

Monthly Report

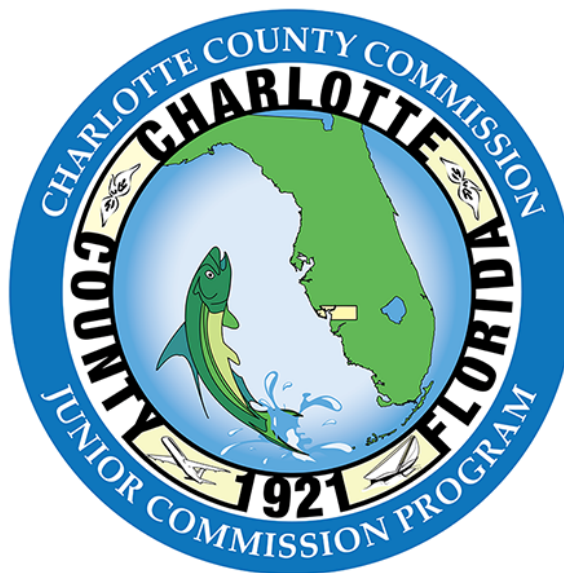
July 2025

County Commissioners Launch Fall 2025 Junior Commission Program

The Charlotte County Commission has launched the Fall 2025 Junior Commission civic education program. Junior Commission participants will learn how their local government works by meeting with commissioners, touring county facilities, attending a commission meeting, pre-agenda meeting, workshop and code enforcement special magistrate hearing and holding a mock Junior Commission meeting.

The Junior Commission program is open to high school juniors and seniors enrolled full-time in a Charlotte County high school or accredited home school program.

Applications and the program schedule are available online at www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/juniorcom



mission or in person in the commission office lobby on the fifth floor of the Charlotte County Administration Center.

Applications may be hand-delivered to Executive Assistant Diane Whidden in the commission office, emailed to Diane.Whidden@CharlotteCountyFL.gov or mailed to Diane Whidden, 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948. The application deadline is Thursday, Aug. 21, 2025. The program will run from Sept. 9 to Dec. 16, 2025.

Each county commissioner will select applicants to make up the Junior Commission.

For information, call 941-743-1300 or email Diane. Whidden@CharlotteCountyFL.gov.

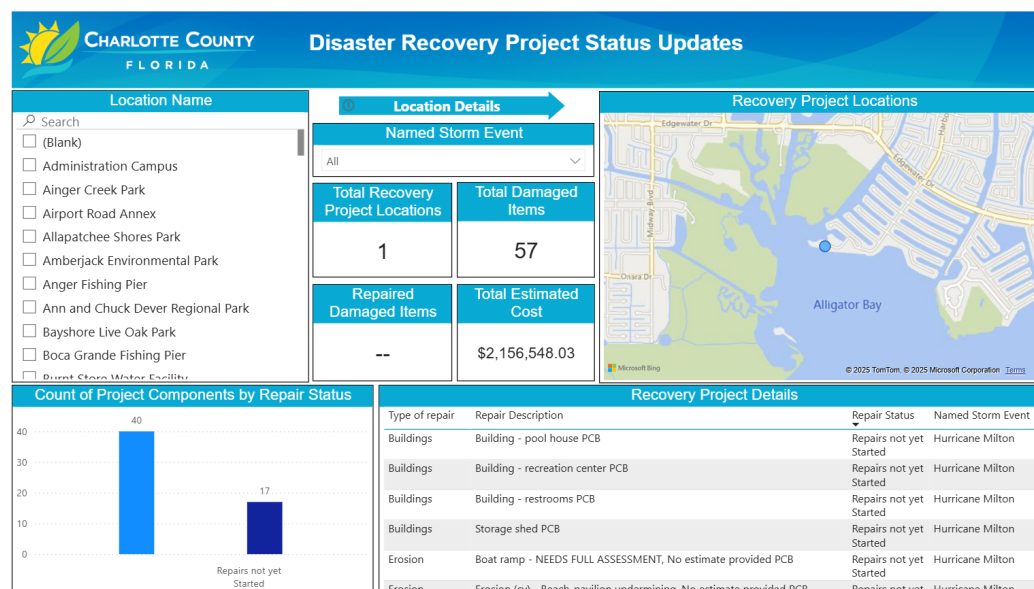
Visit the storm recovery dashboard

Charlotte County launched a new Disaster Recovery Projects Dashboard feature on its website July 31. The feature can be reached at www.charlottecountyfl.gov/disasterprojects or by clicking the project status graphic on the website homepage.

The feature includes a dashboard containing the more than 1,200 recovery projects county staff and contractors

have completed, are currently working on or will be working on in the future. There is a map that enables users to find projects by location. A project light is also search by project name.

The dashboard contains funding sources and amounts, descriptions of the working being done and which storm event caused the damage to the facility or amenity.

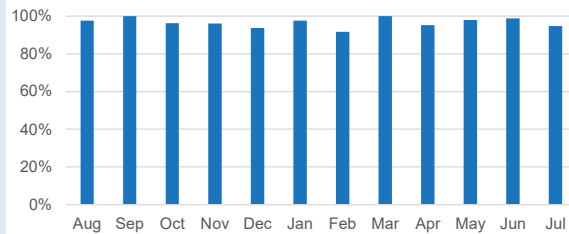


Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month



Customer Satisfaction
% Positive

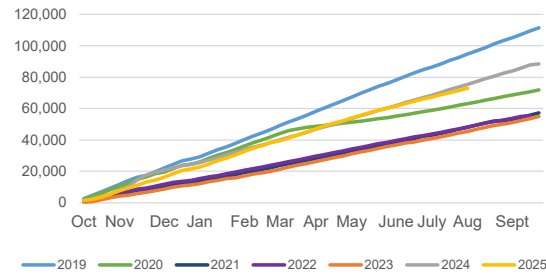


Transit

Transit Calls
Average Handling Time
(minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



Director Highlights

Wellness Recognition

Caring for the well-being of our employees is at the heart of what we do—because when we support our people, we support the citizens they serve. Wellness at Work is honored to receive two significant recognitions for 2025: Gold Level Cigna Healthy Workforce Designation and Platinum Level Bell Seal for Workplace Mental Health. Cigna's award celebrates excellence in leadership, programming, and wellness policies, while the Bell Seal recognizes our efforts in mental health through workplace culture, benefits, and compliance. Additionally, Stephanie had the privilege of presenting collaboratively at the Florida Association of County Attorneys (FACA) Conference, sharing insights on worksite wellness. These achievements reflect our belief that supporting health and well-being is essential to both employee and organizational success.

July 2025



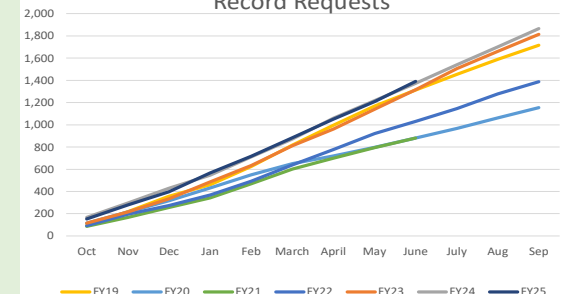
Health Center

Employee Health Center
Monthly Appointment Utilization Summary



Records Management

Record Requests



Communications

July 2025

CharlotteCountyFL.gov

Most Visited Pages

Utilities Billing
162,461 views

Utilities Account Search
23,633 views

Employment Opportunities
12,571 views

Most Downloads

Utilities Payment Options
7,822 downloads

How to Read Utilities Bill
1,382 downloads

July 22 Regular & Land Use Meeting
1,106 downloads

Top Searched Terms

Permit
187 searches

Auto Pay
144 searches

Water Bill
128 searches

INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS



In honor of National Ice Cream Month, Administration and Communications Departments launched an initiative aimed not only at treating employees but also at fostering a sense of community and appreciation throughout the organization. The Ice Cream Tour, which made 26 stops across the county from July to early August, connected with employees from nearly every department and division, acknowledging their dedication to public service engagingly and enjoyably.

The Ice Cream Tour boosted morale and strengthened team connections across various departments, including libraries, utilities, and public safety. By reaching out to teams like Transit and fire stations, it made . The initiative built collaboration and camaraderie, uniting the workforce and strengthening teamwork.



Weekly Update By the Numbers

Average Performance

4 Email Campaigns

25,352
Emails

11,905
Opens

Most Clicked Link

New Charlotte County Utilities Payment System

Social Media

(Analytics Across all Departments)

527
Posts

3.07 million
Total Impressions

46,200
Engagements

1.43 million
Video Views

9,270
New Followers

Post of the Month



SR 31 Shut Down due to Accident
(Public Safety)

61,100
Engagement

Most Impressions



New Hires Reaching New Heights
(Public Safety)

474,000
Impressions



Latest Updates

10
Board Meetings

853
YouTube Views

5
Original Videos

2,724
Website Views

111

Streaming Views

Under Review

Fire Station #6

924 Bloxham Ave., Punta Gorda
New fire station with building footprint of approximately 9,948 sq ft. with paved areas, including access dries, parking facilities, and rear bay access

Fire Station #17

11711 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda
Approximately 12,983 sq. ft. building, parking facilities, and rear bay access

Midtown Market Place

45005 Cypress Parkway, Punta Gorda
Design and construction twelve (12) buildings consisting of a bank, daycare, multiple retail and restaurant buildings, gas station, grocery store, and a liquor store to also include associated attached parking, landscaping, and necessary infrastructure

Townplace Suites

9044 Mac Drive, Punta Gorda
112 room hotel, parking, landscaping, and stormwater

Under Construction



7Brew Coffee

4275 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
520 sq. ft. drive-thru coffee shop



Auto Shop Charlotte

524 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
2,600 sq. ft. auto repair building and associated infrastructure



My Place Hotel

24490 Sandhill Blvd., Punta Gorda
63-room hotel

Completed



Mission BBQ

1340 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
Remodel of existing restaurant



The Q Too

18151 Murdock Cir, Port Charlotte
Ice cream shop

Current Plat Applications in Review

PP-25-03 Babcock Ranch

Community Phase 1A1
Michael Huenikan is requesting Preliminary Plat approval for a subdivision to be named, Babcock Ranch Community Phase 1A1, consisting of 15 single-family residential lots and one tract, to replat 25 single-family lots of the previously platted Babcock Ranch Community Phase 1A Townhomes. This site contains 3.92± acres and is generally located north of Lake Babcock Drive, east of Pine Lily Lane, south of Saddleback Trail, and west of Curry Preserve Drive, in the boundary of the Babcock Ranch Community Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Increment 1, and in Commission District I.

Permit Stats

197 single-family permits issued
198 single-family COs issued
2,835 permits taken
2,944 permits issued (July 2025)
45,136 permits issued (FY23-24)
31,482 permits issued (FY24-25)

FY23-24: Oct. 2023 through Sept. 2024
FY24-25: Oct. 2024 through present

Project Spotlight

Babcock Ranch

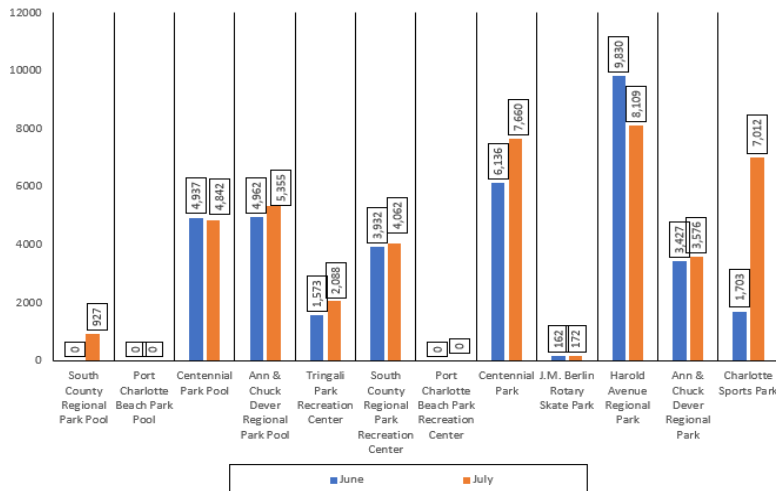
38 single-family permits issued in July 2025
3,648 single-family COs issued since March 2017

West Port

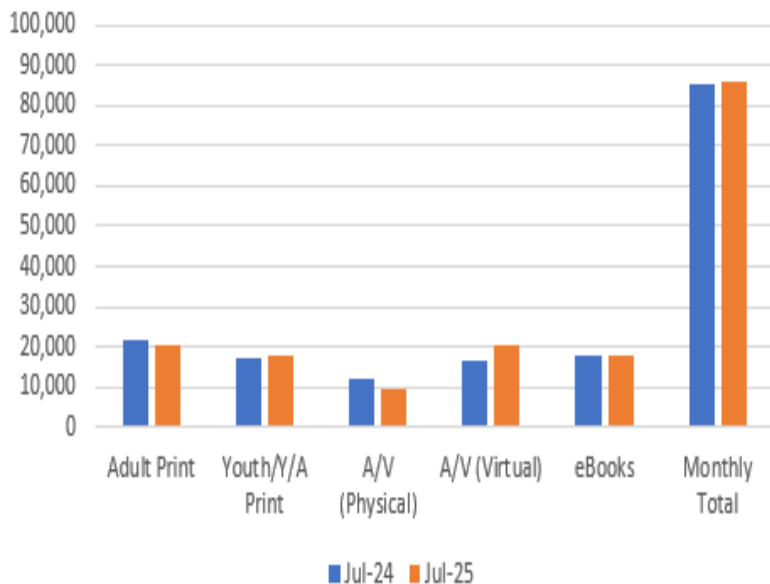
3 single-family permits issued in July 2025
835 COs issued since April 2017

Community Services

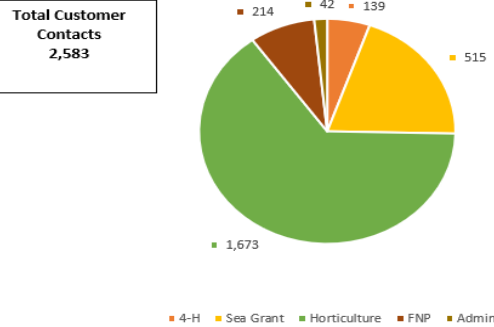
Recreation Centers and Aquatic Facilities Attendance



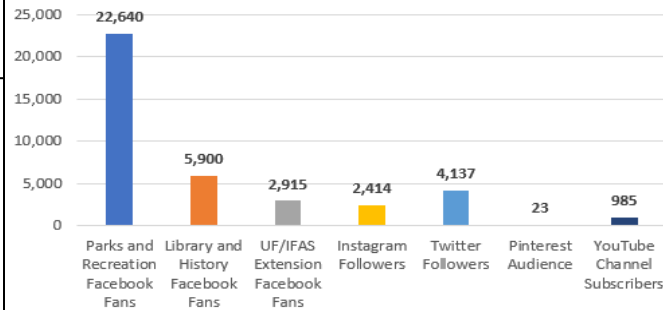
2024-2025 Library Circulation Comparison



UF/IFAS Extension Service
Customer Contacts



Social Media Impact



Natural Resources

Sea Turtle Nests

1,125 Loggerhead
74 Green

Coastal Lighting

37 permit reviews
4 inspections

Abandoned/Derelict Vessels

Open-7
Removed – 10
Relocated- 0
Ready for removal – 4

Shorebird/Seabird

1 nest/2chicks

1 job shadow this month
from ambassador program

Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance

- 157 fields prepped for practices and games
- 234 recycling bags collected
- 3,141 trash bags collected

Land Management

- 76.8 miles trails maintained
- 47.6 acres exotics/invasives treated
- 14 miles of habitat managed
- Staff conducted no educational outreach events this month. Staff conducted multiple Florida Scrub Jay surveys on different properties within Charlotte County. Additional surveys include gopher tortoise survey at Amberjack and Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park and vegetative plot monitoring at multiple properties.

Project Management

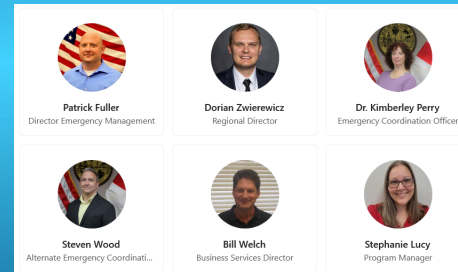
- Projects Completed - 23
- Projects - In progress –67
- Total projects - 95
- Total – \$ 71,343,554

Charlotte County Highlights TWO Finalists in 'Coolest Thing Made in Florida'

Charlotte County wrapped up a strong showing in the Florida Chamber's Coolest Thing Made in Florida contest, with five local companies nominated. In July, two of those—Baby Barrier® Pool Fence and ProGlider Boats—advanced to the first round of bracket voting, representing local innovation on a statewide stage. The campaign highlighted our strong manufacturing base and helped spotlight Charlotte County businesses to a broader audience.



Workshops That Built Resilience—Online and On the Ground



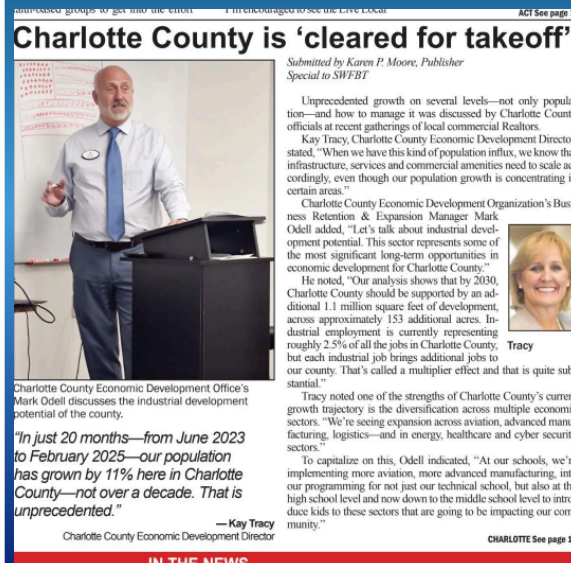
July featured two impactful events for Charlotte County businesses. Patti Guerzo from the Florida SBDC at FGCU led a sold-out Google workshop, giving local entrepreneurs hands-on tools to strengthen their online presence. Later in the month, our Hurricane Preparedness Webinar shared expert tips to help businesses plan ahead and stay resilient during storm season.

Beef 'O' Brady's Honored with Excellence in Business Award

The Charlotte County Economic Development Office proudly recognized Chris Lansdale and the team at Beef 'O' Brady's with the Excellence in Business Award for their outstanding leadership, growth, and community impact. From expanding to three locations to donating over \$160,000 to local causes, Charlotte County continues to prove that business success and community service go hand in hand.



Charlotte County Lands Front Page with Growth Message



Charlotte County's economic momentum made front page news in the latest edition of Southwest Florida Business Today. Mark Odell presented to the Commercial Investment Professionals of SWFL, highlighting trends in aviation, infrastructure, and workforce development. Their message was clear: Charlotte County is cleared for takeoff—and investors are paying attention.

Facilities Management

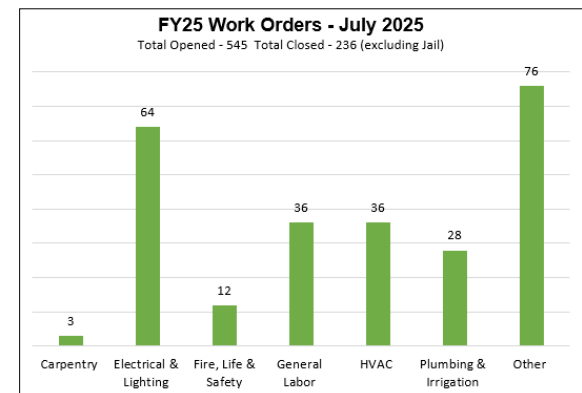
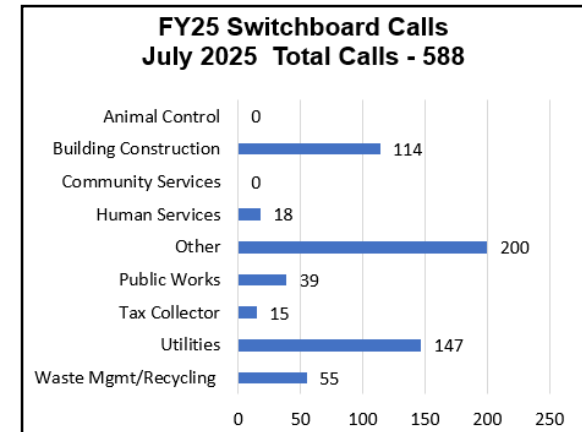
July 2025

Port Charlotte Beach Project

The Port Charlotte Beach project has proven to show Charlotte County's resilience in working toward rebuilding a state-of-the-art facility after devastation caused by multiple hurricanes. Harvard Jolly PBK has worked closely with county stakeholders and other agencies for approvals and permits. The design team has presented the layout and preliminary plans of the pool, pool house, and recreation center for review, with discussions of interiors recently underway with end-user stakeholders. The Guaranteed Maximum Price for construction of the Port Charlotte Recreation Center, Pool and Pool House was approved by the Charlotte County Board of Commissioners at the July 22nd Board Meeting.



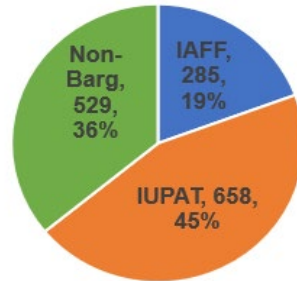
- ◆ PBK has been ranked as the top firm for the design of two prototype restroom buildings for Community Services. This ranking will be presented to the Board at the meeting on September 9, 2025. Lake Betty Park and Bill Coy Preserve will be the first two locations to receive these restroom buildings after the prototype designs are completed.
- ◆ The Charlotte County Board of Commissioners approved Florida Premier Contractors (FPC) proposal for Construction Manager at Risk Pre-Construction Services for the EOC Expansion.
- ◆ Construction continues on schedule at Supervisor of Elections Warehouse with Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing, and Fire. Grading, landscaping, and irrigation continue to progress. Permanent power will be complete next month.



Human Resources

Workforce

Employee Count 1,472
Avg Age 46
Avg Hourly Rate \$27.65
Avg Years of Service 7.8



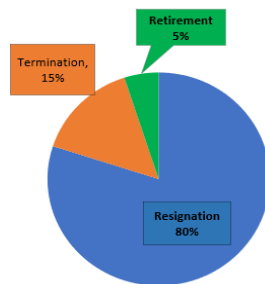
Retention of New Hires July
% completing probation 86%

Succession Planning

Ee's in FRS DROP the next 8 years 3.1%
% of Workforce Retired this FY 1.0%

Separations

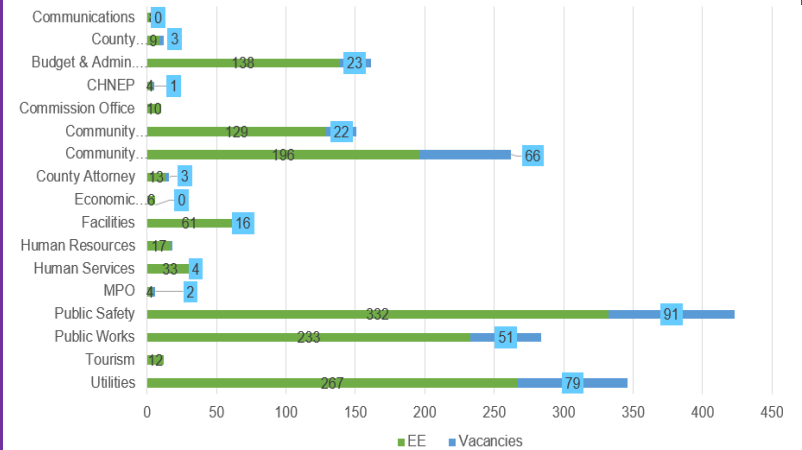
Turnover July 1.4%
Separations 20



Training & Development

Training 28.5 79 Ees 2,252 contact hrs
% using Tuition Reimbursement 1%

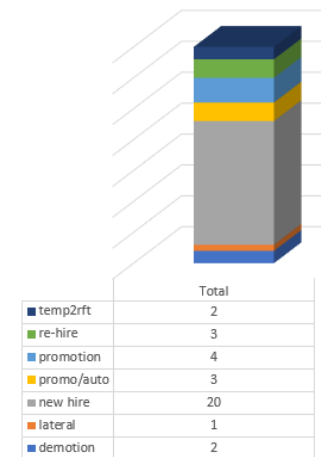
Employees vs Vacancies



Total Vacancies: 362

Recruitment

Applications Taken 2,255
Job Posting Hits 125,171
New Hires 20
Recruited Pos FT 55
Posted PT/STARR 7



Hurricane Emergency Supply Kits

Working in collaboration with Family Services Center partners and the Emergency Operations Center, the Family Stability Division utilized disaster relief funds to create 250 emergency backpacks for low-income households



Our Mission:

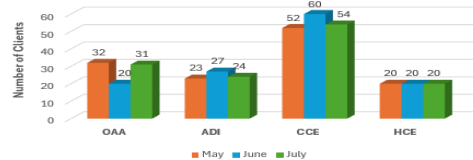
To collaborate and provide programs and connections that increase financial stability and support individuals and families as they work to reach their fullest potential.

Aging & Adult Services: Total Clients / Caregivers Served 180

Case Management

New Cases – 6 / In Progress – 108 / Closed - 15

3- Month Older Americans Act Funding Distribution



United In Gratitude Seniors & Veterans Social

– On July 25th, local Veterans were honored by staff from Empath Tidewell Hospice and presented appreciation pins as part of an ongoing effort to ease isolation for local seniors.



Outreach

Aging & Adults - 1
Intake Services – 2
Veterans Services - 1
Fam. Stab. - 2



Congratulations - to Ashley Brusso & Cheleon Waters- Sykes, recent Spring graduates of the Ambassador's Program.

FSC Activity

SKEDDA Reservations – 425
Harry Chapin Food Bank - 327 Households
FSC Food Pantry – 54 Households
HeartShip/Water Assistance – 17 Households
SOS ? Public's Emergency Assistance – 2 Indv.

Intake Services: Information Requests Provided 1,222

Programs Numbers

Online Applications/ Fastrack – 172
Screening Tools Completed - 12
Referrals Made - 2
Clients/Caregivers Served – 111
EHEAP Households Served – 0
LIHEAP Households Served – 3
Mandatory services – 18 indiv. served

Neighborhood Services:



Housing Program

New Clients – 3

In-Progress – 5

Closed – 2

SHIP Assistance Mortgages – 3

SHIP Assistance Rehab - 2

Purchase Assistance Program

Now open, this exciting new program was designed to serve very low-, low- and moderate-income families with home purchase assistance; including help with down payment, closing costs, and gap funding to qualified households. Funds are issued in the form of a zero percent (0%) interest, fully forgivable mortgage of up to \$75,000.

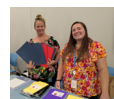
Family Stability: Case Management Clients 101

New Cases – 20 In- Progress/Research – 101 Completed – 22

SHIP Disaster – 14 TANF Rental Assistance – 2

CSBG – 14 HSFP - 7

Back to School Event – Members of the Family Stability Division assisted Punta Gorda Housing Authority, who sponsor a back to school event at the FSC that provided classroom supplies to low-income Families in preparation for the new School year.



Welcome - New

Veteran Services Officer Debra Damasceno, she was here only one week and immediately lent a hand assisting with the "United in Gratitude" Senior Social on July 25th.



Veterans Services: Benefits Review Appointments

212

New Claims
94

Veterans Income from Benefits Reviews

Retroactive Payments:

\$427,601.66

Monthly Reoccurring Payments:

\$ 152,175.13

Multi-Agency Training, Animal Rescue Success, and Disaster Preparedness Update

Emergency Management:

Starting August 1, 2025, select disaster preparedness items are now permanently tax-free in Florida, not just during seasonal tax holidays. Whether you're missing batteries, a generator, sunscreen, or portable gas cans, now's the perfect time to check your list, fill the gaps, and be fully prepared without the extra tax.

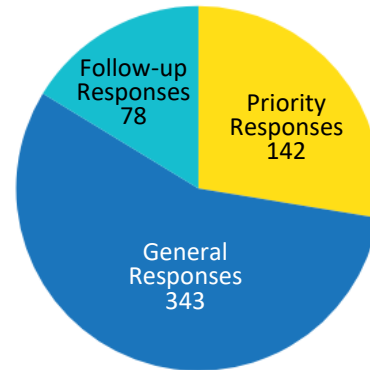
Fire & EMS:

Marine Operations participated in a multi-agency marine training hosted by Boca Grande Fire Department, focusing on teamwork, treatment, and transport. Training included tourniquet use, wound packing, TXA, airway management, and a water-based scenario. Marine 1 and Boca Fire responded to a simulated propeller injury near Cayo Costa, practicing patient transfers, airway management, and IV/IO insertion before transporting mannequins to the Public Safety Dock. Partners included Dr. O'Leary, Boca Grande FD crews and EMS Chief, Lee County Public Safety, Punta Gorda FD, and an Aeromed flight medic.

Animal Control:

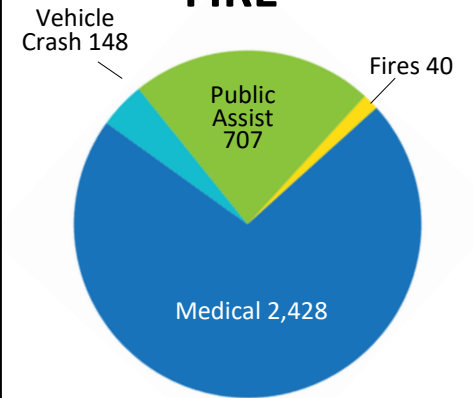
Animal Control rescued and rehabilitated "Bruce," a severely neglected 5–6-year-old shepherd mix who required bilateral ear canal removal surgery. Thanks to foster care, veterinary partners, and community support—including Dr. Allys Animal Medical Clinic, Barking Bow-tique Dog Grooming, and the Animal Welfare League, Bruce made a full recovery and has been adopted into his forever home. Donations to the Animal Care Trust Fund continue to provide life-saving medical care for animals like Bruce.

ANIMAL CONTROL

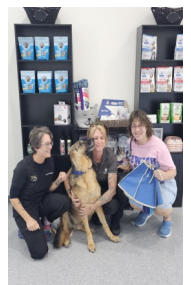


Total Calls: 563

FIRE



Total Calls: 3,207



MOSQUITO & AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

CDC Traps
distributed

125

8664

Total number of
mosquitos identified
to species

310

Phone Complaints
Resolved



MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

1352

Work Orders
Opened

1044

Work Orders
Closed

358

Service
Requests
Opened

ENGINEERING



The DeSoto Ditch Bank Stabilization project is complete except for a few punch list items, such as sodding and as-builts.

This project was necessitated by Hurricane Ian washing out the stabilization fabric that had been in place for 10 years at various points along the west bank of the DeSoto Ditch. We installed a product called Flexamat, which consists of concrete blocks on a flexible fabric designed to stabilize the bank.

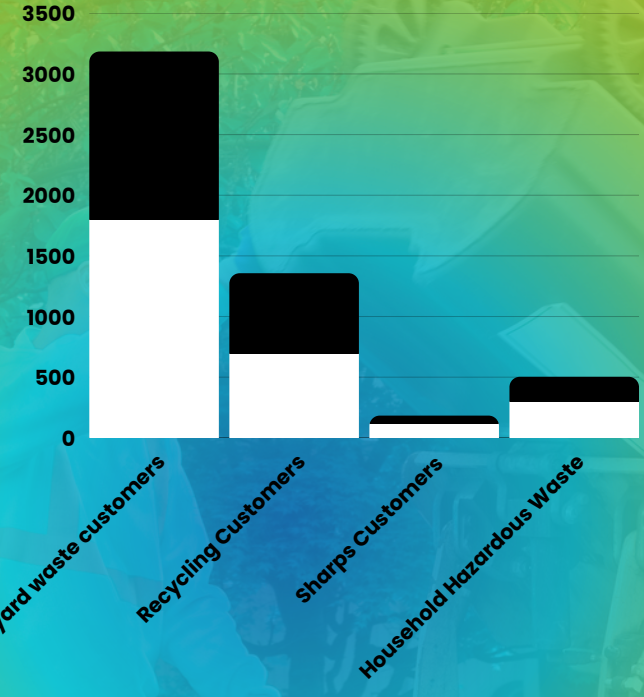
Vegetation will grow in to help secure the product and give the bank a natural appearance. The project was 75% funded by the USDA-NRCS.



SOLID WASTE

Transfer Stations

● Mid County ● West County



Landfill in Tons

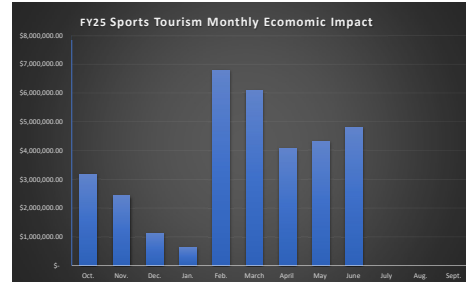


SPORTS

Sales Update

June 2025	
Events:	7
Sports:	Pickleball
	Softball
	Baseball
	Basketball
	Cornhole

June 2025 Sports Tourism Economic Impact	
\$	4,079,421.00



LEISURE

July 2025:

This July, our Leisure Sales team proudly represented Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach at NorthStar's Global Travel Market, where we held 50 targeted meetings over two energizing days. These efforts help welcome more domestic and international travelers to Charlotte County, supporting local businesses and strengthening the awareness of our community. We're continuing this momentum by developing organized familiarization trips and agent training initiatives.



MEETINGS

July 2025:

The Meeting & Conference team had the opportunity to attend the Florida Society of Association Executives (FSAE) Conference—an excellent platform for collaboration between our staff and Association Meeting Planners. During the conference, we held one-on-one meetings with over 100 association planners, allowing us to promote the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach area as a premier destination for their future conferences and events.



PureFlorida.com

Website Traffic

Website Users: 97,946

Sessions: 115,779

Top Origin Markets:

FL, NY, IL, GA, CA, OH, NJ, VI, PA, NC

Key Performance Indicators

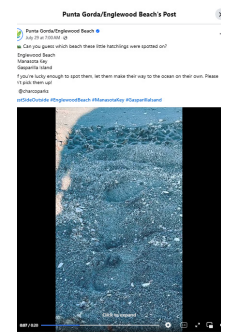
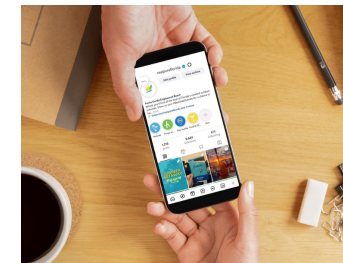
Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT
(Current Month)

Jun-24	\$622,805	↓ -13.2%
Jun-25	\$540,286	

TDT YTD Collections (Pacing)

Jun-24	\$7,134,686	↓ -1.9%
Jun-25	\$7,000,974	

Public Relations & Social Media



The post to the right received 134 likes and 13 comments, and 10 shares so far.

Tag your Charlotte County adventure photos with **#BestSideOutside** for a chance to be showcased on our website [PureFlorida.com](https://www.pureflorida.com).

Follow us



Visitors to Charlotte County in fiscal year 2024 saved local residents an average of **\$1,078** per household in taxes.

OPERATIONS

- **Calls Presented:** 28,722
- **Call Wait Time:** 1 minutes, 01 seconds
- **Sewer Connections:** 49,972
(98 increase from June)
- **Water Connections:** 73,843
158 increase from June)

Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- 10 Misc.—Utilities Department
- 15 Utilities Billing
- 19 Utilities Department Service
- 44 Total

Charlotte County Utilities Facebook

3,963 Follows

2024 Water Quality Reports Now Available:

<https://tinyurl.com/2024-CCR-Peace-River>

<https://tinyurl.com/2024-CCR-Burnt-Store>

Remember, every drop counts!

Important Information:

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

Open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Customer Payment Center assisted 1,680 individuals for the month of June.



CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Utilities

“Students trade pool days for public service in Charlotte County internship.”



The Utilities Department wrapped up another year of its high school internship program. This summer, 20 students got hands on experience working in several work areas including water distribution, maintenance, treatment, engineering and wastewater collection.



FOX4 covered the initiative, which has become an important part of the utility's workforce development efforts.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Burnt Store Water Reclamation Facility Expansion

This project, currently in the engineering design phase, will increase wastewater treatment capacity from half a million gallons per day to one million gallons per day to meet the needs of this growing community. Design is estimated to be complete in October.

Ackerman Septic to Sewer Project:

Construction of a wastewater system to service approximately 2,135 properties with sewer service is underway. Zones 1 and 2 and the vacuum station are complete, and Zones 1 and 2 sewer connections are underway. Construction for Zones 3, 4 and LPS began in April. AckermanProject.com.

July Connections: 0 Total Connections: 428

Hillsborough Boulevard Water Main Project:

This project is installing an eight inch water main along Hillsborough Boulevard from Yorkshire Street to US 41. Construction is underway.

East Port Water Reclamation Facility Expansion

This project includes expanding the current water reclamation facility to treat six million gallons of wastewater per day to nine million gallons per day. Advanced wastewater treatment will also be implemented to ensure treated water has as low concentrations of nutrients as possible. Construction is 52% complete.

To provide safe, reliable drinking water, reclaimed water and wastewater service for the enrichment of the community.