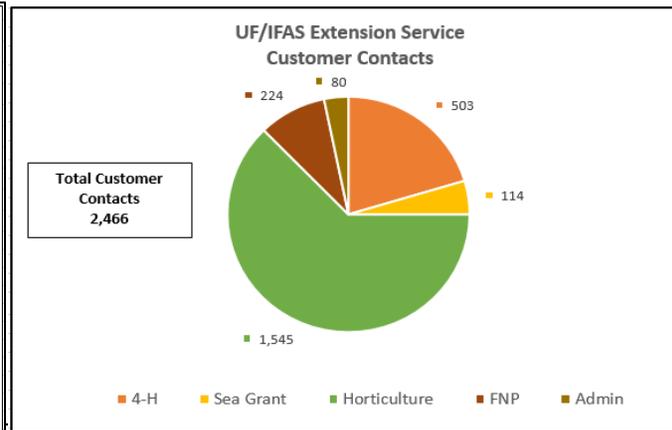
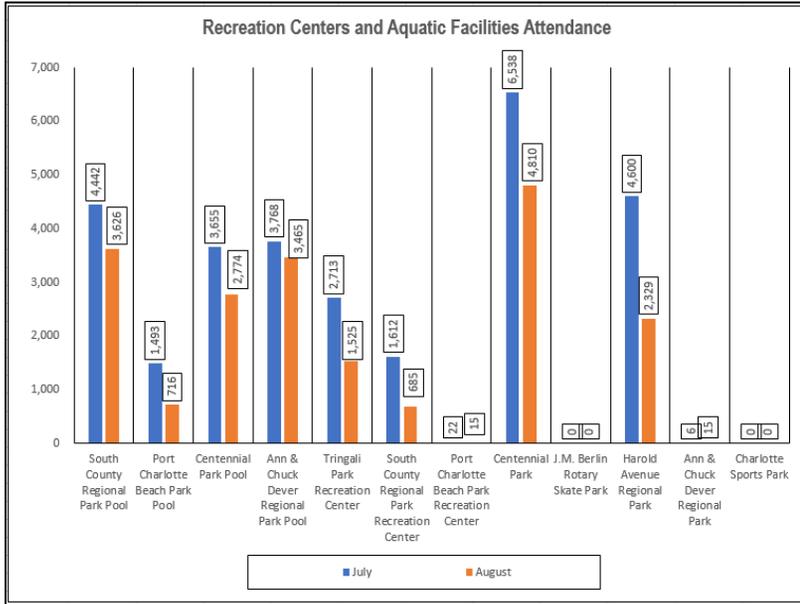
Babcock Update

- Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016: 2,067
- Single Family Permits Issued August: 77

West Port Update

- Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued since April 2021: 370
- Single Family Permits Issued August: 29





Natural Resources

Shorebirds/Seabirds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 adult shorebirds 13 chick shorebirds 48 adult seabirds 20 chick seabirds 	Coastal Lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48 permit reviews 4 inspections
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- ### Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance
- 152 youth leagues and adult softball practices
 - 5 tournaments
 - 566 recycling bags collected
 - 3,621 trash bags collected
- ### Land Management
- 160 miles maintained
 - 19.7 exotics/invasives acres treated
 - 9 miles of trails maintained
 - Staff began the process of data compilation as well as analysis of the Florida Scrub Jay surveys
 - Staff conducted annual vegetation plot monitoring.

- ### Project Management
- Projects Completed - 5
 - Projects - not started - 8
 - Projects - In progress - 59
 - Total projects - 72
 - Total - \$ 6,856,865

PUNTA GORDA IS THE 5TH FASTEST GROWING METRO AREA

Did you know that Charlotte County has become the 5th fastest-growing metro area in recent years? This rapid growth is not only transforming our beautiful community, but it's also making a significant impact on our local economy! It's vital to ensure that this growth is sustainable and well-managed. We are actively working to strike a balance between progress and preserving our natural resources and small-town charm. It's crucial that we grow responsibly and thoughtfully!



Fastest-growing metro areas

Population change, July 1, 2021–July 1, 2022

Metro area	July 1, 2021	July 1, 2022	Percent change
The Villages, FL	134,867	144,970	75%
Myrtle Beach, SC	510,825	536,165	5.0%
Lakeland, FL	755,179	787,404	4.3%
Cape Coral, FL	790,676	822,453	4.0%
Punta Gorda, FL	194,934	202,661	4.0%
North Port, FL	862,024	891,411	3.4%
St. George, UT	191,476	197,680	3.2%
Port St. Lucie, FL	504,532	520,710	3.2%
Panama City, FL	179,498	185,134	3.1%
Spartanburg, SC	335,406	345,831	3.1%

Note: Metro area column shows principal city and state for each metropolitan statistical area. Fastest-growing metros were determined by the population growth from July 1, 2021, to July 1, 2022, among US metro areas.

Table: Madison Hoff/Insider • Source: Census Bureau

INSIDER

In response to Hurricane Idalia, the state has activated the Business Damage Assessment Survey to help state and federal officials determine the need for disaster assistance and expedite recovery resources. We encourage small businesses impacted by the storm to complete the survey:

<https://hubs.la/Q020Nysg0>

Was your small business impacted by Hurricane Idalia?



Take the Business Damage Assessment Survey at:

<https://floridadisaster.biz/BusinessDamageAssessments>

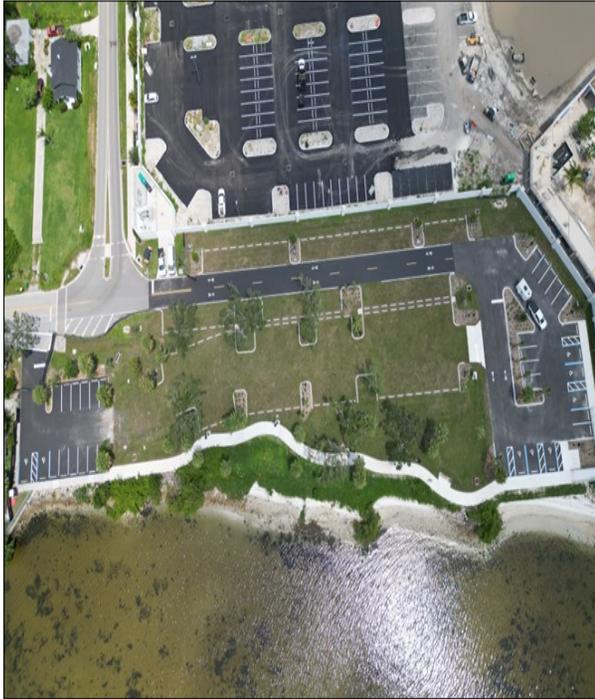
CHARLOTTE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



The Major Development Projects map from our GIS WebTech Guru site will show the latest developments happening in Charlotte County. There are a lot of exciting things happening in our county. Click [HERE](#) to view this interactive map!

August 2023

Bayshore Grass Parking



The completed Bayshore CRA Parking Lot project is located at the east end of Bayshore Live Oak Park. The design is a stabilized subgrade and grass surface with drainage. The pedestrian promenade project provides connectivity between Bayshore Park and Sunseeker Resort, improving pedestrian mobility along the Charlotte Harbor Riverwalk. This connection allows the public to access the Charlotte Harbor Riverwalk from Bayshore Live Oak Park.

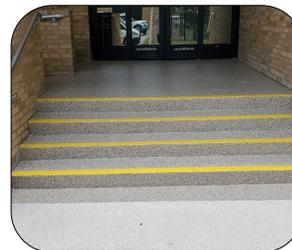
◆ Permit documents were submitted to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the **Ainger Creek Boat Ramp Replacement** project.

◆ The new **CCSO District 5 Sheriff's Office at Babcock Ranch** has been progressing quickly. All the underground utilities have been installed in the foundation and the concrete pad was poured. The block walls are already being placed. The shell build-out portion is expected to be done by end of January 2024, with completion projected to be around October 2024.

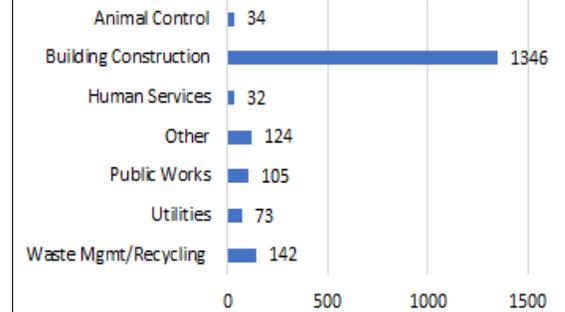


◆ **Building Construction Services lobby remodel**- workstations were remodeled to improve operations for staff and public.

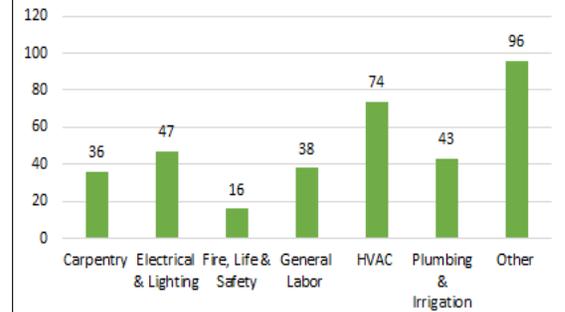
◆ Updates were made to the **Murdock Administration loading dock**, including new steps, epoxy deck coating, safety items, and lighting.



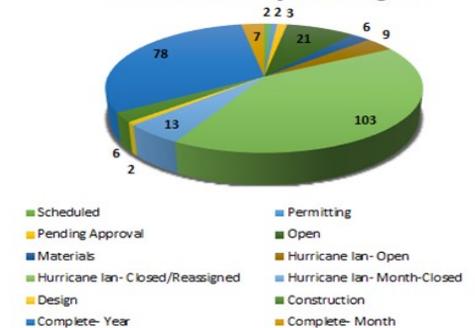
FY23 Switchboard Calls- August

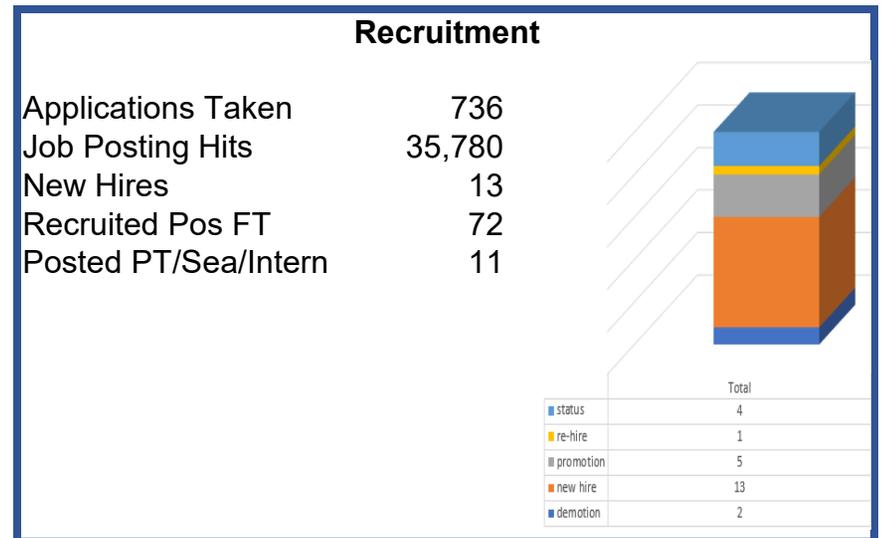
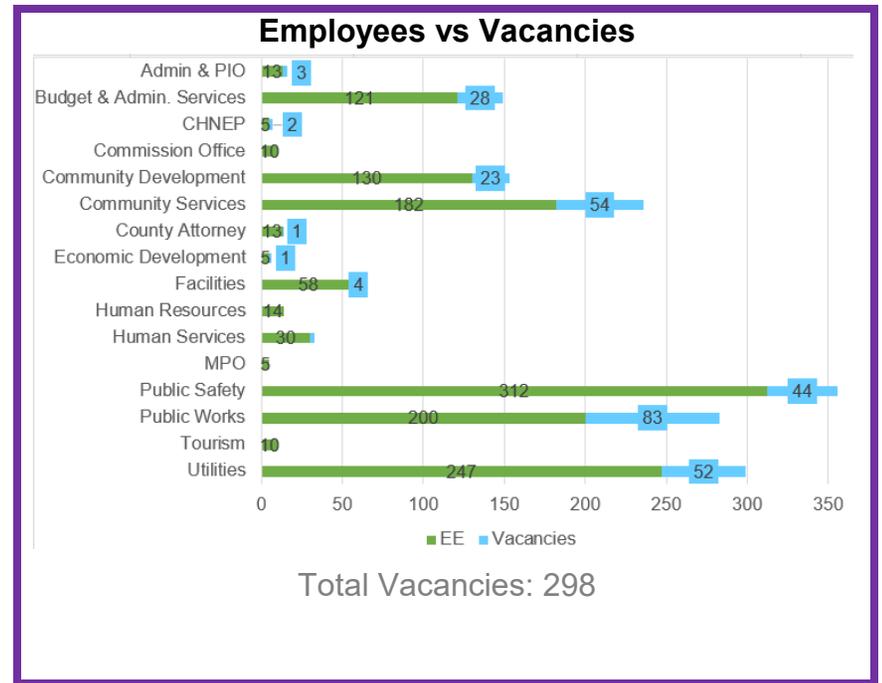
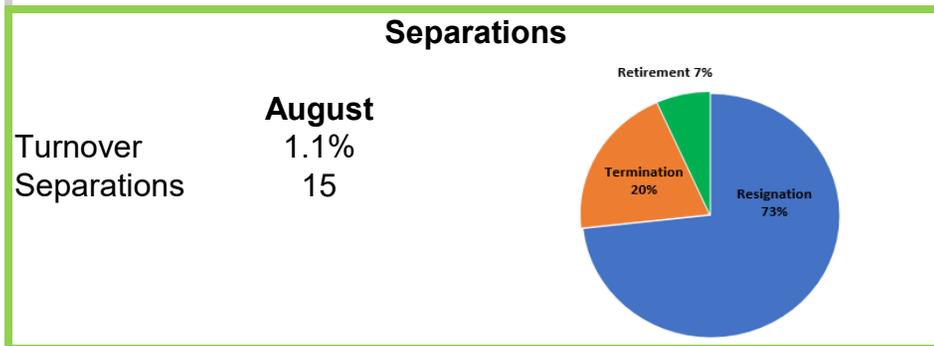
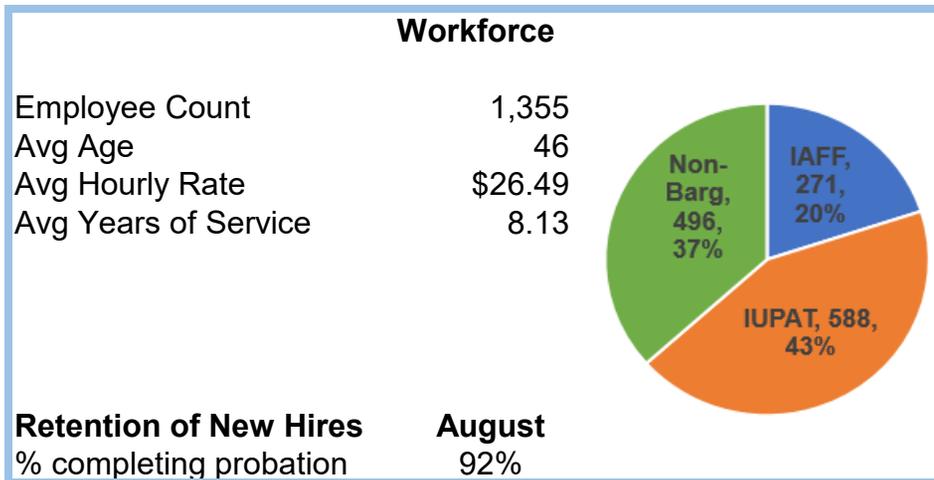


FY23 Work Orders Created- August (excluding Jail)



FY23 Small Projects- August







Total Clients Served August 2023



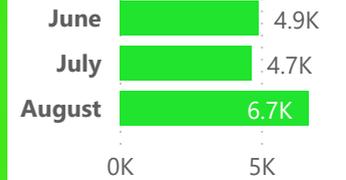
Commissioner Bill Truex and our Veteran Services Division aiding the homeless Veterans with donated Backpacks for the Brave filled with essential care items.



During Tropical Storm Idalia our Department was activated for duty at the EOC Call Center!



Human Services Call Volume



Aging & Adult Services

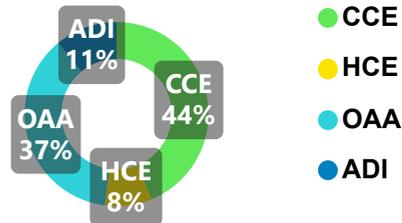
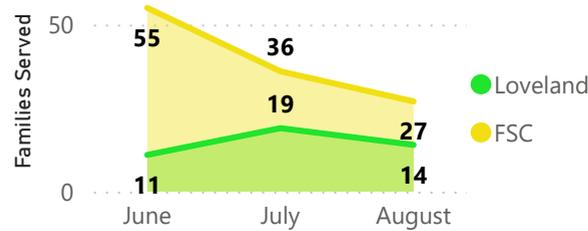
170
Clients Served

Case Management

Completed/Closed/Ter... In process/ Res... New Cases

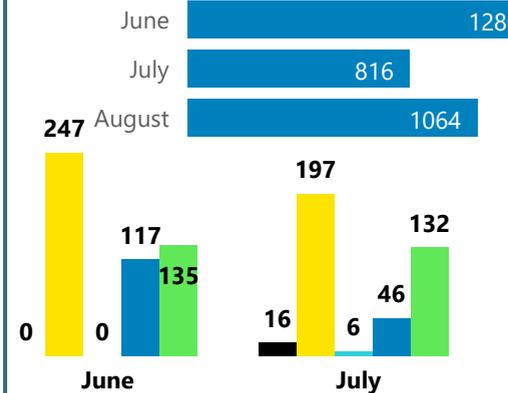


Human Services Food Pantry

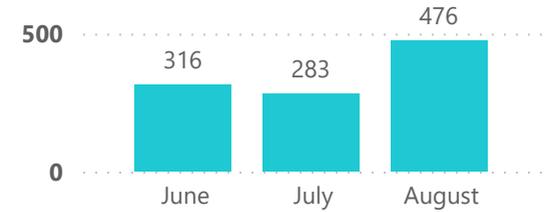


Intake Services

Harry Chapin Food Truck Services



Referrals Made to FSC Partners

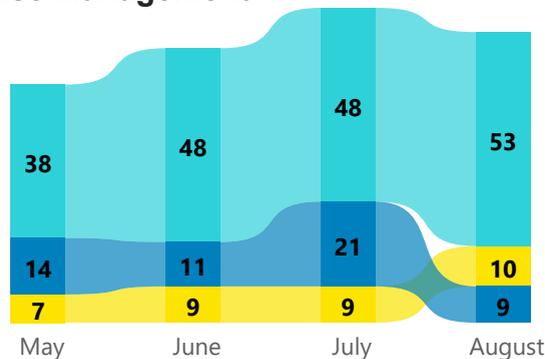


Energy Assistance-In Progress
Energy Assistance-Completed
Water Assistance-In Progress
Water Assistance-Completed
Fastrack Applications

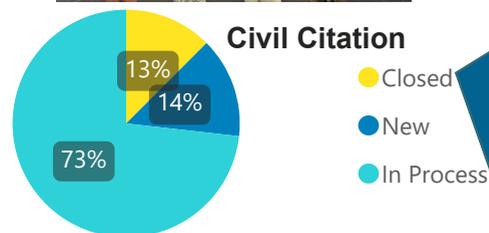
Neighborhood Services

Completed/Closed/Termed In process/ Research New Cases

Case Management



Senior manager Colleen Turner and Housing Specialist Mary Prod receive award on behalf of the housing division team for work related Hurricane Ian response SHIP-DR program.



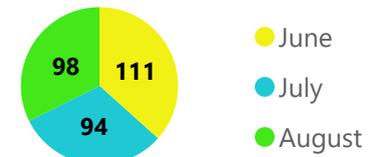
183
Clients Served

Veteran Services

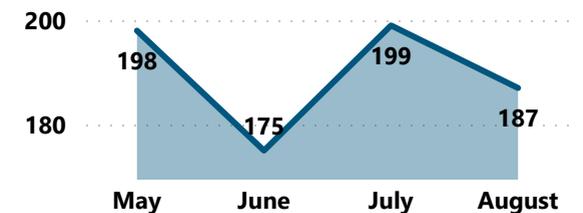


Our Veteran Services Manager Jocene Henderson presenting at Chelsea's Place ActivAge event.

New Claims

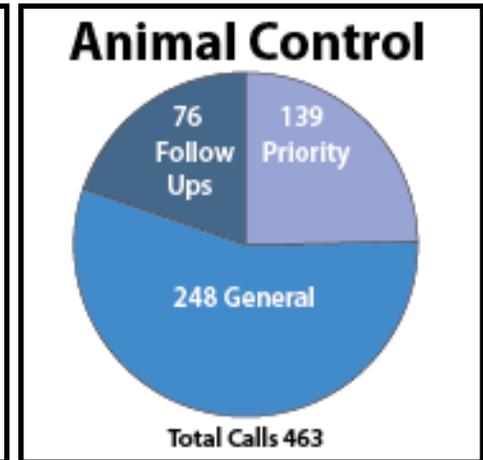
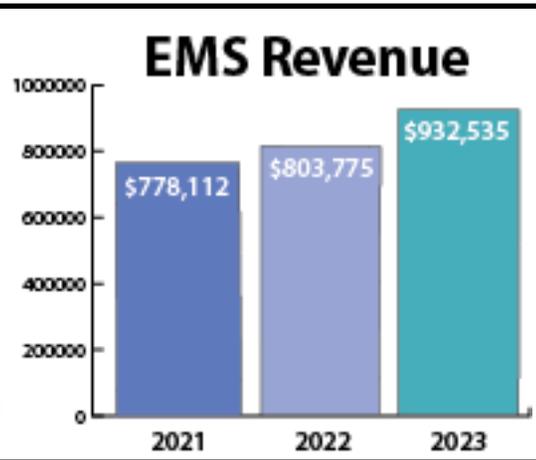
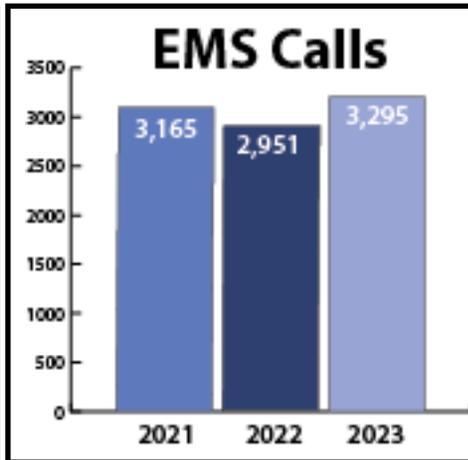
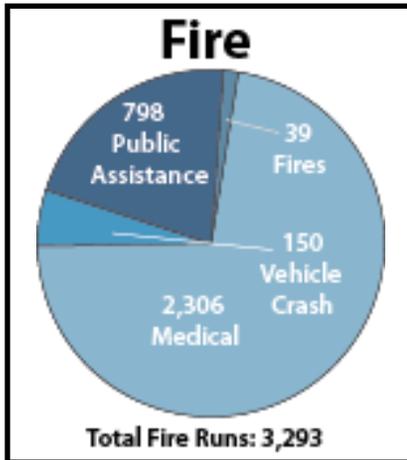


VA Clients Served



Our Mission: To collaborate and provide programs and connections that increase financial stability and support individuals and families as they work to reach their fullest potential.

Public Safety



Ensure Hurricane Preparedness

Residents of Charlotte County, Florida, know all too well the importance of hurricane preparedness, particularly in the shadow of past storms like Hurricane Ian and recently, Idalia. With the Atlantic hurricane season in full swing, it's crucial to be well-prepared to protect your loved ones and your property. Here's a comprehensive guide on how to get ready for hurricanes.

Stay Informed: Keeping abreast of weather forecasts is your first line of defense. Follow updates from the National Hurricane Center and local meteorological services to track the progress of storms so you can make informed decisions.

Assemble an emergency kit well ahead of time. Include non-perishable food, water, flashlights, batteries, a first aid kit, important documents (insurance policies, identification), and any necessary medications. Don't forget to prepare for your pets with food, water, and carriers.

Familiarize yourself with your evacuation zone and the designated evacuation routes within Charlotte County. Establish a clear plan for where you'll go if an evacuation order is issued. Consider staying with friends or family.

Protect your property by installing hurricane shutters or impact resistant windows. Trim trees and shrubs to minimize flying debris

well ahead of predicted landfall. Reinforce your garage door to withstand strong winds and secure items like patio furniture.

Review your homeowners' insurance policy to verify it provides sufficient coverage for hurricane-related damages. Consider adding flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) if your policy doesn't cover flooding.

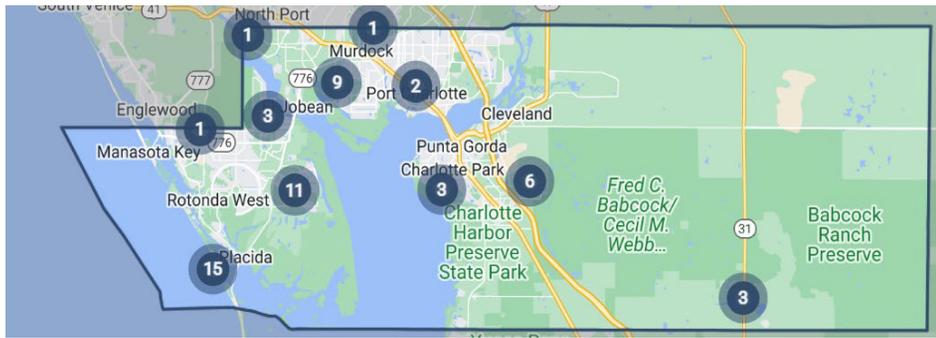
Maintain open communication with neighbors and the local community. Join social media groups or neighborhood networks to share information, updates, and offer support during hurricane events.

Compile a list of essential emergency contacts, including family members, friends, neighbors, and local authorities. Share this list with your loved ones and keep a copy in your hurricane preparedness kit.

Ensure your pets are part of your hurricane preparedness plan. Pack their essentials, including food, water, medications, and carriers. Identify pet-friendly shelters or accommodations in advance.

Hurricane Idalia serves as a stark reminder of the potential risks Charlotte County faces during hurricane season. By staying informed, creating an emergency kit, having an evacuation plan, securing your home, reviewing insurance coverage, staying connected with the community, and caring for your pets, you can enhance your safety and resilience when facing storms like Idalia. Preparedness is the key to effectively weathering any hurricane that comes your way. Stay informed, stay safe, and stay prepared.

Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control



Adulticide

Larvicide

161,113
acres treated

5,137
acres treated

2149

Total number of
mosquitos identified
to species

CityWorks

1233
Work Orders
Opened

1019
Work Orders
Closed

239
Service
Requests
Opened

177
Service
Requests
Closed

Application Requests

Received

238

Completed

138



**Engineering Division
Hurricane Ian Projects**

72
Total Projects

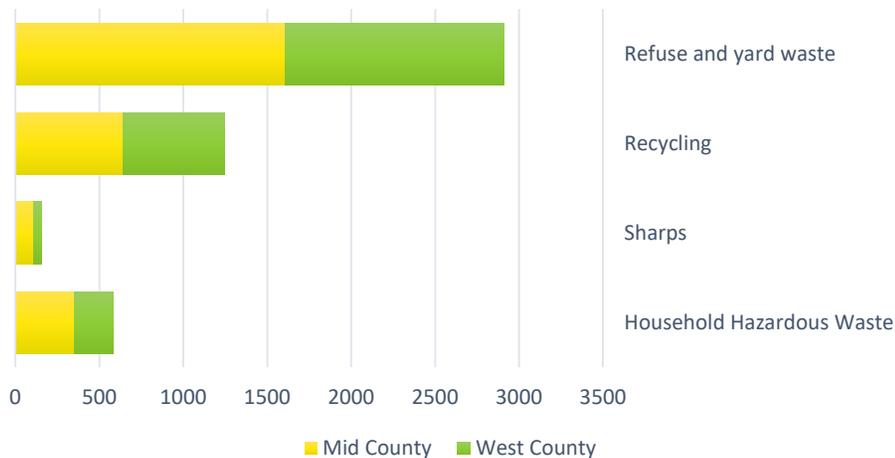
6
Planning

12
Purchasing

46
Complete

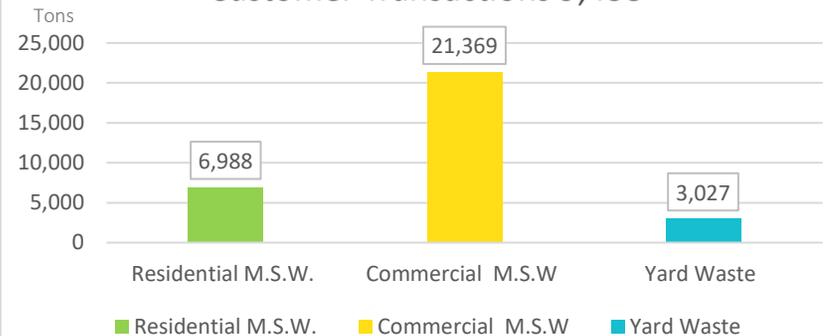
8
Construction

Transfer Facility Customers



Landfill

Customer Transactions 9,438



Key Performance Indicators

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT

(Current Month)

Jul-22	\$599,348	↓ -12.6%
Jul-23	\$523,940	

TDT YTD Collections (Pacing)

Jul-22	\$7,056,246	↓ -5.0%
Jul-23	\$6,704,408	

PureFlorida.com

Website Traffic

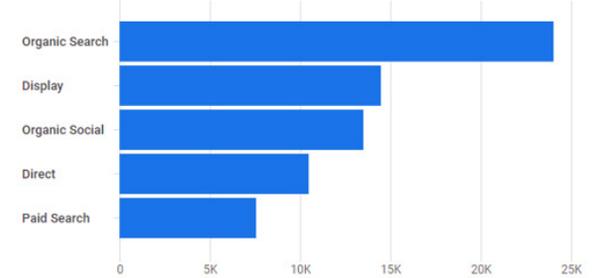
Website Users: 62,000

Sessions: 80,018

Top Origin Markets:

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

Sessions by Channel Group



SPORTS

Sales August 2023

August in Florida is the slowest time to host amateur youth and collegiate tournaments. Since kids are returning to school to focus on their school sport and temperatures tend to be the highest all summer, tournaments won't start up until mid-September. This also provides a brief break for athletes participating in travel baseball, softball and football that play year-round in Florida.

During August, our sports division focuses on securing sports sponsorship applications for hosting fall tournaments. In August, we received eight applications and will be hosting these state, region, and national tournaments this fall.

Fun Fact

Every year from August 18-28 we get to enjoy watching the best teams participate in the Little League Baseball World Series.

- The Little League Baseball World Series was founded in 1939 in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.
- 2 million boys and girls from 4-16 years old play little league baseball worldwide.
- Little League Baseball is played in 80 countries and all 50 states.

LEISURE

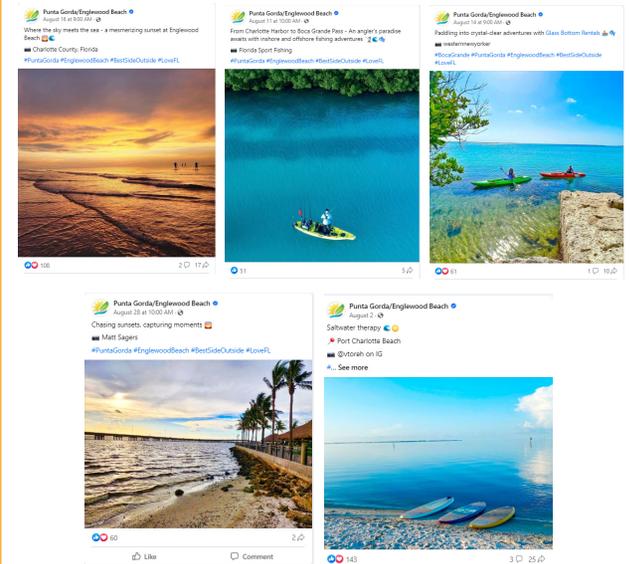
We were pleased to host Vera Sommer, owner of Touristik Marketing to our destination this August.

Touristik Marketing represents our destination in the German Market. Vera was able to spend three full days and four nights in destination learning about all our area has to offer. She met with some of our accommodation and attraction partners across the county staying in three different accommodation options during her short stay here. While meeting with partners she expressed the importance to work with US Receptive Tour Operators (RTO's) to gain access to selling their product in Germany. Aimee Blenker, Sr. Leisure Sales Manager will assist partners with US RTO's that are interested in marketing their business to the German traveler.



Public Relations/Media August 2023

A total of 284 media placements were secured. These placements had a reach of approximately 350,861,578 and a media ad value of approximately \$674,997.



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

Visitors to Charlotte County save local residents an average of **\$1,083** 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.



Charlotte County Ordinance 2014-041



**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

- **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. The vacuum station is in operation and Zones 1 and 2 sewer connections have begun.
If you are in Zone 2 and still need to receive or complete an Installation Agreement? Please contact Syndi Merriman at Syndi.Merriman@CharlotteCountyFL.gov.
For project information:
AckermanProject.com
August Connections: 56
Total Connections: 115

UNDER DESIGN

- **Lake View/Midway Septic to Sewer Project:**
This project proposes construction of a wastewater collection system to service approximately 1,500 properties with sewer service, new water service lines and a vacuum station.
Staff is conducting roadway surveys in the proposed project area. Contractors will be mulching three potential vacuum station locations for future surveying and design work. The locations include: 660 N. Ellicott Cir., 161 Grenada St. and 712 Chevy Chase St.
LakeviewMidwayProject.com
- **Cape Haze Septic to Sewer Project:**
This project proposes construction of a wastewater collection system to service approximately 300 properties with sewer service, new water service lines and a vacuum station.

OPERATIONS

- **Calls Presented:** 6,955
- **Call Wait Time:** 1 minutes 57 seconds
- **Sewer Connections:** 46,066 (215 increase from July)
- **Water Connections:** 69,028 (229 increase from July)
- **Water Customer Service Work Orders:** 739
- **Sewer Customer Service Work Orders:** 418

Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- **4 Misc.—Utilities Department**
- **10 Utilities Billing**
- **7 Utilities Department Service**
21 Total

[Charlotte County Utilities Facebook](#)
2,503 Follows

2022 Water Quality Reports:

<https://tinyurl.com/2022-CCR-Peace-River>
<https://tinyurl.com/2022-CCR-Burnt-Store>

Remember, every drop counts! 💧

Important Information:

The Customer Payment Center located at the Murdock Administration Center, 18500 Murdock Circle, B-109, in Port Charlotte is open.

Monday through Friday—9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Customer Payment Center assisted **453** individuals for the month of August.