

## Volusia County Government Activities March 19 – 25, 2022

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Community Assistance:** The Emergency Rental Assistance program has funds available to assist households that have experienced a financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible households may receive up to nine months of rental and utility arrears and three months of forward assistance. Applications will be accepted online at [www.volusia.org/era](http://www.volusia.org/era) from 11a.m. to 8p.m. on March 30. For more information, please contact Carmen Hall, Community Assistance Division Director at (386) 736-5955 x 12044.

**Resource Stewardship:** Resource Stewardship and Community Information developed an ECHO Grant Process Flowchart: <https://tinyurl.com/ECHO-FC>. This visual aid is posted on the ECHO website and was developed to help the public and grant applicants easily understand the application review and approval process.

### COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

**Community Information:** Staff promoted the April 9 Turtle Day and March 31 Emergency Rental Assistance portal opening with news releases, flyers and social media posts. Staff attended the Emergency Management Partners Meeting on March 24 and will be collaborating with Emergency Management on several upcoming messaging campaigns, including the impending transition from CodeRED to the Everbridge public warning platform and the implementation of a fee schedule for reviewing comprehensive emergency management plans for healthcare facilities. Staff is coordinating the annual Public Employees Feed The Need fund drive, which continues through April 1. All of the money collected will go to the Second Harvest Food Bank to support food assistance needs in the community. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at [kcaptain@volusia.org](mailto:kcaptain@volusia.org).

### OCEAN CENTER

**Events:** The Council on Aging will host their annual "Dancing Through the Decades" event March 31, with an expected attendance of 500. Tyrant Wrestling's Poseidon Duels and Open takes place April 2 and 3, and is expected to bring in 1,500 attendees and generate 600 room nights. The event is open to the public; for more information visit <https://www.tyrantwrestling.com/poseidon>. The Ocean Center is gearing up for one of the busiest April in years, with three sporting events, two conferences and three consumer shows on the books. Room nights for the month are estimated at almost 16,000. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at [triddle@volusia.org](mailto:triddle@volusia.org).

### PUBLIC PROTECTION

**Beach Safety:** Seasonal Lifeguard and Junior Lifeguard tryouts were held on March 23 at the Port Orange YMCA. For more information, contact Division Director Andy Ethridge, (386) 239-6414.

**Emergency Management:** The Emergency Management Division, in partnership with the cities, continues to support COVID-19 testing at the two mobile testing sites in Deltona at Dewey O. Boster Park, and at the New Smyrna Beach City Gym. The EOC hosted the EM Partners meeting on March 24, which included a presentation on Wildland Fires. For more information please, contact Division Director Helene Wetherington, (386) 254-1500.

**Emergency Medical Services:** EMS is currently holding interviews for EMS Commander, EMT and Paramedics. For more information, contact Division Director Michael Colman, (386) 236-3511.

### PUBLIC WORKS

**Coastal:** Coastal trades workers replaced an 8-foot section of damaged stringers and stairs at Phyllis Avenue in Daytona Beach Shores. They also replaced the east side stairs at Croaker Avenue in New Smyrna Beach and repaired the east side stairs at walkway #3 in Lighthouse Point Park, which had sustained damage during the last storm event. Corrections began re-painting the seawall at Sun Splash Park in Daytona Beach to match the existing colors of the restrooms, columns and knee walls throughout the park. The Coastal Division coordinated the installation of a Fill-a-Bag beach cleanup station sponsored and maintained by Ice Cream Social and located directly on the beach at Edwin W. Peck, Sr. Beach Park in Daytona Beach Shores. For more information, contact Terri Propst at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20535.

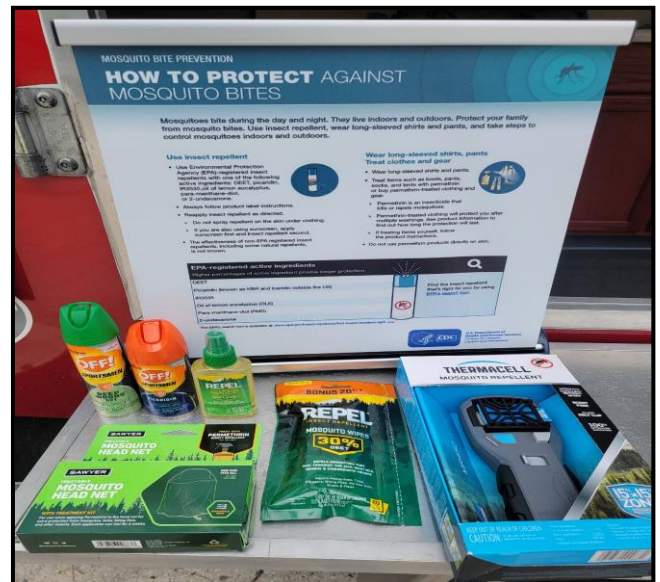


**Engineering & Construction / Water Resources & Utilities:** Utilities field operations and inspection staff coordinated and completed tie-in connections involving 15 water distribution mains as part of the Howland Boulevard road-widening project. Roadway construction continues with final grade work and drainage installation. Check out the pictures below. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846 or Michael Ulrich at (386)943-7027, ext. 12724.



**Mosquito Control:** Mosquito Control staff was featured on this week's Volusia Today radio program. The radio interview discussed the upcoming warmer weather and what residents can do to help mitigate mosquitos in their yards and neighborhoods. Mosquito Control's integrated pest control program was also highlighted.

Mosquito Control is reminding residents to protect against mosquito bites by wearing personal protection. This includes protective clothes and EPA approved repellents, which are the best way to prevent mosquito bites. Repellents used should have an active ingredient such as DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535. Search for the best repellent for you by using this EPA search tool: <https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/find-repellent-right-you>. Examples of some repellents pictured to right. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.



**Road & Bridge:** Through Community Block Grant funding, W. Broad Street and Bert Royal Road in the Pierson area are being paved. Once the project is completed, the dirt roads will no longer require routine grading and will result in an operational efficiency. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20455.

**Solid Waste:** The Volusia County Adopt a Road Program is a litter reduction campaign designed to remove litter and debris from Volusia County roads to keep Volusia County beautiful. Community volunteers sign up to adopt one mile of county roadway and perform litter cleanups four times a year. The Solid Waste Division and Keep Volusia Beautiful have welcomed seven new Adopt A Road groups since February 2022. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.