

Volusia County Government Activities May 14 – 20, 2022

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Resource Stewardship: The current Volusia Forever application and nomination cycle closed on May 15. We received 30 submissions in total with 13 applications from landowners/willing sellers and 17 nominations from community members. For nominations, staff will engage the property owners to inform they have been nominated and encourage them to apply. For applications, staff will evaluate each using the Council-adopted criteria and share the results of the evaluations, copies of the applications, and associated maps with the advisory committee. At a public meeting on June 22, the committee will make an eligibility determination for each application/property under consideration. For more information, contact Brad Burbaugh, Resource Stewardship Director, at bburbaugh@volusia.org.

Community Assistance: Community Assistance is accepting applications to assist eligible homeowners with upgrades to their home that improve wind resistance through the Wind Hazard Mitigation Program. The program can fund window and door coverings (hurricane shutters), gable-end, tie-downs and upgraded garage doors. The assistance provided cannot exceed \$15,000 per household. Funding can be used for owner-occupied homes in the Volusia County service area, which does not include the city limits of Daytona Beach and Deltona. Household income cannot exceed 120% of the area median income to be eligible for the program, and funds are limited for households at 80-120% of the area median income. To request additional information, contact Carmen Hall, Community Assistance Director, at chall@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff created a video for social media recognizing National EMS Week and honoring EMS professionals for their service and dedication. Videos and graphics were also created for social media recognizing Public Works Week and National Police Week. Production staff provided services for the Economic Development "Q" meeting on May 20 at Daytona Beach International Airport. Additional public participation programming updates were completed on the Crestron system in the County Council Chambers, which were made available for the May 17 County Council meeting. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

FINANCE

Information Technology: Staff collaborated with the Economic Development Division to develop a new web-based application allowing producers to apply for film permits electronically. GIS staff are currently working with the Supervisor of Elections to recalculate precinct boundaries prior to the June 13 deadline. For more information, contact Brian Whiting at bwhiting@volusia.gov.

GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: As of May 18, there were 62 Sea Turtle nests on County managed beach including, five Leatherback and 57 Loggerhead nests. The water quality team performed bi-monthly routine water quality monitoring on the Halifax and Tomoka Rivers and Spruce Creek. Audubon Florida is hosting the annual JayWatch Citizen Science training is on May 21 in Lyonia Preserve and the Lyonia Environmental Center. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.

OCEAN CENTER

Events: After a busy weekend of events, staff will flip the building in preparation for graduation walkthroughs beginning May 23. On May 24 - 28, the Ocean Center will host 12 high school graduations for Volusia County and Flagler County Schools. Ceremonies begin on May 24 with Atlantic High School and Mainland High School, followed by Deltona High School and Pine Ridge High School, Spruce Creek High School and New Smyrna Beach High School, Seabreeze High School, University High School, DeLand High School and Taylor High School, and Flagler Palm Coast High School and Matanzas High School. Additional information can be found at www.vcsedu.org/community-information-services/graduation-information. The events are expected to bring in more than 40,000 attendees over five days. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org.



PUBLIC PROTECTION

Animal Services: On May 16, staff conducted in-person interviews for the coastal animal control officer position. For more information, contact Division Director Adam Leath, (386) 822-3506.

Emergency Management: Annual WebEOC training is being conducted by the Emergency Management Division. Emergency Management conducted hurricane preparedness presentations at College Arms Towers and Country Village Community on May 16. The ESF8 Partner's Meeting will be held on May 18 in the Operations Room. For more information, contact Interim Division Director James Judge, (386) 254-1500.

Emergency Medical Services: VCEMS welcomed one Intermittent EMT to the new hire orientation, which began on May 16. Promoted by the American College of Emergency Physicians, National EMS Week is May 15 to 21, 2022. This year's theme—"Rising to the Challenge"—acknowledges the many new life challenges caused by COVID-19 and recognizes, despite today's new challenges, EMS professionals continue to respond, support and care for the needs of our communities. A myriad of social media posts for National EMS Week were created and can be viewed on the Volusia County EMS Facebook page as well as the County of Volusia Facebook page.

Fire Rescue: VCFR along with east side units are conducting live fire burns to meet ISO training requirements. Next week, VCFR personnel will be conducting final inspections on the new ladder truck being built by Pierce Manufacturing in Appleton, Wisconsin. The New Hire Academy is in its last two weeks for the five new hires that are part of the SAFER grant award. For more information, contact Fire Chief Howard Bailey, (386) 736-5940 ext. 12918.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: The Frank Rendon Park southern dune walkover had some deterioration in the hardware supporting the observation deck, resulting in a temporary closure of the beach access. Coastal trades workers replaced the hardware and have opened the access back up for public use. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.

Mosquito Control: Mosquito Control participated in the Volusia County Library "How To" Festival on May 14. The Division set up a display table at the Port Orange Library location and conducted a formal presentation to attendees on "How To" fight the bite. The Mosquito Control presentation was one of 100 free programs offered at six branches of the Volusia County Public Library system for this festival. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.



Road & Bridge: Data collection efforts are underway in order to comply with the county's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Cycle 4 permit. Road & Bridge and several county departments are tasked with providing data for each element of the permit. This information will be reported to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20455.

Solid Waste: Solid Waste Division team members will be staffing a recycling/anti-litter education table at the Volusia Pines Elementary School's career day on May 26, providing students educational waste reduction and recycling materials. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Traffic Engineering: Traffic Engineering staff will begin interviewing candidates this week to fill an Engineering Assistant position. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.

Water Resources and Utilities: Annual maintenance and flow testing of 1,588 fire hydrants has begun within the county's six utility service areas. Preventative maintenance ensures reliable supply and water pressure for fire protection. Currently, crews are in the process of completing scheduled work within the Spruce Creek utility service area, with Southeast and Northeast service areas to follow. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at (386) 943-7027, ext. 12724.