Volusia County Government Activities
June 24 – June 30, 2023

OCEAN CENTER
Events: Showbiz Talent wraps up the 2023 National Finals on July 3. The competitive dance event has occurred at the facility for over a decade and is contracted to return next year. Passion Conferences begins move-in on July 8 for Passion Camp, which takes place July 10-13. The private event utilizes the entire facility and brings in 6,000 attendees, generating over 6,500 room nights. Oak View Group, the Ocean Center’s contracted food service company, will serve over 15,000 meals. For more information, contact Tim Buckley at tbuckley@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES
Community Assistance: A draft of the FY 2023-24 One-Year Action Plan for Volusia County has been prepared and is available for resident review and comment. The One-Year Action Plan is a planning document required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that summarizes the county’s strategies and provides citizens with information about planned housing and community development activities that will be implemented in the upcoming fiscal year with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding. The draft plan is available for review online and during normal business hours through July 28 at the locations listed below:

- TCK Annex, 121 W. Rich Ave., DeLand
- Human Services Office, 1845 Holsonback Drive, Daytona Beach
- All Volusia County Library branches

For more information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org.

Resource Stewardship: Sixty-seven residents attended the first educational workshop for the ReGrow the Loop initiative held on June 24 at the Ormond Beach Regional Library. To date, 59 individuals have signed the citizen pledge, and 30 have registered for the remaining educational activities. The next workshop, How to Use Florida Friendly Landscaping Principles, is scheduled for July 13. Registration for the workshops and information about upcoming activities may be found on the initiative’s website. For more information, contact Brad Burbaugh at bburbaugh@volusia.org.

GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
Environmental Management: So far this season, 814 sea turtle nests have been documented on county beaches, only 10 fewer than at this time last year. Most nests are located in the natural beach management area north of Granada Boulevard in Ormond Beach. The first nests laid in May are due to hatch soon, and the Habitat Conservation Plan program components, including rut raking and washback season training, have been implemented to prepare the beaches for hatchlings to find their way to the water safely and, if they are washed back, to be recovered and rescued. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.
PUBLIC PROTECTION

**Corrections:** The division collaborated with the Halifax Humane Society (HHS) to provide obedience training for some of their adoptable dogs. HHS picks four to six dogs for the program, and county-sentenced inmates serve as trainers and caregivers. Staff from HHS provide on-site proper handling training to inmates, assist with the dogs and administer necessary medical care. Upon completing the seven-week program, the dogs receive a certificate that notes the training they received to increase the probability of being adopted. Throughout the training process, the dogs are available for adoption, and most of the dogs are adopted before completion. On June 28, a graduation ceremony was held for the dogs who completed the most recent training session. For more information, contact Warden Steven Smith at sksmith@volusia.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

**Mosquito Control:** Staff is conducting additional surveillance and proactive larvicide operations in preparation for the Fourth of July holiday. Field inspectors are focusing on areas with scheduled events or expected places where large groups of people may congregate. Residents are encouraged to use mosquito repellent to prevent mosquito bites when they are outside during these events. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has a [website](https://www.epa.gov/pesticides) where persons may search for a repellent to fit that individual's needs best. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at mmcdonough@volusia.org.

**Road & Bridge:** The division is experiencing increased requests for dirt road grading after the recent heavy rainfall. Eighty miles of dirt roads are scheduled to be graded 26 times per year (every other week), and additional services may be needed for road repair following significant rain events. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at lkoontz@volusia.org.

**Water Resources and Utilities:** Utilities field crew members are conducting smoke testing of 1,300 linear feet of sewer mains within the Stone Island community. The procedure is an effective way to identify areas where water infiltration into the sanitary sewer collections occurs. Common sources of infiltration are cracked sewer laterals, broken cleanout caps and tree root issues. Regular smoke testing is performed to mitigate potential environmental and property damage that can occur when flooding events deluge a sewer system. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at mulrich@volusia.org.