



Monthly Report

Sept. 2023



Sept. 28 marked one year since Hurricane Ian

Sept. 28 marked one year since Hurricane Ian devastated much of Charlotte County, causing tens of millions of dollars in damages, including to numerous county facilities. According to the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation, residents and business owners filed 105,714 insurance claims for storm damage. More than 13,000 of those claims are either still open or policyholders have not yet been paid.

Since Oct. 1, 2022, the Community Development Department has issued 77,086 permits,

including more than 32,000 roof permits. County street signs are being replaced as parts and repair firms become available. More than 80,000 street signs were damaged or went missing during the storm.

Charlotte County is also working through insurance and facility repairs. Three major facilities, including the Mid-County Regional Library, the East Port Environmental Center and the Charlotte Sports Park, are still not open due to damage or repair work. The sports park will

be ready for spring training February 2024 and the library will be repaired, but no decision has been made yet on whether the environmental center will be repaired or torn down and rebuilt.

The former Cultural Center of Charlotte County buildings were significantly damaged, too. It is being assessed to determine the scope of the damage and whether or not it is feasible to repair part of all. To take the survey about what services and programs you would like to see provided, visit tinyurl.com/lnput2023.



CC-TV streaming on YouTube page

CC-TV, Charlotte County's local government television channel, is now livestreaming on our YouTube page, www.YouTube.com/CCT-VcharlottecountyFL. The page has been expanded to include additional content created for our social media platforms.

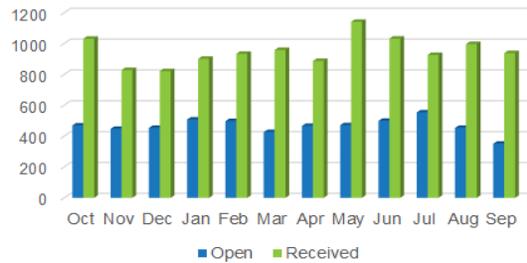
The channel is still available on the county website, www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/cctv and on Comcast channel 20 (or 97 in some areas). County Commission and other meetings held in the commission chambers are also livestreamed on the county Facebook page, www.Facebook.com/CharlotteCountyFlorida.



CC-TV has premiered a nine-minute video titled, "Remembering Hurricane Ian." The video, produced by Emmy Award-winning Television Production Specialist Tom Lloyd, depicts footage of the hurricane, storm damage, relief efforts and interviews. The video can be viewed on the county's YouTube page. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/RememberingIan>.

Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month

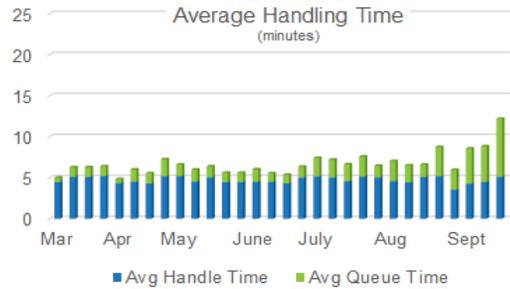


Customer Satisfaction % Positive

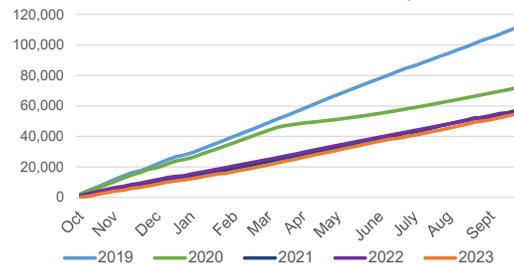


Transit

Transit Calls Average Handling Time (minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



Director Highlights

Real Estate Services – Surplus Sales

Real Estate Services recently completed the disposal of former Fire Stations #2 and #5. The construction of new facilities rendered the former stations surplus to County needs. Fire Station #2, formerly located at 1493 Collingswood Boulevard, generated \$341,800 and Fire Station #5, located at 26287 Notre Dame Boulevard, generated \$426,401. Both of these properties were sold in a sealed-bid process in coordination with the Purchasing.

On October 10th, the Board will be presented a high bid of \$356,300 for the former Fire Station #10, located at 101 Gasparilla Way. If approved, these three sales will generate \$1,124,501 combined. Since 2002, and including the three fire stations noted above, Real Estate Services has generated over \$13.5 Million in surplus property sales.

September 2023



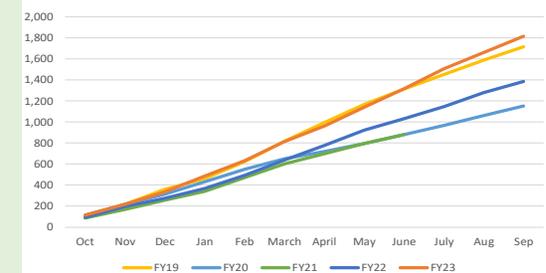
Health Center

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.

Dollar General

25240 Sandhill Blvd., Punta Gorda
12,834± SF commercial retail development and associated infrastructure.

Rick Johnson Auto and Tire

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

Bachmann Project

21301/21401 Veterans Blvd., Port Charlotte
600 unit multifamily development..

Piper Logistics

9225 Piper Rd., Punta Gorda
139,200 sq. ft. warehousing and distribution development,

Whiskey Joe's

5000 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
The project consists of a restaurant, outdoor tiki bar, event pavilion, and recreational areas.

Mazda Car Dealership

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



Wawa

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



Manzhura Bro.'s Coffee House

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



Dunkin' Donuts

19220 Veterans Blvd., Port Charlotte
1,731 sq. ft. Dunkin' Donuts with a drive-thru.

McAlister's Deli

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



Elegance Plaza

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

Starbucks

18501 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte
2,500 sq. ft. Starbucks with double drive-thru lanes.



PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

Babcock Update

- Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016: 2,106
- Single Family Permits Issued September: 94

West Port Update

- Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued since April 2021: 397
- Single Family Permits Issued September: 14

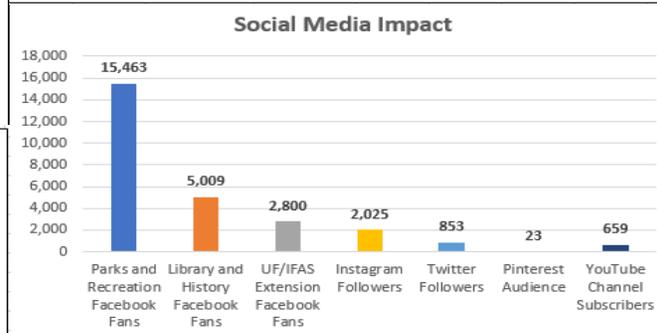
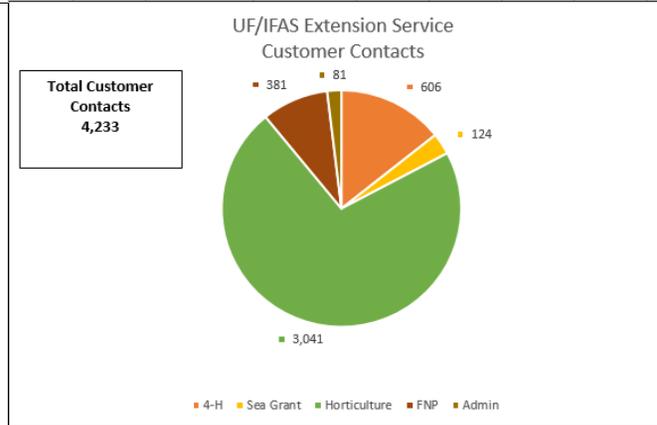
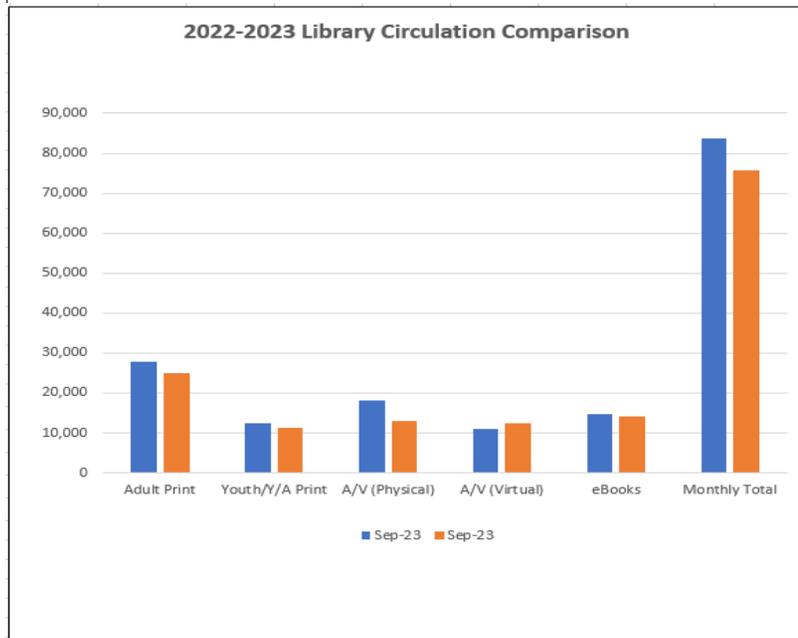
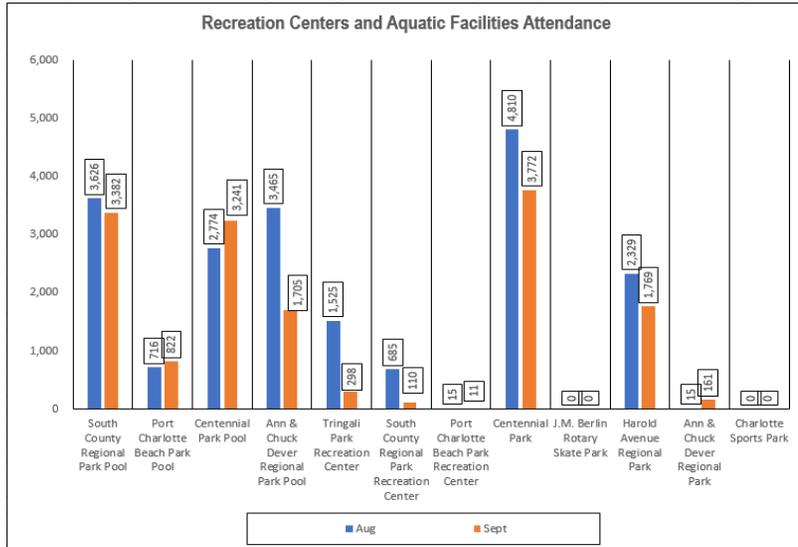


September Permitting:
Total Single Family Permits Issued: 355
Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 273
Total Permits Taken In August: 4,823
Total Permits Taken in September: 4,415
Total Permits Issued for September: 4,824
Total Permits Issued FY21-22: 41,319
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2021—Sept. 2022)
Total Permits Issued FY22-23: 81,910

PERMITTING SNAPSHOT



September, 2023



Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance

- 3,586 trash bags collected
- 574 recycling bags collected
- Fields prepped-374

Land Management

- 6 acres of habitat mulched
- 128 trees cut
- Staff began the process of data compilation as well as analysis of the Florida Scrub Jay surveys. Summary data summary spreadsheets are available for review.

Project Management

- 85 projects, \$8,604,365.85

Coastal Management

Abandoned/Derelict Vessels

- 31 Open Cases
- 7 Removed
- 6 Relocated
- 8 Ready for removal
- 1 Pending approval

Coastal Lighting

- 13 Permit Reviews
 - 5 Inspections
- #### Eagle Nests
- 8 being monitored

Sea Turtle Nests

- Loggerhead- 1843
- Green- 189
- Kemps -1

TWO LARGE PROJECTS BREAK GROUND IN PUNTA GORDA AIRPARK

Balentine Builder Services' custom countertops and cabinetry business broke ground on their project in August. The main building is 50,000 square feet and will include 11,250 square feet of showroom and office space. The second 15,000-square-foot building will be used primarily for warehousing.



RENDERING OF THE KING OF VAPE DISTRIBUTION CENTER AND SPEC BUILDING

The King of Vape three-story building will total 139,088 square feet, of which 116,340 square feet will consist of an air-conditioned warehouse for their distribution plus an additional 22,748 square feet of office space. Due to the owner's belief in the market, they are also building another 120,000 sq ft building on a spec basis. [Full article.](#)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT'S AMANDA BENTON MAKES HISTORY

Amanda Benton is the first person in Charlotte County Economic Development Office to pass the first of three exams needed to become a Certified Economic Developer (CECd) with the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch told Economic Development Director, Dave Gammon that she will be replacing Dave soon. Dave says he, "knew Amanda was smarter than he was when he hired her." Great job, Amanda!

CHARLOTTE COUNTY RANKED FIFTH-FASTEST GROWING REGION IN THE NATION FOR POPULATION GROWTH

1. The Villages, FL
2. Myrtle Beach, SC
3. Lakeland, FL
4. Cape Coral, FL
5. Punta Gorda, FL
6. North Port, FL
7. St. George, UT
8. Port St. Lucie, FL
9. Panama City, FL
10. Spartanburg, SC



[Read more here.](#)

MANUFACTURING JOBS

426,000
(Increasing)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

10th
(Improving)

Top 5
2030 Goal

FLORIDA NOW IN THE TOP TEN FOR MANUFACTURING JOBS

Florida's manufacturing industry plays a vital role in making Florida a top 10 global economy by 2030, and this month's figures are a move in the right direction towards achieving our [Florida 2030 Blueprint](#) goal of being a top 5 state for manufacturing jobs. As Florida looks to surpass #9 North Carolina and ultimately have more manufacturing jobs than #5 Pennsylvania, we want to thank our Florida 2030 Blueprint Goal Leader FloridaMakes and FloridaCommerce for their work in helping to grow this vital sector. [Full article here.](#)

Facilities FY23 Numbers:

In FY23, 4,029 work orders were created to be completed by Repair/Maintenance and Operations staff. These are work requests needed by BCC departments and elected officials. Of these, 628 were storm related.

The small projects group completed over 400 work orders classified as small projects. These may involve multiple disciplines, include extensive work, and take significant time to complete.

Coincidentally, jail staff received and completed the same number of work orders (4,029). These work orders are submitted though the Sheriff's system and staff supports maintenance and daily operations at the Charlotte County Jail.

Project Managers worked various stages of capital projects, sales tax projects, and hurricane related projects.

Security staff managed badge access, cameras, and locks for the County.

Business Services staff managed 278 pool vehicle reservations and answered nearly 32,000 calls last year from citizens who were not able to determine their selection through the auto-attendant.

- ◆ Sweet Sparkman is initiating a pre-application meeting with DRC and SWFWMD in the coming weeks for the

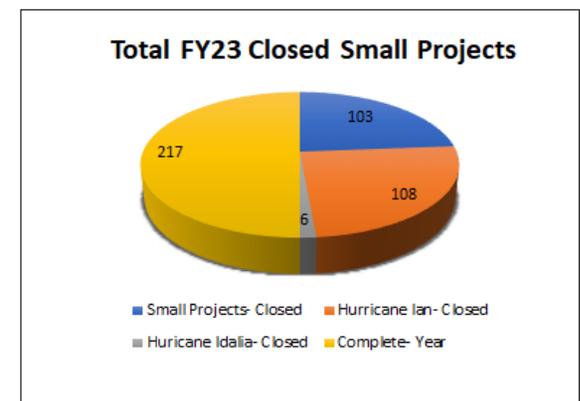
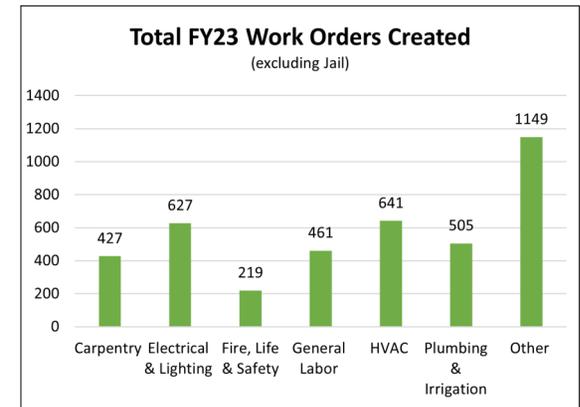
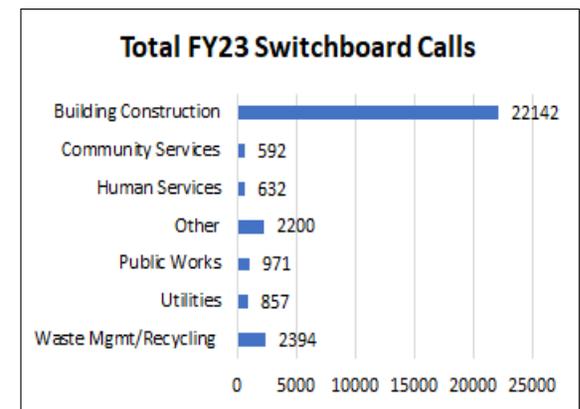


Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center project. Work is beginning on the site design related to the area around the recreation center. A meeting was held with the engineering firm on September 15th to discuss the possibility of reclassifying the zoning of that area to better accommodate the placement of the pool and pool house.

- ◆ On September 12th, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the new **Sheriff's District 4 Office** on Airport Road. Mobilization is expected the first week of October.

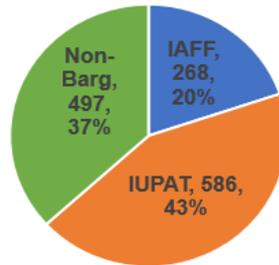


- ◆ The new **Public Works JB Yard** has just been completed on Sinatra Avenue. This facility will serve as a permanent location for staff and equipment for the Mid County region.



Workforce

Employee Count 1,351
 Avg Age 46
 Avg Hourly Rate \$26.61
 Avg Years of Service 8.15



Retention of New Hires **September**
 % completing probation 67%

Succession Planning

Ee's in FRS DROP the next 8 years 2.8%
 % of Workforce Retired this FY 1.9%

Separations

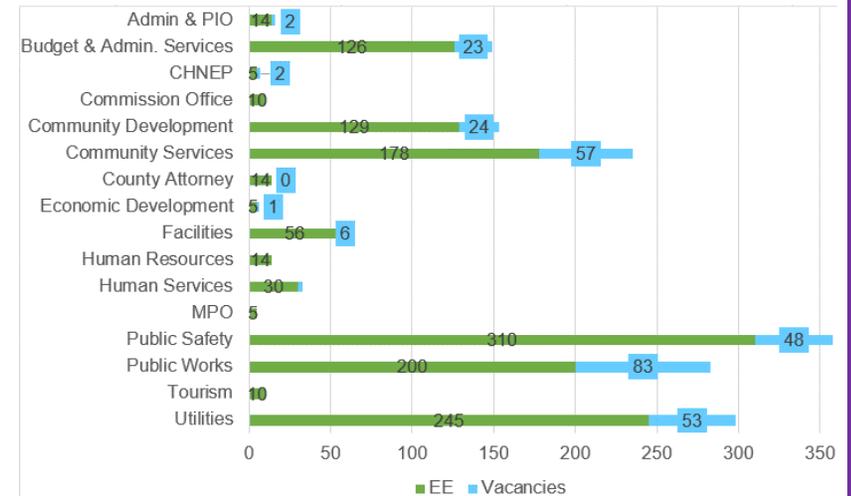
September
 Turnover 1.2%
 Separations 16



Training & Development

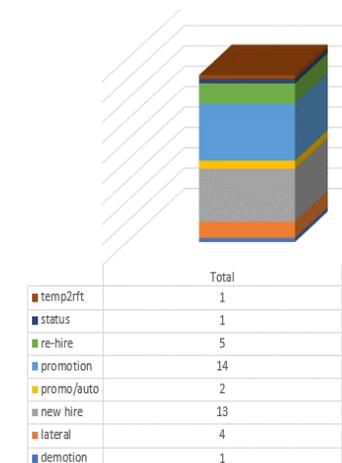
Training 279 EE's 22.05 6,152 contact hrs
 % using Tuition Reimbursement 1%

Employees vs Vacancies



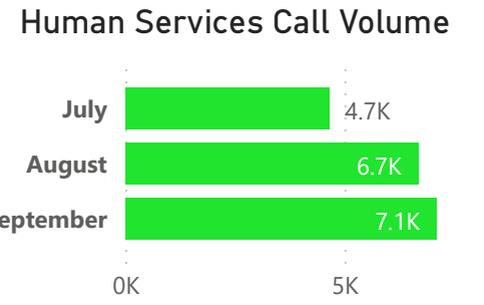
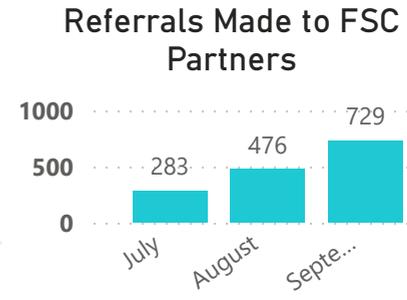
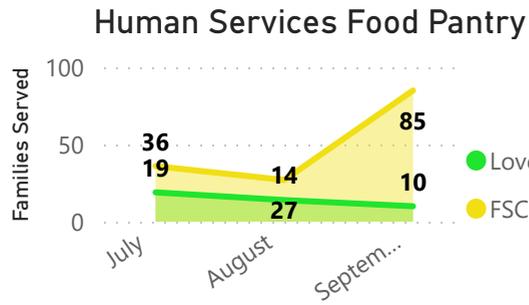
Recruitment

Applications Taken 736
 Job Posting Hits 25,568
 New Hires 13
 Recruited Pos FT 72
 Posted PT/Sea/Intern 11



1198

Total Clients Served September 2023

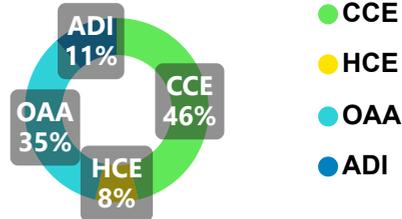


Aging & Adult Services

Aging and Adults case managers Julie Christy and Nicole Tirado, case aides Marissa Campbell and Debra Biondo, along with our grants analyst Laurie Kimball assisting at the Sports Park's tarp and emergency food distribution for the community affected by hurricane Idalia.

Case Management

● Completed/Closed/Termed ● In process/ Research ● New Cases

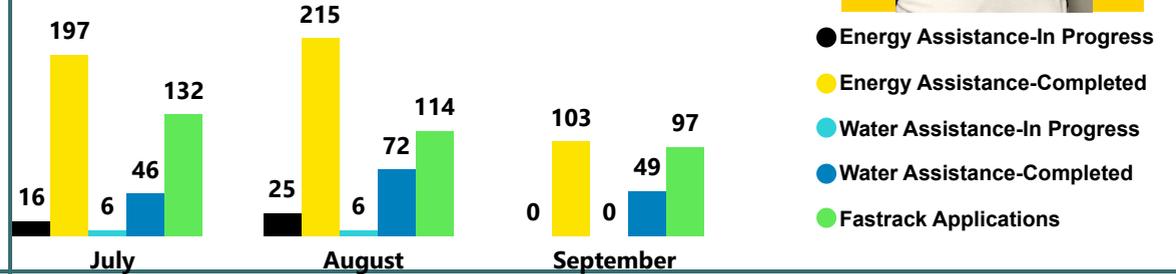


Intake Services

Harry Chapin Food Truck Services



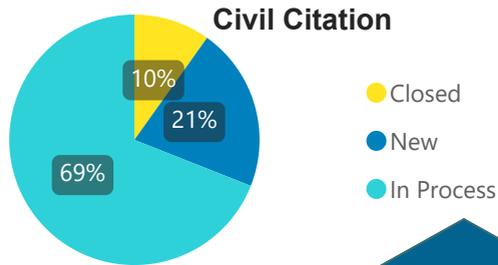
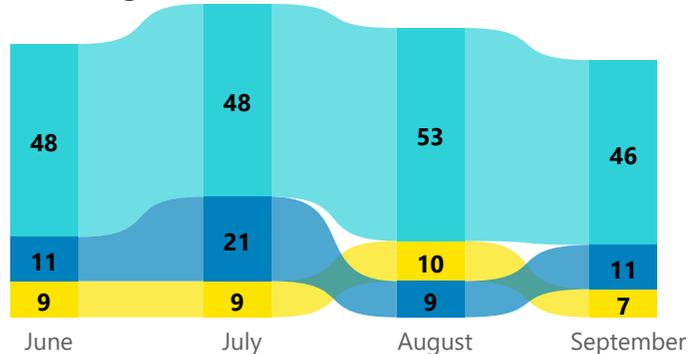
Welcome back Mary Prod! Mary has rejoined Intake Services as a Case Coordinator.



Neighborhood Services

● Completed/Closed/Termed ● In process/ Research ● New Cases

Case Management

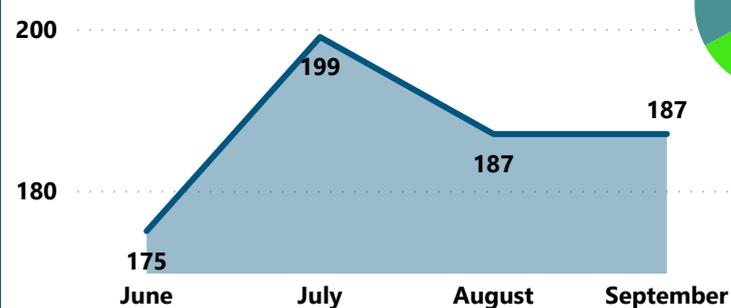


158

Clients Served

Veteran Services

VA Clients Served

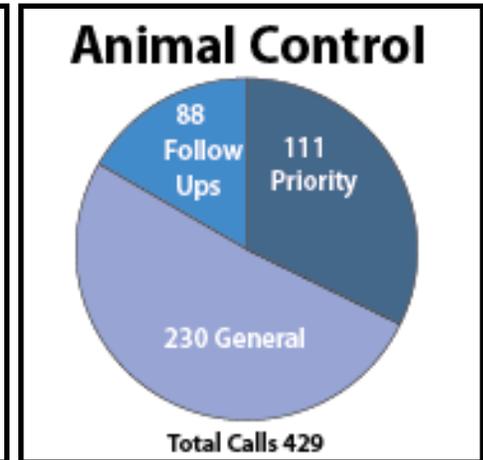
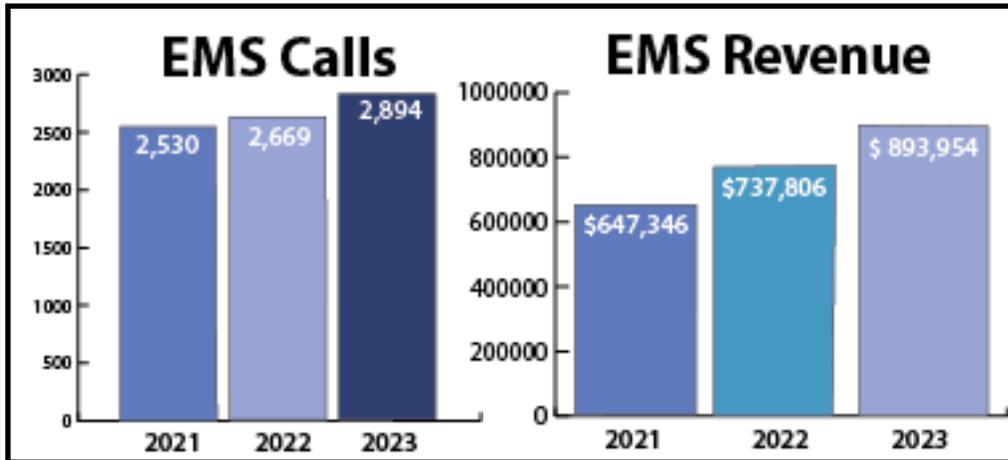
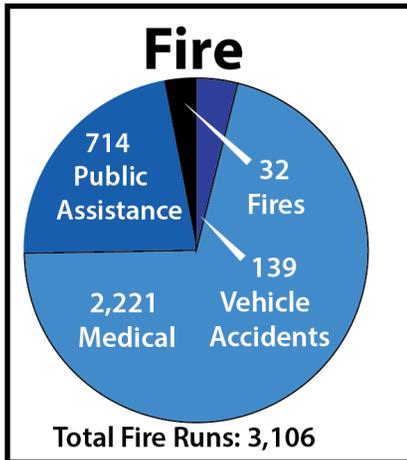


Calls for Veteran Services

1.4K

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



Mutual Aid

Charlotte County was recently added to the Hurricane Idalia major disaster declaration. The amendment to add our county allows residents affected by Hurricane Idalia to apply for individual assistance from FEMA.

While our county and residents dealt with isolated flooding from rain and storm surge, our neighbors in north Florida felt the full brunt of the storm as it made landfall, leaving the small county governments reeling from the damage and tired from the sheer amount of work it takes to begin the recovery process.

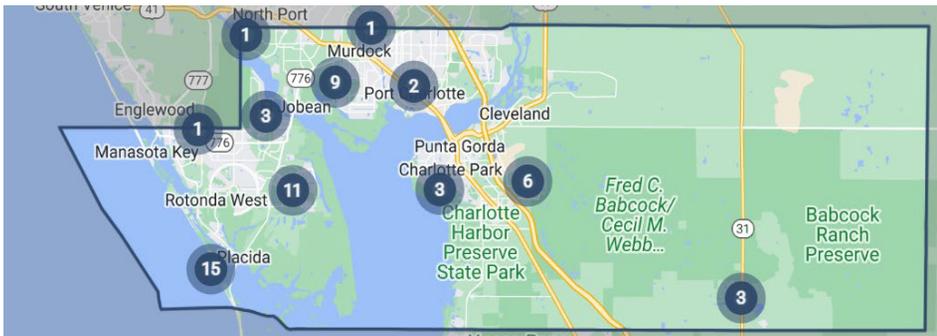
The Florida Department of Emergency Management has a robust mutual aid program in place which helps provide assistance at the government level. After Hurricane Ian, our county received help from counties across the state that were not affected by the storm. The assistance provided in the form of trained staff who were able to step into our Emergency Operations Center and help out was very appreciated. It allowed our staff to check in with their families, check on their homes and take a much needed breather from the

long hours.

This month, we were able to pay it forward and five of our coworkers and several CERT volunteers deployed to various counties in North Florida. Emergency Management Director Patrick Fuller, Emergency Management Specialists Ashlyn Gamble and Brandon Watkins, Public Relations Manager Todd Dunn, and Social Media Manager Ashley Turner all spent at least a week using their knowledge and skills to assist the residents in recovering from the storm.



Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control



Adulticide

Larvicide

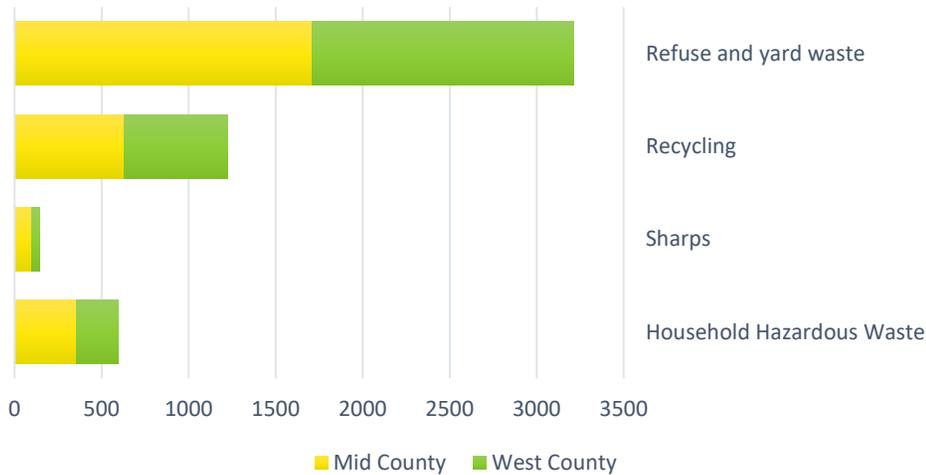
296,305
acres treated

3,245
acres treated

12,481

Total number of
mosquitos identified
to species

Transfer Facility Customers



CityWorks

1184

Work Orders
Opened

838

Work Orders
Closed

234

Service
Requests
Opened

70

Service
Requests
Closed

Application Requests

Received

287

Completed

252



**Engineering Division
Hurricane Ian Projects**

74
Total Projects

9

Planning

4

Purchasing

49

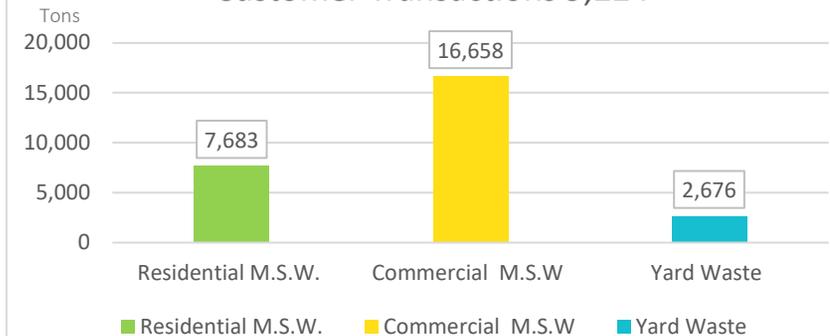
Complete

12

Construction

Landfill

Customer Transactions 9,224



Key Performance Indicators

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT
(Current Month)

Aug-22	\$367,980	↑ 0.7%
Aug-23	\$370,568	

TDT YTD Collections (Pacing)

Aug-22	\$7,424,226	↓ -4.7%
Aug-23	\$7,074,976	

PureFlorida.com

Website Traffic

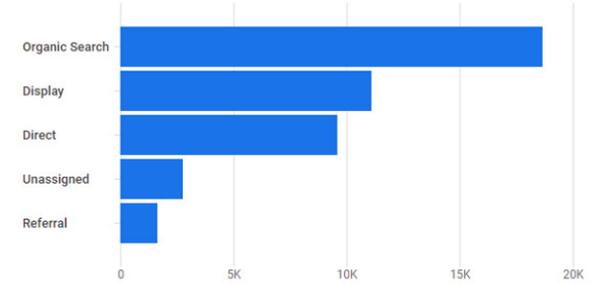
Website Users: 34,000

Sessions: 47,631

Top Origin Markets:

FL, GA, NY, OH, MI, CA, VA, NC, IL, AR

Sessions by Channel Group



SPORTS

Sales September 2023

Kengo CMA – SWFL Martial Arts Tournament
Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center
September 2-3, 2023

The Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center hosted the second annual martial arts tournament attracting schools from throughout Florida, Georgia, and Ohio. Over 150 invited martial arts students competed in their respective age groups.



ATA Martial Arts – Suncoast Championship
Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center
September 22-23, 2023

The Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center hosted this inaugural martial arts tournament attracting karate schools from throughout Florida. 550 Karate students competed in their respective age groups. The event was previously held in Bradenton and Tampa.



USSSA Baseball – 6th Annual Home Run Derby
Various County Fields
September 23-24, 2023

This 6th annual event has attracted 720 athletes and their coaches to Charlotte County which produced over \$600,00 in economic impact to the area. Each team provided one teammate to represent them during the home run derby prior to tournament play.



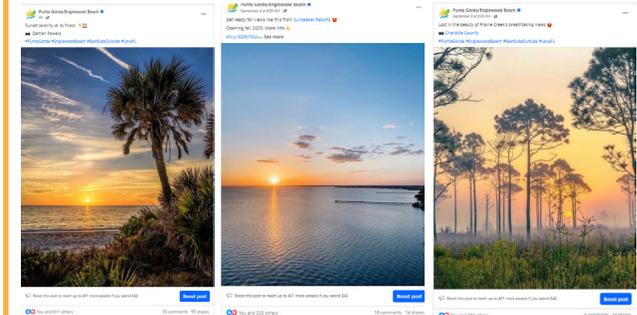
Fun Fact

As we get ready to cheer on our favorite professional football team....

- The longest field goal ever made was a 66-yarder, kicked by the Baltimore Ravens' Justin Tucker in 2021.
- The Seattle Seahawks' name was decided by a public competition and received 20,000 entries.
- The New York Jets have never beaten the Philadelphia Eagles.
- 12 teams have never won the Superbowl and four have never made an appearance.

Public Relations/Media September 2023

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



Visitors to Charlotte County save local residents an average of **\$1,083** per household in taxes every year.

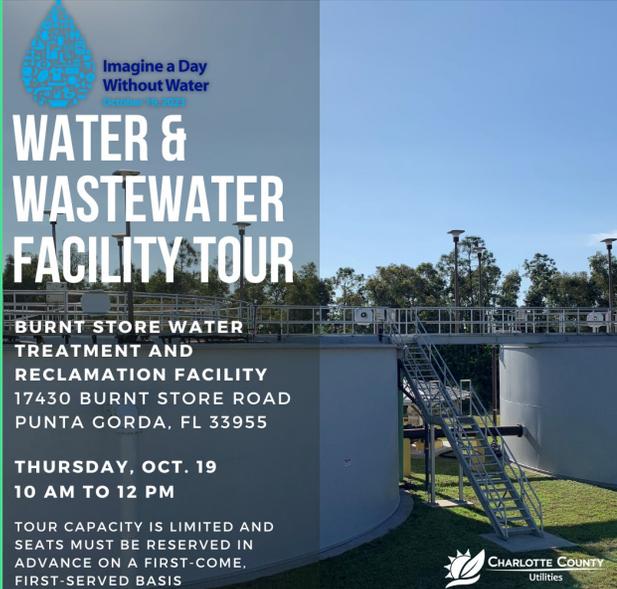


Imagine a Day Without Water

Oct. 19 is Imagine a Day Without Water! Charlotte County joins elected officials, water utilities, community leaders, educators, and businesses from across the country as part of the ninth annual Imagine a Day Without Water, a nationwide day of education and advocacy about the value of water.

Don't miss the chance to go behind the scenes at the Burnt Store Water Treatment and Reclamation Facility, located at 17430 Burnt Store Road, Punta Gorda, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023. Discover the incredible process involved in providing water and wastewater treatment services to our community, and truly Imagine a Day Without Water.

Tour spots are limited, so be sure to reserve your seat in advance on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Caroline.Wannall@CharlotteCountyFL.gov or call 941-764-4304 to secure your reservation.



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
September Connections: 15
Total Connections: 130

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:** 7,956
- **Call Wait Time:** 1 minutes 57 seconds
- **Sewer Connections:** 46,208 (142 increase from August)
- **Water Connections:** 69,123 (95 increase from August)
- **Water Customer Service Work Orders:** 509
- **Sewer Customer Service Work Orders:** 370

Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- 2 Misc.—Utilities Department
 - 8 Utilities Billing
 - 7 Utilities Department Service
- 17 Total

[Charlotte County Utilities Facebook](#)
2,527 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 **532** individuals for the month of September.