

Monthly Report Aug. 2025



Administration

Final county public budget hearing scheduled for Sept. 23

The first of two public budget hearings was held on Sept. 4. The final hearing is scheduled for 5:01 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 23 at the Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center at 75 Taylor St., in Punta Gorda. The hearings are open to the public and input is welcome.

At this hearing, the County Commission will be presented with the final proposed budget and set final ad valorem millage rates and taxing district rates that will determine property taxes. I am very proud of the work that went into preparing this budget and the programs and services it will fund. Coming off the two hurricanes we endured in 2024, the budget includes numerous recovery projects and programs, including staff who will be dedicated to a new recovery and resilience program launched last year.

The County Commission's foresight in creating a fiscal stabilization fund and hurricane fund has allowed us to develop and fiscally sound and conservative budget.

FY25/26 West Coast Inland Southwest Florida Greater Charlotte Constitutional Navigation Budgets Water Memt District 4.46% 1.67% 1.26% G38280478G 7 Pours (Merci) 31.04% **Environmentally Sensitive**

0.10% Law Enforcemen

8 13% Corrections 1.33% Court Services

How Your Tax Dollar is Spent

Sales Tax Focus Group **Meetings Have Begun**

The Sales Tax Focus Group has begun meeting to review proposed projects that they will recommend to be funded by an extension of the 1% local option sales tax should voters approve a referendum on the Nov. 3, 2026 ballot. The group met on Aug. 19 and Aug. 28.

The third meeting is scheduled for 3 p.m., Sept. 15, 2025, in Room B106 of the Charlotte County Administration Center. Meetings are open to the public and input is welcome.

Board approves Sgt. Elio Diaz Memorial Highway

Charlotte County School Board



The County Commission on Sept. 9, adopted a a resolution to designate a segment of U.S. 41 between Melbourne Street and Church Street as Sgt. Elio Diaz Memorial Highway.

Sergeant Diaz was killed in the line of duty on Dec. 15, 2024 while performing a traffic stop. He was a devoted public servant who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving this community.

"This dedication means so much, as it represents a community that vows to never forget our brother," Sheriff Prummell recently shared.



Budget & Administrative Services

Information Technology



Transit



Director Highlights

Real Estate Services - Harborview Road Project

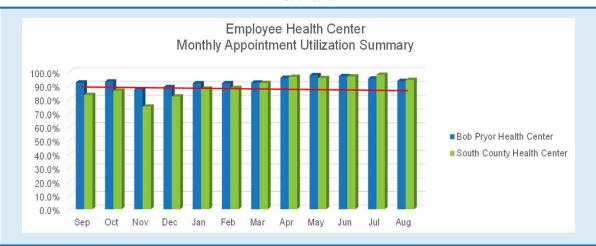
The Harborview Road Widening Project is beginning to take shape. This project has been divided into two segments (Segment 1 -Melbourne to Coconut and Segment 2- Coconut to 175). Segment 1 will result in 72 acquisitions with an estimated budget of \$28,767,000. The future roadway will be a 4-lane road with median and sidewalks in place. This is a County project, with FDOT oversight.

Real Estate Services role is to produce Resolutions of Acquisition and Resolutions of Necessity. In addition, Real Estate Services handles property appraisal and negotiations and acquisiton, and improved property demolitions. All properties not voluntarily acquired will go through the eminent domain process. This involves court testimony by Real Estate Services as part of the Order of Take.

Aug 2025



Health Center



Records Management





CharlotteCountyFL.gov

Most Visited Pages

Utilities Billing 83.516 views

Lightning Weather Alerts 13,030 views

Employment Opportunities 11,762 views

Most Downloads

Utilities Payment Options 3,137 downloads

How to Read Utilities Bill 838 downloads

How To Research Permit Information 672 downloads

Top Searched Terms

Permit 132 searches

Auto Pay 104 searches

Water Bill 104 searches

Communications

Constant Contact Upgrade

The Communications Department has upgraded its Constant Contact subscription to the Partner level, providing new opportunities for targeted email marketing across the organization. This upgrade allows



multiple departments to manage their own campaigns with individual dashboards while maintaining oversight under a single shared account.

Previously, Constant Contact was used by Community Services, Community Development, and the Communications Department. We are now excited to include Internal Communications and Public Works. Public Works will focus on Municipal Service Benefit Units to inform residents about local services and projects, while Internal Communications will share vital employee benefits information directly with spouses and families.

This upgrade marks a strategic shift towards audience-specific communication, ensuring messaging is direct and accessible. With separate dashboards, departments can create tailored campaigns while leveraging shared resources and best practices. As more departments participate, we will enhance our engagement with both employees and the community across Charlotte County.

Social Media

(Analytics Across all Departments)

460 Posts

3.28 million
Total Impressions

85,600 Engagements

844,500 Video Views

6,203 New Followers

Post of the Month



US 41 and Oil Well Road Accident (Public Safety)

> 1,876 Engagement

Most Impressions



Never Late to Your Call (Public Safety)

10,900 Impressions Weekly Update By the Numbers

Average Performance 4 Email Campaigns

25,586 12,091 Emails Opens

Most Clicked Link
Monthly Reports



6 253
Board YouTube
Meetings Views
5 1,678
Original Website
Videos Views

247 Streaming Views



Community Development

Under Review

Chick-Fil-A

100 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte 5,304 sq. ft. quick serve restaurant with associated parking, utilities, and landscaping

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

Texas Roadhouse

100 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte 8,400 sq. ft. sit-down restaurant with associated parking, utilities, and landscaping

Tim Horton's Coffee

100 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte 1,720 sq. ft. coffee shop with a drivethru and associated infrastructure

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



Choice Veterinary Services

27570 Disston Ave., Punta Gorda 6,000 sq. ft. animal clinic

Permit Stats

173 single-family permits issued 270 single-family COs issued 2,642 permits taken 2,782 permits issued (Aug. 2025) 45,136 permits issued (FY23-24) 34,264 permits issued (FY24-25)

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

Project Spotlight

Babcock Ranch

36 single-family permits issued in Aug. 2025 **3,684** single-family COs issued since March 2017

West Port

11 single-family permits issued in Aug. 2025 **849** COs issued since April 2017

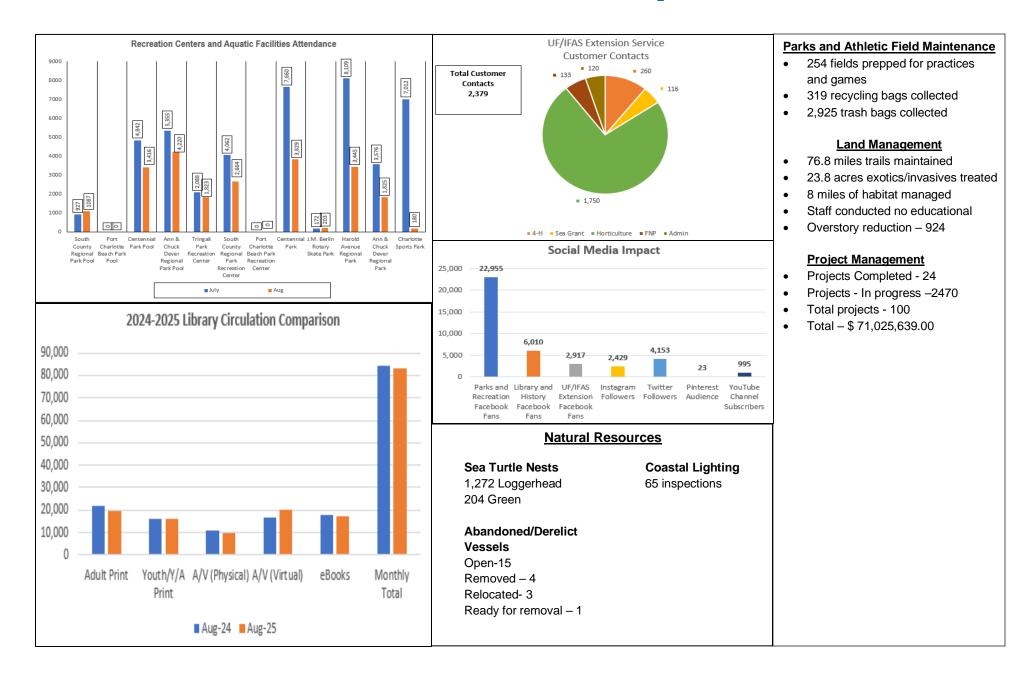
Current Plat Applications in Review

PFP-25-09 Curry Commerce Center

Curry Business Park, LLC is requesting Preliminary and Final Plat approval for a commercial subdivision to be named. Curry Commerce Center, consisting of six tracts. The proposed subdivision is a replat of a portion of Tract E-34 of Babcock Ranch Community Spine Road EE5 & GG5. There is no infrastructure associated with this plat. This site contains 26.04± acres and is generally located north of the County line with Lee County, east of SR 31, west of Curry Preserve Drive, and south of Cypress Parkway, in the boundary of the Babcock Ranch Community Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Increment 1, and in Commission District I.



Community Services



Charlotte County EDO Connects at ACPC 2025

Mark Odell, Kristy Sisler, and Kay Tracy represented Charlotte County at the 2025 Air Carriers Purchasing Conference (ACPC), building relationships with aviation leaders and showcasing opportunities in our community. Their outreach highlighted why Charlotte County is an ideal destination for aerospace and aviation investment.



August 2025 40 Under 40 Honoree - Isaac James

The Charlotte County Economic **Development Office proudly** recognized Isaac James, Executive Director of the Military Heritage Museum, as one of the 2025 40 Under 40 honorees for his leadership, creativity, and community impact. From transforming the Gulf Theater into a cultural hub to mentoring young leaders and serving as incoming President of the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce, Charlotte County continues to prove that dedication and vision go hand in hand. Read More Here.



August 2025 Business Support Events





August featured two impactful events for Charlotte County businesses. In partnership with CareerSource Southwest Florida, the Paychecks for Patriots Job Fair connected veterans and job seekers with local employers. The SBDC workshop offered practical guidance for business owners exploring a more personal meet-and-greet format to connect directly with SBDC consultants.

Charlotte County Attends Advanced Manufacturing Expo



Charlotte County was represented by Kay Tracy while she attended the 2025 Advanced Manufacturing Expo in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Exploring the latest in automation, robotics, and Industry 4.0, Kay connected with innovators and industry leaders to bring back insights that will help strengthen Charlotte County's competitive edge in aerospace, industrial, and technology-driven sectors.



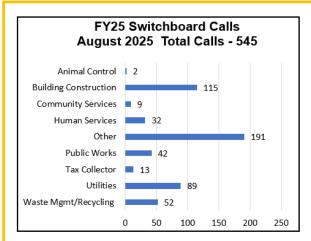
Placida Boat Ramp Expansion

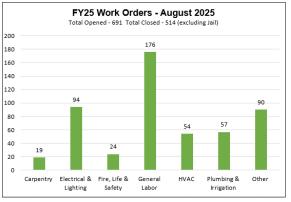
The Placida Boat Ramp Expansion will unify the existing and adjacent parcels into a 15-acre integrated park. The current three launch lanes will be replaced with six lanes via three double -lane ramps, centrally located to enhance efficiency. This redesigned facility will serve as a vital regional asset, significantly improving water access and overall park operations. On August 14th, 2025, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) approved the project permit application for their agency and is expected to issue that permit within 45 days. The project team continues to work with the Army Corps of Engineers to obtain the permit required from their agency.

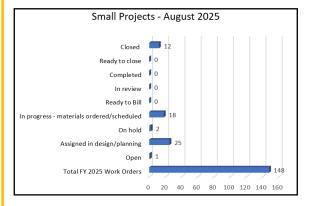


Facilities Management

- The final bid documents for the Emergency Generators Project at Family Services Center and Centennial Park have been sent to Purchasing. The county will advertise for a contractor to provide and install the generators.
- ◆ Fawley-Bryant Architects, Inc. of Sarasota has submitted their proposed design costs for the amenities included in Phase 2 of McGuire Park. The proposal and associated schedule are currently undergoing review. Once agreed upon, the proposal will go to the Board for approval.
- A total of four bids were received on August 13, 2025 for construction of the Riverside Boat Ramp project. The bid results will go before the Board of County Commissioners on September 9, 2025 for approval.
- A Request for Letters of Interest has been sent to Purchasing to obtain a design firm for the Bayshore Park grass parking area, which sustained significant hurricane damage. An engineering firm will be retained to reassess conditions, review prior designs, and provide bid-ready plans for reconstructing the parking area, which includes the addition of pavers.



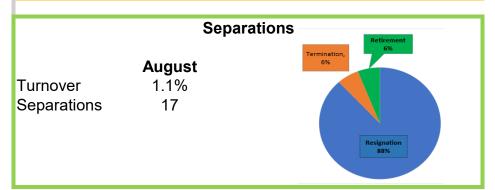






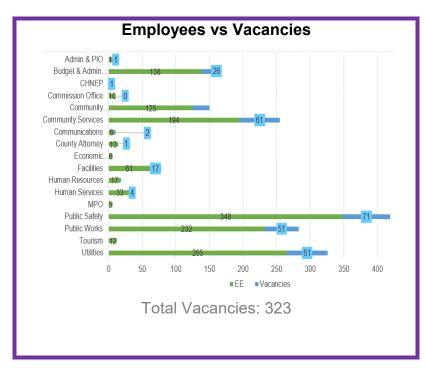
Workforce **Employee Count** 1,481 Non-IAFF. Avg Age 45 Barg, Avg Hourly Rate \$29.10 526. 20% 36% Avg Years of Service 7.9 **IUPAT. 655.** Retention of New Hires **August** % completing probation 70%

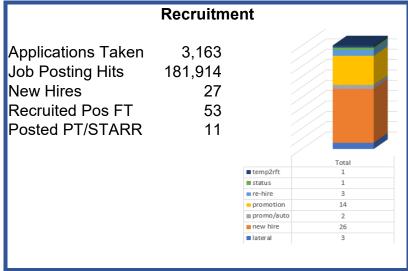
Succession Planning				
Ee's in FRS DROP the next 8 years	3.1%			
% of Workforce Retired this FY	0.9%			



Training & Development						
Training	24	68 Ees		1,632 contact hrs		
% using Tuition Reimbursement			1%			

Human Resources





Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Drive

Human Services worked in collaboration with, Emergency Management and CERT Volunteers, to organize and conduct a Countywide food drive. Employees from 17 departments collected a total of 3,336.8 pounds of canned and dry goods to support families in need prepare for hurricane season.





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 150

Case Management

New Cases - 6 / In Progress - 106 / Closed - 8

Emergency Bags Delivery Staff assisted elderly clients in applying for and distributing easy to carry or roll emergency bags.







FSC Activity

SKEDDA Reservations - 346 Harry Chapin Food Bank - 192 Households FSC Food Pantry - 72 Households HeartShip/Water Assistance –25Households SOS / Public's Emergency Assistance – Indv.

Food Bags Prepared for September

Staff from Intake Services set up a production

line to fill 141 bags of food and water

collected during the food drive.

Intake Services:

Information Requests Provided 1,210

Programs Numbers

Online Applications/ Fastrack – 62 Screening Tools Completed - 4 Referrals Made - 4 Clients/Caregivers Served - 610 **EHEAP Households Served – 16** LIHEAP Households Served – 104 Mandatory services – 15 indv. served

Hurricane Preparedness for Elders — With rising costs and limited resources, our local elderly population often struggle to replace needed walkers, wheelchairs and hygiene supplies that are not covered by insurance. Resourceful staff from Aging Adults Services receive donations of used equipment, unopened supplies and groceries that they distribute to their clients in need.

Neighborhood Services:



Housing Program New Purchase Assistance-3 Rental Property Monitoring – 30 SHIP Mortgages – 3 SHIP Rents - 37 SHIP Rehab - 2

38th Annual Statewide Affordable Housing

Conference - Staff from Neighborhood Services and the Gulf Coast Partnership attended a 3-day conference in Orlando, taking part in interactive sessions and expert panels discussing breakthrough ideas, bold interventions and visionary solutions to shape future affordable housing throughout the State of Florida.



Family Stability: Case Management Clients 132

New Cases - 8 In- Progress/Research - 57 Completed - 23 SHIP Disaster - 5 CSBG - 3 HSFP - 4 Civil Citation - Cases in progress – 60 Closed 6

Emergency Hurricane Bags – Throughout August, Family Stability staff assisted all 5 Human Services Divisions and FSC partner agencies with the review of Emergency Bag applications. To date, 104 bags have been approved and distributed to low-income households throughout Charlotte County. Each bag contains a variety of items including a radio, first aid kit, flashlight/batteries, sun scree, bug spray and document protectors. These bags allow residents to have critical supplies and information in one place.



Dates





Benefits Review

Appointments

Veterans Services:

170

New Claims

74

Veterans Income from Benefits Reviews **Retroactive Payments:**

\$314.881.19

Monthly Reoccurring Payments: \$114,058.71



Service, Strength, and Safety Across Charlotte County

Emergency Management:

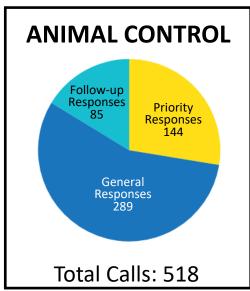
Neighbors Helping Neighbors! Over a two-week period, every county department joined together for a county-wide food drive, collecting a total of **3,336.8 lbs. of food**. This effort allowed Human Services, Emergency Management, and County Administration to prepare **141 meal bags** that will be distributed to our most vulnerable residents as part of their hurricane disaster kits. The top contributing departments were Human Services (725.7 lbs.), Community Services (720.6 lbs.), and Economic Development (447.6 lbs.).

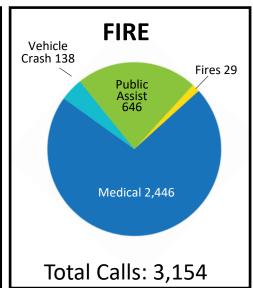
Fire & EMS:

At the Public Safety Appreciation & Recognition Banquet, Charlotte County Public Safety presented its highest honors, the Medal of Valor to Lt. Jefferson Mendel, River Silva, and Kelly Lechleidner, and the Medal of Bravery to Lt. Michael Brucci and Michael Pietraniec, for their extraordinary heroism in rescuing five victims from a fully engulfed home. Additional awards included Firefighter of the Year (Dakota Brittain), Firefighter-EMT of the Year (Louis Chieffo), Paramedic of the Year (Caleb VanHelden), Officer of the Year (Battalion Chief Michael Seneca), the CARES Award (Lt. Felix Hernandez), and the Keystone Award (Dawn Johnston). Dozens of members were also honored with Phoenix Awards for their roles in successful cardiac arrest resuscitations.

Animal Control:

Charlotte County Animal Control, in partnership with the Florida Department of Health, issued a 30-day rabies alert on August 27 after a raccoon in the Washington Loop Rd./Trails End Dr. area of Punta Gorda tested positive for rabies. The alert, which spans a one-mile radius from the location, serves as a reminder that rabies is present in the wild animal population and poses a risk to unvaccinated pets. Residents are urged to keep pets' rabies vaccinations current, avoid contact with wildlife, and report any exposures or suspicious animals to Animal Control.















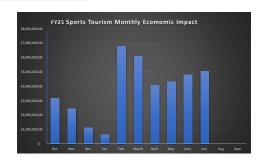
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

SPORTS

Sales Update

July 2025				
Events:	2			
Sports:	Cylcling Race			
	Baseball			

July 2025
Sports Tourism Economic
Impact
\$5.048.161.00



LEISURE

August 2025: Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach saw great momentum in August! New UK bookings came in after travel agent training, and campaign planning continued with Glen Travel and Thomas Cook. In Germany, our partners met with DISCOVER Airlines and TUI to explore a joint "CAMPUS familiarization" trip, promoting PGEB to even more European agents. Plus, PGEB was featured in the Visit USA Germany newsletter and website—keeping our destination in the spotlight!



Herbstvergnügen in Punta Gorda/ Englewood Beach

MEETINGS

August 2025: August proved to be a successful month for the Meetings Division of the Punta Gorda/ Englewood Visitor & Convention Bureau. Senior Meetings/Conventions Sales Manager had the

valuable opportunity to attend Connect Marketplace in Miami, FL. Staff engaged with meeting planners from across the U.S. who are actively seeking unique destinations for their upcoming events. During the event, staff uncovered several Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for meetings ranging in size from 25 to 500 attendees, scheduled for 2025 through 2030. Many of these opportunities are an excellent fit for our destination.







PureFlorida.com

Website Traffic

Website Users: 90,882

Sessions: 111,009

Top Origin Markets:

FL, NY, VI, CA, GA, IL, OH, NJ, MI, MA

Key Performance Indicators



TDT YTD Collections (Pacing)						
Jul-24	\$7,823,709	JII.	2 = 0/			
Jul-25	\$7,546,475	-	3.5%			

Public Relations & Social Media

Public Relations
Manager, attended
the Outdoor Writers
Association of America
(OWAA) Conference
in Chattanooga,
Tennessee this August
to connect with travel
journalists from
across the country
and highlight our



destination's "Best Side is Outside." Over the course of three days, staff met with more than 100 journalists representing top-tier outdoor publications.

Tag your Charlotte County adventure photos with **#BestSideOutside** for a chance to be showcased on our websiPureFlorida.com .

Follow us















PUBLIC WORKS

August

2025

West County

MOSQUITO & AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

CDC Traps distributed 130

4300

Total number of mosquitos identified to species

61
Phone Complaints
Resolved





MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

1476
Work Orders
Opened

1073

Work Orders Closed

312

Service Requests Opened

ENGINEERING

The Survey Department has completed design- and survey-grade location work for over 400 storm structures, pipes, and cross sections for the Burnt Store Drainage Study. We have also established four new benchmarks at water level sensor sites across the county to ensure accurate elevation data at each location.

Additionally, we conducted a survey of Peace River Drive to support Jason Thomas's ongoing drainage study and to assist the Maintenance & Operations team with planned seawall repairs.

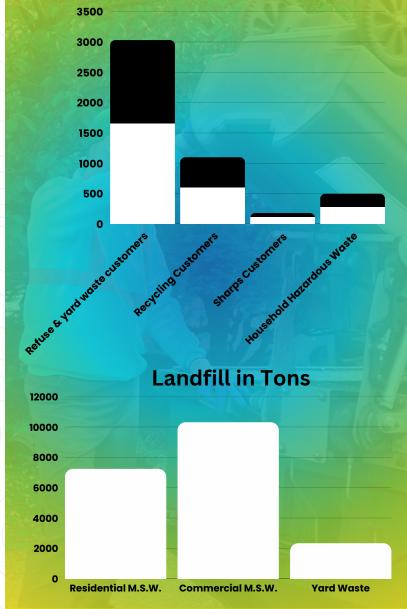




Burnt Store



Peace River



SOLID WASTE

Mid County

Transfer Stations



OPERATIONS

- Calls Presented: 15,550
- Call Wait Time: 1 minutes, 06 seconds
- **Sewer Connections:** 50,063 (64 increase from July)
- **Water Connections:** 73,943 100 increase from July)

Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- 4 Misc.—Utilities Department
- 14 Utilities Billing
- 25 Utilities Department Service
 43 Total

Charlotte County Utilities Facebook

4,079 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, Room B-109, in Port Charlotte.

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

The Customer Payment Center assisted 1,058 individuals in August.





August Stories

The Utilities Department had an impactful month delivering exceptional service to customers. Hear from staff share stories about the progress we're making to enrich our community's quality of life through safe, reliable water.



#NationalWaterQualityMonth



We're proud to deliver drinking water that supports the health and growth of Charlotte County. See how we partner with the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority to ensure customers have access to clean, potable water.



Working in the Heat



August was scorcher, but like many professionals in the community, our crews took the weather in stride. Watch how our wastewater collections team kept cool while repairing a cracked gravity main.

Protecting Underground Infrastructure





Our locates team helps to prevent damage to important underground infrastructure to maintain services for customers. Watch how they use ground penetrating radar technology in their work.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Burnt Store Water Reclamation Facility Expansion

This project is currently in the engineering design phase and 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. The design process is scheduled to be completed 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 will expand treatment capacity from six million to nine million gallons of wastewater per day. As part of the upgrade, advanced wastewater treatment technologies are being incorporated to enhance the removal of pollutants. Construction is currently 73% complete.

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