

Volusia County Government Activities September 26 - October 2, 2020

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance: Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) hosted a mandatory informational meeting for landlords who are renting or interested in renting to Section 8, Family Unification, and/or Mainstream Voucher participants. A total of 38 landlords participated in the virtual meeting on Sept. 30. The meeting is designed to increase the landlord's understanding of the program's rules and regulations. For more information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org. For more information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff is working with the Marine Science Center to promote two grants it received from the Sea Turtle Conservancy, is developing an all-new digital and interactive format for the County Line newsletter, and is promoting the renewed testing at the Volusia County Fairgrounds. In a follow-up to a request from Council Member Johnson, Community Information along with Veterans Services and Public Works met with a citizens group that wants to partner with the County to display WWII panels inside the Historic Courthouse to pay tribute to Volusia County war veterans. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

GROWTH AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: Lyonia Environmental Center and Explore Volusia staff are creating videos that spotlight some citizen science projects, available locally and nationally, that residents can get involved in. With the increase in time people are spending outdoors, citizen science is a great way for people to be out in nature, learn more about the environment, and collect data for projects that will help make policy decisions, support sustainability projects, and enhance education. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Emergency Management: EM conducted their first Virtual Quarterly EM Partners meeting on Sept 30. This meeting included updates from the Property Appraiser's office, the National Weather Service, Mosquito Control, the Florida Dept. of Health and Emergency Management. For more information contact Patricia Bythwood at 386-740-5120.

Emergency Medical Services: EMS mourns the loss of team member Mr. Gerald Jones who passed away on Sept. 20 after complications of COVID-19. For more information contact Patricia Bythwood at 386-740-5120.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: Smyrna Dunes Walkway #3 located at the NSB Jetty started to erode significantly prior to Hurricane Isaias, which resulted in a temporary closure of the walkover in hopes that the dynamic inlet would either accrete sand allowing the walkover to open back up or repairs could be made after turtle season. Unfortunately, with this most recent coastal storm event structural damage was sustained and portions of the walkway had to be demolished in order to maintain a safe environment for the visitors at the south jetty and dog friendly inlet beach.

In addition to the damage sustained to Walkway #3 at Smyrna Dunes Park, the Jetty connector between the Beach Safety Control Tower at Ponce Inlet and the north jetty fishing deck also sustained structural damage. The structurally compromised section was demolished and repairs will be made after the close of turtle season. The Division is currently working with State Emergency Management officials and FEMA on a hazard mitigation project to extend the north jetty fishing deck further west to mitigate future damages and loss of public access due to storm events. For more information, contact Jessica Winterwerp at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.



Engineering & Construction: Clearing and grubbing operations continue with the Williamson Blvd widening along with pond excavation, utility elocations and storm drain installation. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

Mosquito Control: As part of the resistance management program and to routinely monitor efficacy of applications, Mosquito Control Environmental Specialists conducted a trial in the Ranchette Road area of New Smyrna Beach. Floodwater mosquitoes were set up in cages along with spinning impingers with slides to verify chemical droplets during an aerial adulticide operation. For more information, contact Suzanne Bartlett at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.



Road & Bridge: Road & Bridge staff continue to monitor county maintained roads after the recent heavy rainfall. Portions of N. Beach St, Highbridge Rd, and Walter Boardman Lane were previously closed for water over-the-road, and were reopened after the water receded. For more information, contact Benjamin Bartlett at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20470.

Solid Waste: On Saturday, Sept 26, FCC Environmental Services conducted a scheduled community bulky item cleanup in the southeast quadrant of the county, collecting just over thirteen (13) tons of bulky household trash. For more information, contact Solid Waste Director Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Traffic Engineering: Staff is working with the City of Ormond Beach on a Joint Project Agreement (JPA) for speed radar feedback signs on N. Beach St. Once finalized, the JPA will be taken to county council for approval. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.

Water Resources and Utilities: During the 4 quarter of FY 2019-20, a total of 957 water use alerts were sent to customers. The utilities support team contacts customers advising of continuous 24-hour use (indicating possible leaks) and unusually high consumption during a 72-hour period (indicating inefficient irrigation use). These proactive measures help customers avoid costly bills and potential damage within the home. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at (386) 943-7027, ext. 12724.