

Volusia County Government Activities December 3 – 9, 2022

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Resource Stewardship: Land Management staff assisted with a specialty youth hunt in partnership with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). This opportunity introduces young people to hunting and conservation by providing a safe, educational, mentored youth hunt on the county's conservation land. Extension Services is offering financial and housing counseling at no cost to Volusia County residents. Certified counselors can assist residents in improving credit, managing debt, increasing savings and preparing for the steps to purchase a home. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact Lisa Hamilton at 386-822-5778.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information: After months of preparation, staff coordinated the County Council ceremony honoring six local veterans who were inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame. Staff promoted the Postcards for Santa activity with the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Division on social media. Staff also assisted the Public Works Department with messaging on social media and local television regarding the completion of Hurricane Ian debris removal. A marketing plan is being developed for Environmental Management's native tree giveaway for Florida Arbor Day in January. The staff remains in continuous contact with various county departments, municipalities and state and federal partners to disseminate relevant hurricane recovery effort information. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Emergency Management: Emergency Management continues to support the affected areas through the Disaster Recovery Center and provide resources to those areas of need for Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. Emergency Management continues to support beach recovery efforts. For more information, contact James Judge at (386) 254-1500.

Emergency Medical Administration: On Dec. 7, staff met with Arnold Palmer Hospital to discuss education for pediatric emergency prehospital care and the available resources. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at (386) 561-8087.

Emergency Medical Services: The division has implemented new management training for EMS sergeants and paramedics. The training will kick off on Dec. 8 and will be conducted annually. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at (386) 236-3511.

Fire Rescue: At approximately 10 a.m. on Dec. 21, VCFR's Technical Rescue Team will conduct the third annual "Over the Edge" at Halifax Hospital in Daytona Beach. The team members will be repelling over the side of the building in Christmas costumes to entertain the children in that wing. Once the repelling has been completed, a bag of presents will be delivered to the children. For more information, contact Joe King at (386) 736-5940 ext. 12918.

OCEAN CENTER

Events: Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University will host its fall graduation in the arena and ballroom on Dec. 15, with 4,000 attendees expected. Palmer College will host its graduation in the ballroom on Dec. 16, with 400 attendees expected. The Filipino American Association of Volusia County will host its Christmas Celebration in the ballroom on Dec. 17, with 400 attendees expected. Sports Tours International begins move-in on Dec. 18 for the Daytona Beach Shootout, its first of two back-to-back basketball tournaments that will start the following day. The event is free and open to the public. Additional information for the tournament is available at <https://www.sporttours.net/mw-d3-basketball#w3daytona>. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: Staff continues to repair and reopen assets damaged by Hurricane Nicole. This work includes assessing structural integrity, removing compromised decking sections, repairing and/or replacing damaged stair treads and stringers, adding extensions and x-bracing to pilings for structural support, as well as replacing any damaged top caps and/or side rails and aluminum railing. Coastal tradesworkers completed repairs to the stair access at University Park and walkovers one and two at Lighthouse Point Park in Ponce Inlet. Both are now open to the public. Staff also coordinated with contractors to install a new sand access path to the dog beach at Lighthouse Point Park since it experienced significant erosion and was destroyed during Hurricane Nicole. Although 118 Coastal accesses remain closed, the following have been recently opened:

- Ormond Beach: Argosy Park; Standish Drive (ADA access temporarily unavailable); Cardinal Boulevard off beach parking and restrooms; and Williams Avenue vehicular ramp
- Daytona Beach: University Boulevard Park (ADA access temporarily unavailable); Silver Beach off beach parking and restrooms; University Boulevard and Seabreeze Boulevard vehicular ramps
- Ponce Inlet: Lighthouse Point Park (no jetty access) and the Marine Science Center Nature Trail
- New Smyrna Beach – 3rd Ave vehicular ramp

For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at (386) 248-8072.

Engineering & Construction: Notice to proceed for the proposed turn lanes and safety improvements on Graves Avenue in Orange City is anticipated for Dec. 12. Project scope includes a three-lane widening from Veterans Memorial Parkway to Kentucky Avenue. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967.

Mosquito Control: The division utilizes different types of traps to conduct surveillance throughout the county. The type of trap used varies depending on the habitat and the targeted species. The trap collections are identified in the lab and documented for

operational planning. The Division is currently testing a new type of trap that utilizes advanced technology to provide real-time data through an online dashboard. The trap's sensors count the mosquitoes as they pass through the entrance. The sensors are calibrated to classify and document the number of mosquito-sized, small and large objects. The trap is powered by a battery connected to a solar panel to reduce the time needed for field technicians to service. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at (386) 424-2920

Road and Bridge: Drainage task crews continue to respond to storm-related service requests while other staff resume routine maintenance, such as mowing. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at (386) 822-6422.

Solid Waste: Compliance officers routinely investigate illegal dumping complaints. Last week, staff observed a landscape company dumping tree trimmings on the county's right of way. The officer investigated, contacted the company owner, and required them to collect and properly dispose of the tree debris. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952.

Traffic Engineering: Signal staff is performing maintenance in the Port Orange and Orange City areas. In addition, they will be performing a turn-on inspection for FDOT at the intersection of SR-44 and Canal Street in New Smyrna Beach. For more information, contact Jay Williams at (386) 736-5968.

Water Resources and Utilities: Annual strategic planning among utility managers, supervisors and technical staff is in progress. The process involves a variety of small group sessions over six to eight weeks to review and evaluate ongoing operations, current projects and future utility system needs. All members of the organization are invited and encouraged to participate. The utility division operates 16 water and wastewater treatment facilities in six service areas throughout the county. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at (386) 943-7027.