

Volusia County Government Activities March 6 - 12, 2021

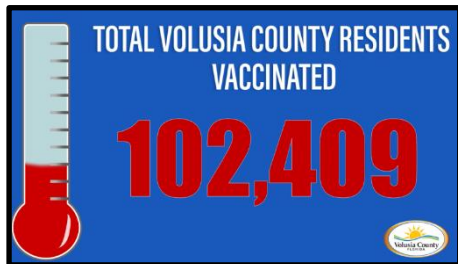
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance: Volusia County's Community Assistance Division will discuss and accept comments on the county's 2019-20 draft Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) at 3 p.m. on March 24, at a virtual meeting. Staff will present a review of the county's 2019-20 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program. Please use the following link to register to attend virtually: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6005389987765318671>. For more information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org.

Extension Services: Extension faculty recently offered their first Urban Backyard Poultry class of 2021 for residents interested in learning more about the rules and regulations of owning poultry in residential areas, housing, nutrition, and maintaining a healthy flock. The team will also host a virtual Spring Ranchers from March 22-24th. This educational program will cover Best Management Practices (BMPs) for cattle producers, reproduction tips, how to safely and legally sell beef directly to consumers, and management of agricultural ponds. For more information, contact Brad Burbaugh at bburbaugh@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff did a walk-through at the Ocean Center with Char Jeff Brower to assess the arrangements for the State of the County, scheduled for April 27, at the Ocean Center (strict attendance limits have been established to hold the event safely and in accordance with CDC guidance). Facilitation continues for the annual Public Employee Feed the Need FUND Drive, March 8-19. Staff continues to work with Public Protection and the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County on COVID-19 vaccination efforts. The production studio was utilized for multiple video interviews with Councilwoman Girtman and community leaders emphasizing vaccination for vulnerable and minority populations. Halifax Health's Mark Spivey, coordinator for the Center for Wellbeing, was interviewed about mental health in the pandemic. Staff continues to inform the public through social media about vaccination efforts to include the positive direction we're going with more residents receiving the vaccine each day, as well as continuing to promote the tenets of the Step Up Volusia campaign: Wash Up. Back Up. Mask Up. (graphics below). For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.



GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: The Volusia County Marine Mammal Stranding Team has responded to a record number of manatee and dolphin strandings this year. We have responded to 12 manatee and one dolphin strandings, compared to only one manatee stranding at this time last year.

The Marine Science Center has received a record number of sea turtles for rehabilitation since January. The total as of March 10 was 98, including 39 that have arrived in the last four days. For reference, it was June 11 when the 98th sea turtle was admitted in 2020. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.

OCEAN CENTER

Events: March 8-13, staff focused largely on prospecting and fielding new leads and responding to clients and sourcing potential events. March 13-14, The Ocean Center hosted the Kory Souza Bike Show in the Arena. This event is a repeat

bike show that was first hosted in 2020. Kory Souza is a custom bike modifier and designer who creates one-of-a-kind bikes in Sarasota, Florida. We are happy to have them back during Bike Week.

March 19-21, staff welcomes back the Daytona Beach News Journal Home Show with over 70 vendors. The celebrity guests for this Spring event will be Matt Blashaw from HGTV as well as Designer Ryan Locke. Admission is free.

Both events will be enforcing social distancing as well as face coverings over the nose and mouth of all while inside the building. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Beach Safety: Beach Safety conducted a public relations event in New Smyrna Beach on March 10, providing general beach info and environmental guidelines for local citizens titled, "Get To Know Your Island." On March 12, Beach Safety attended a public relations event at the Riverbend Academy titled, "Back The blue," supporting local law enforcement. On March 13, another round of lifeguard tryouts was conducted. For more information, contact Andrew Ethridge at aethridge@volusia.org

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: Contractors began construction on the Plaza Boulevard Beach Ramp Improvements Project. Improvements include permanently closing off the ramp with a seawall to protect the right-of-way from storm events, general and ADA parking, an ADA beach access ramp, seating, shade structures, shower tower, stormwater management and landscaping. For more information, contact Jessica Winterwerp at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.

Engineering & Construction: The most recent county resurfacing contract was completed with funds remaining allowing for additional resurfacing projects to be incorporated. Work begins this week to improve Stratford Drive, Princeton Road, Whitmarsh Drive, and Westchester Drive in DeLand. These local roads represent the beginning of a renewed emphasis on local road improvement in the resurfacing program. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

Mosquito Control: Mosquito Control is working with the Road and Bridge Division to relocate the Pierson area sentinel chicken coop onto County property used by Road and Bridge. To learn more about our sentinel chicken program and how they are used to control mosquitoes as part of an integrated pest management program visit our website: <https://www.volusia.org/services/public-works/mosquito-control/sentinel-chickens.html> or contact Suzanne Bartlett at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.

Road & Bridge: The construction of the Lake Beresford/Lakeside Drive stormwater improvement project is underway. The project entails construction of a stormwater treatment facility that will provide water quality and nutrient load reduction to stormwater run-off prior to its discharge into Lake Beresford and the St. Johns River. The project was awarded by council on Jan. 7 of this year and is funded in part through a \$278,500 Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant. For more information, contact Benjamin Bartlett at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20470.

Solid Waste: On March 20, FCC Environmental Services will conduct a scheduled community bulky item cleanup in the northeast quadrant of the county. This week the company will distribute flyers to the unincorporated residential households in this area regarding the bulk items that may be placed curbside by 7 a.m.

The Tomoka Farms Road Landfill will hold limited operational hours from 7 to 10 a.m. on March 14 in support of Bike Week events. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Water Resources and Utilities: The installation of ground storage tank aeration and mixing systems has been completed at the Glen Abbey water treatment plant located in the county's southwest utility service area. The new systems help to enhance water quality through the reduction of disinfectant by-products. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at (386) 943-7027, ext. 12724.