



2010

COUNTY MANAGER'S
ANNUAL REPORT

SEMINOLE COUNTY'S Leadership



DISTRICT 1
BOB DALLARI
407-665-7215
BDallari@seminolecountyfl.gov



DISTRICT 2
JOHN HORAN
407-665-7205
JHoran@seminolecountyfl.gov



DISTRICT 3
DICK VAN DER WEIDE
407-665-7207
DVanDerWeide@seminolecountyfl.gov



DISTRICT 4
CARLTON HENLEY
VICE CHAIRMAN
407-665-7201
CHenley@seminolecountyfl.gov



DISTRICT 5
BRENDA CAREY
CHAIRMAN
407-665-7209
BCarey@seminolecountyfl.gov

Seminole County's Board of County Commissioners



Making a Difference in Your Community

The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) is elected at-large and represents residents in five commission districts. Serving four-year, staggered terms, the Board functions as Seminole County's legislative branch in which individual Commissioners serve as both legislative officers and fiscal representatives of the County.

The Board meets regularly at the Seminole County Services Building, 1101 East First Street in Sanford, on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. In addition, the Board may meet in scheduled work sessions to discuss matters of general importance; however, no official action is taken during these sessions.

Minutes are recorded for all Commission meetings, work sessions and public hearings and are made part of the record in the County Commission Records Office. All meetings are also televised live on Seminole Government Television (SGTV) Bright House Networks cable Channel 199 and streamed to the County Web site. The regular BCC meetings are replayed at 11 a.m. on the Sunday following the meeting and at 7 p.m. on the Tuesday following the meeting. Archived video of the Commission meetings, agendas and minutes are available online at www.seminolecountyfl.gov.

The Board of County Commissioners also serves as your ambassadors or liaisons to many local, regional and state boards and committees. These boards and committees cover a variety of important matters that affect Seminole County residents and businesses including: the economy, transportation, regional and local planning, the environment, tourism, juvenile issues and the arts. The Board of County Commissioners is actively engaged in working for the good of the community.



*Special Recognition to
Michael McLean
Who Served as
District 2 Commissioner from
2006 to 2010.*

A Message from the Acting County Manager, Joseph A. Forte

Dear Seminole County Citizens and Business Owners,

As your Acting County Manager, I am pleased and honored to present to you the 2010 Seminole County Annual Report, which provides Seminole County citizens an opportunity to have a closer look at their government and to see the accomplishments of the County's departments and divisions.

Even though 2010 has proven to be challenging to our citizens and our government, the Board of County Commissioners enacted several strategic steps to focus its limited resources on maintaining jobs, investing in the community and creating local infrastructure improvements while maintaining high quality services for its citizens.

The preparation of the budget took into account the constraints of the recession and ongoing real estate market decline. This resulted in a decline in property tax revenue for the County's General Fund and Fire Fund in the amount of \$17 million dollars on top of the previous two years reduction of \$23 million.

With the support of the Board of County Commissioners, Seminole County Government was able to reduce the General Fund budget by over \$53 million or 20% since FY 2007. Using sound fiscal management principals over increasingly difficult times, Seminole County was still able to maintain a high quality issuer credit rating of AA uninsured bonds.

Over the past three years, Seminole County has reduced 240 full time equivalent positions from its workforce by reorganizing departments and divisions and identifying efficiencies and streamlining workflow processes. Additional cost savings were seen in 2010 with a reorganization of the senior management team resulting in a reduction of Directors from 14 to 8 with an additional 9 positions eliminated in 2010 through attrition.

The 2009/2010 budget demonstrated the Board of County Commissioners support of community investment projects through the \$17.1 million dollars of stimulus grant dollars for 17 community assistance, energy conservation and transportation projects which supported the goal of stimulating economic activity. Additionally, commitment was given to the completion of the jail and improvements to the communication center, an important function of our response to emergencies.

The recession and weak economy, along with property tax reductions, have placed the County in a fragile position for the future. However, because the Board of County Commissioners took strategic steps to put Seminole County in a position to weather the storm, along with the talented staff committed to providing the highest level of service to our citizens, we maintain a positive outlook for the future years and generations to come.

Seminole County remains dedicated to maintaining the high quality of life services this community has come to know making Seminole County your Natural Choice to live, work and play.

Sincerely,


Joseph A. Forte

“Seminole County Government was able to reduce the General Fund budget by over \$53 million or 20% since Fiscal Year 2007.”



A SNAPSHOT OF *Our Community*

Fast Facts about Seminole County

Seminole County is the third smallest county (in land area) of Florida's 67 counties. Seminole County is also the 3rd densest county in the State of Florida.



OUR SEVEN CITIES

Altamonte Springs, Casselberry, Lake Mary, Longwood, Oviedo, Sanford and Winter Springs

OUR STATISTICS

Founded in 1913

Land Area (square miles): 308

Land and Water Area (square miles): 344

Total Registered Voters: 266,646 as of January 2011

OUR DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Population (BEBR Est. Apr. 2010):	420,100
Total Households:	157,144
Population Density (Pop/Sq. Mi):	1,364
Median Age:	39.9
Average Household Size:	2.6
Per Capita Income:	\$31,060
Median Household Income:	\$58,703
Number of Employed Residents:	193,966
Number of Businesses:	20,137

Listed below are some of the beneficial services Seminole County provides to the entire County, including the cities:

- *A countywide library system (Five public libraries)*
- *Community parks and the natural lands and trails program*
- *Economic and tourism development*
- *The landfill and transfer station*
- *Animal control services*
- *Emergency management including the Emergency Operations Center*
- *The 911 system and 800 MHz communications system*
- *Arterial and collector road construction and maintenance*
- *Court facilities and services*
- *The County jail which is the responsibility of the Board of County Commissioners but is operated by the Sheriff.*

What We Accomplished Last Year

- ✦ The Lake Harney Wilderness Area, 300 acres located on the St. Johns River and the northwest shore of Lake Harney, opened to the public.
- ✦ The North Branch Library computer area was expanded and enhanced with financing provided by the Friends of the Library.
- ✦ The John E. Polk Correctional Institution expansion/renovation was completed on time and under budget relieving overcrowded conditions at the County jail.
- ✦ The new Computer Aided Dispatch System went “live” improving average call processing time and accuracy of locating 911 calls.
- ✦ 800MHz Spectrum Rebanding Initiative is moving Public Safety and First Responders frequencies to a consolidated “Public Safety Only” spectrum in the 800 MHz band. The County has completed its “first-touch” phase mitigating interference problems with cell providers.
- ✦ Finalized contract closeout with FEMA for the 2004 Hurricanes (Charley, Frances, and Jeanne) reimbursing \$37.25 million to the County.
- ✦ Completed phases 1 and 2 of the reclaimed water system reducing use of potable water for irrigation. A total of 847 million gallons of reclaimed water was used in 2010 for residential and commercial irrigation—a cornerstone of the County’s water conservation program.
- ✦ Created an Energy Conservation Overlay district near Sunrail stations and major transit routes allowing redevelopment or development at higher densities and intensities. Proposals must meet specific criteria such as: ease of accessibility, energy efficiency, green building techniques and compatibility with area.
- ✦ The Complete Count Committee’s efforts to create awareness about the 2010 Census resulted in a 77% participation rate for Seminole County (better than rate for the State of Florida and the U.S.)
- ✦ Seminole County departments were recognized for contributions in their respective fields including:
 - * Purchasing Division received “*Achievement of Excellence Award*” for 2010 from the National Purchasing Institute, Inc. for the ninth consecutive year.
 - * The Community Services Department was recognized by The Southeast Institute on Homelessness and Supportive Housing with the 2010 Supportive Housing Developer of the Year award for proactive homelessness initiatives.
 - * The National United States Tennis Association (USTA) named Seminole County’s Leisure Services Department as the 2010 Member Organization of the Year.

Seminole County’s 1,322 employees in eight departments provide quality service delivery to all residents of the County.



Cost-saving solutions and efficient service delivery were key strategies for 2010. Seminole County's operations were examined to ensure that funding is maximized and that the County is operating in the most efficient way possible.

Money Saving Efforts = Savings for Taxpayers:

- The County continues to use the forces of Competition as a normal course of business practice that ensures costs remain competitive and improves efficiency of County operations. The County conducted training on how to properly do business with the County with 130 vendors by holding a vendor fair. The County's competitive bid process resulted in savings of \$13.5 million last fiscal year.
- E-billing established to enhance customer access to their utility bill and help the County save on postage costs. The annual postage savings on the program so far is \$3,897.
- Building Division headed up the 5 year audit for the Community Rating System as part of the National Flood Insurance Program. As a result of the audit and much hard work, Seminole County has been promoted to a CRS Class 6 from a Class 7 taking effect May of 2011. This provides a reduction in Flood Insurance costs for all of our Seminole County residents that live in a Special Flood Hazard Area.
- Electronically-monitored offenders in Probation's EMPACT Program had a 71.4% increase in 2010 in total offenders processed compared to 2009. 600 offenders were placed on EMPACT supervision saving over 46,000 man/days in jail and nearly \$2.7 million in associated incarceration costs.



The Penny Sales Tax Helps Widen Roads and Build Sidewalks

Funding from the Penny Sales Tax helped improve the County's transportation system. Construction was substantially completed on 5 roadway projects including SR 434 from Montgomery to I-4 and Bunnell Rd/Eden Park Avenue. Construction was underway on Lake Emma Rd in 2010. Planning was underway for 12 roadway projects including CR 419 from Snowhill Road to the County Line and Dean Rd from SR 426 to the Orange County line and almost 13 miles of sidewalk projects.

Federal Recovery Funds Improve Roads and Bridges:

The County has been awarded nine projects from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 program that total over \$12 million in construction costs. More than 29 lane miles of pavement rehabilitation was part of the program and all roads were major arterial facilities that had a deteriorated pavement condition. Major roads improved include: Lake Mary Boulevard, Howell Branch Road, West 25th Street/CR 46A and Rinehart Road. Bridge projects include a future bridge replacement on Orange Blvd., the Cross Seminole Trail Howell Creek Trestle rehabilitation, and in 2011 a new Cross Seminole Trail pedestrian overpass over Red Bug Lake Road (at SR 426).

Making Travel in the County Easier:

- The capacity enhancement of the widening of SR 434 from Montgomery Rd to I-4 has reduced the average trip by 2 to 4 minutes during peak hours which translates to savings in time and cost to Seminole County commuters who traverse this roadway daily.
- Seminole County won a \$4 million grant award from FDOT and MetroPlan for the second phase of the Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS). Scheduled to commence in July 2011 – the system will allow real-time information sharing with other jurisdictions and will also provide pre-trip and en-route information to motorists enabling them to make informed decisions to avoid problem areas.



EFFICIENTLY *Delivering Services*

Keeping the Community Safe

- Enhancements to Reverse 9-1-1: Seminole County has launched a self registration portal for our Reverse 9-1-1 system. Citizens can now manually register for the Reverse 9-1-1 system. Since many individuals have gone to cellular phones or voice-over-internet phones, the new link on the Prepare Seminole Web site will allow individuals to self register these devices to receive shelter in place orders during hazardous materials incidents and law enforcement activities, boil water notices, evacuations, and major emergencies that require the immediate action of citizens. From the Prepare Seminole Web site, www.prepareseminole.org, citizens are encouraged to select “Register for Reverse 9-1-1”.
- In an effort to protect our most valuable environmental resources and critical infrastructures, Seminole County has completely rewritten the County’s Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). The LMS was approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and State of Florida and adopted by the Seminole County Board of County Commission in 2010. By adopting this plan, Seminole County is better prepared to integrate mitigation actions into other community programs by: developing effective public education policies regarding mitigation, and obtaining disaster-related grants in the aftermath of a disaster.

Seminole County refinanced outstanding debt lowering debt service by \$200K annually through 2016 for a total of \$3.2M.

Self Sustaining Programs That Benefit Our Youth

- Prosecution Alternatives for Youth (PAY) celebrated the 15th anniversary of Teen Court. It was started with a Byrne Grant and is now self-sustaining with the fees generated by the Teen Court Ordinance adopted by the BCC in October, 2006.
- The teen after school driving program was offered at Lyman, Seminole and Winter Springs High Schools providing classroom instruction, range driving and on the road driving experiences. Teens going through the program have significantly fewer traffic violations/crashes. Cars used in the classes were donated by area businesses. The program is a joint effort with Seminole County Government, the cities, METROPLAN Orlando and Seminole County Public Schools.



Using Grants to Pay for Programs

Seminole County submitted 80 grant applications requesting a total of \$57.2 million through various federal, state and other grant programs. Of those applications, 52 were awarded for amounts totaling \$42.0M. Requests totaling \$11.2 million remained pending. A departmental breakdown for the FY 09/10 awards is as follows:

Public Works	\$23,500,833	55.9%
Community Services	\$13,942,133	33.2%
Central Services/Growth Mgmt	\$2,625,100	6.2%
Public Safety	\$1,465,738	3.5%
Leisure Services	\$436,172	1.0%
Other	\$61,555	0.2%
Total	\$42,031,531	100.0%

Using the same criteria as described above, Seminole County submitted 13 grant applications requesting a total of \$17.9 million through programs funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Of those applications, 6 were awarded for amounts totaling \$10.5M. The vast majority of these dollars were awarded for transportation related projects (\$7.9M) and the remaining (\$2.6M) was awarded for energy efficiency related projects. The largest source of ARRA-funded support in FY 09/10 was the Department of Transportation.



By the Numbers - How the County Serves You:

From 911 calls, building permits and park visits to traffic lights, Seminole County provides valuable services that affect your quality of life every day. Below are just a few statistics on how the County provided value added services last year.

Growth Management

- Coordinated **502 development project reviews** including **62 commercial site plans** and the creation of **447 single family lots**.
- Processed **9,992 building permits** for the 2010 year.
- Performed **46,003 inspections** for the 2010 fiscal year.
- Performed **7,121 plan reviews for permits**.

Environmental Services (Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Management)

- Our 18 water treatment plants and 2 wastewater treatment plants serve a total of **42,000 customers**. The County provides **reclaimed water to 1,106 customers**.
- The county provides **trash, yard waste and recycle collection** services to approximately **60,000 customers**.

Leisure Services (Parks, Libraries, Extension Services and Natural Lands)

- The County's **24 parks, 9 wilderness areas and 60 miles of trails** experienced over **2 million visits**.
- Over **4,800 people attend** the five County libraries **each day**. An average of 800 people per day use public computers and over **8,900 items are checked out daily**.
- Extension Services **served 5,329 youth** with 4-H programs during the year.

Road Maintenance and Traffic Operations

- Public Works rehabilitated over **48 lane miles of roadway** in Fiscal Year 09/10.
- **1,924 potholes were filled** using 142 tons of hot mix asphalt countywide.
- **47.5 miles of roadside ditches were cleaned** countywide.
- **710 ponds maintained**.
- Completed 3,662 maintenance work orders on a total of **400 traffic signals**.
- Installed a total of 518 and **maintained 16,679 signs**.
- Removed and replaced **136 miles of roadway markings**.
- Maintained over **300 roadway miles of fiber optic communications cable**.
- The County installed **4 more mast arm traffic signals** (Seminola @ Winter Park, McCulloch @ Lockwood, Bear Lake @ Bunnell, Palm Springs @ North).
- Installation of 13 UPS (Uninterrupted Power Systems) at several high-volume intersections (US 17-92, SR 434, SR 436, SR 46 and SR 426).
- **29 Variable Message Signs** convey real-time traffic information to motorists and can provide detour routing for incidents on Interstate 4 as well as Amber Alerts.

Public Safety

- Animal Services **adopted out 1,507 animals** in 2010.
- Emergency Communications Center processed nearly **61,000 calls for service**.
- **EMS/Fire/Rescue responded to 29,212 calls** of which 19,990 were emergency medical service related resulting in 13,932 patients transported.
- The **Probation Division processed 6,568 persons** under all types of supervision in 2010, compared to 5,852 persons in 2009.



EFFICIENTLY *Delivering Services*

Volunteers Help the County in Many Ways

Volunteers have a positive, sustainable impact in our community that can be seen every day. Data suggests that volunteer hours equal \$18.20 per hour. Our volunteers not only save the County money but are part of a community building effort that is priceless.

- PAY currently has approximately 50 volunteer Hearing Officers who conduct over 500 hearings annually. They also serve as judges for the Teen Court program. With preparation time included, that computes to over 1,100 volunteer hours annually, for a taxpayer savings of over \$20,000.
- The Natural Lands program logged 6,300 hours of volunteer work assisting with everything from hog trapping, exotic plant control, educational programming and animal care at the nature center.
- An average of 65 volunteers each month gave over 8,928 hours of their own time last year to the Library helping prepare for and assisting in children's literacy programming & crafts; working with circulations staff by checking in thousands of books on hold, shelving books and finding lists of reserve books!
- 4-H Program: Adult Volunteer Hours: 17,211 = \$313,240 for Community Service and Training, Youth Hours: 1,444 = \$10,469 for Community Service and Training
- 81 trained Master Gardeners gave 50 hours each in services back to our County in services to the community in 2010.
- The Lake Management Program restoration events were the most successful in terms of volunteer support logging in 10,386 hours (almost 4,000 more hours than last year). Lake restoration events were held at Tuskawilla Lake and Red Bug Lake and on the annual "Volunteer Day," 12 cleanup/invasive removal sites in the County were worked on by volunteers.
- Animal Services - volunteers logged over 19,000 hours working in the shelter, at County sponsored events and fostering animals which would have been euthanized because of age or condition.
- The 2010 Air Potato Raid was the largest most successful Air Potato Raid in its 8 year history. Over 1,000 volunteers participated at the Spring Hammock Preserve to collect over 10,000 lbs of this invasive and exotic species that threatens our native habitats and wildlife.



Everyone who volunteers is an extraordinary individual. Below are how only two of our many amazing volunteers contribute their talents.

- Jim Hunter, a Seminole County Extension Master Gardener, has volunteered at Seminole County's Extension Services for 20 years. Over the past 20 years he has spent over 1,120 hours in the office and given horticultural advice and recommendations to over 16,800 people! Jim has also established himself as the resident expert on SGTV's Master Gardener program. He has taped four shows that have aired on Bright House cable channel 199 which can be viewed "on demand" on the County's Web site.
- Library volunteer Jeanne Wagner, who turned 90 in July 2010 will celebrate her 27th year of volunteering for the library in February 2011. In 2010 Jeanne mended 1,685 books thus saving the library \$35,385.00 using the average cost per book of \$21.

Growth management is imperative for the quality of life in this region, and Seminole County is taking a proactive approach to ensure that growth is positive and creates a sustainable community.

Making Sure Flooding is Minimized

Seminole County launched a new campaign to protect the floodplain by the development of a Floodplain Management Plan. This comprehensive plan assessed the vulnerability of the County to flood events and action items to protect citizens and property from this hazard. The plan incorporates a variety of engineering, environmental protection and planning measures. In addition, it includes flood control maintenance activities, stormwater management, protection of frequently flooded areas under growth management, watershed management, and preparedness activities.

Improving Pedestrian Safety

Sidewalks have always been among the projects that Seminole County has added as it grows, in order to improve pedestrian safety especially near public schools. In 2010, the County began to shift its 'mobility planning' to an increased emphasis on pedestrian, transit and bicycle improvements. Several projects were identified for budgeting purposes and added to the Capital Improvements Element of the Comprehensive Plan. Projects include:

- Sidewalk improvements on Wymore Road from Lake Destiny Drive to SR 436 to connect to bus stops (construction is currently underway);
- A sidewalk on Greenwood Blvd that will connect to an adjacent bus stop;
- Sidewalks on CR 46A (in design) for both Seminole High and Millennium Middle Schools;
- Sidewalks constructed on Hattaway Drive in 2010-2011 from SR 436 to Sharon Drive to provide access to bus stops on SR 436;
- Airport Blvd. from Academy Avenue to McCracken Road, now in design, to connect to bus stops on the old section of Airport Road. In the Midway area, sidewalks are planned to be added during 2010-2011 on Brisson Avenue, Crawford Drive, Byrd Avenue and Kings Road, to connect to bus stops and Midway Elementary School;
- In the East Altamonte Area, sidewalks are planned during 2011-2012 for Station Street, Marker Street and Morse Street to connect to the Sunrail station and SR 436 bus stops;
- Both bike lanes and sidewalks are planned for sections of: SR 436 at Red Bug Lake Road, Chapman Road, SR 426 at CR 419, Dean Road, Bunnell Road – Eden Park Avenue and CR 419.

The County has received approximately \$1,500,000 in Florida Department of Transportation "Safe Routes to School" funding for sidewalk construction connecting Wilson, Walker, Eastbrook and Altamonte Elementary Schools to their neighboring communities.

Mobility Strategies

- Achieved state approval of comprehensive plan policies that define a mobility strategy based on the characteristics of urban portions of the County. The strategy will enable the County to emphasize access to transit, bicycle and pedestrian features, rather than solely planning for roadway capacity expansion, both for County service and facility budgeting and as part of development approval.
- Identified Mobility Strategy projects within the Capital Improvements Element (CIE) of the Comprehensive Plan, including sidewalk improvements that will improve access to Sunrail stations and LYNX bus stops, and improvements that focus on bicycle mobility.



PROTECTING THE Environment

Seminole County is Florida's Natural Choice, and your government continues to work hard every day to sustain this reputation. The County is engaged in many measures that protect the quality of the natural environment.

Conserving Our Drinking Water

The County is actively seeking ways to conserve drinking water. Two notable accomplishments were:

- The County offers a free irrigation evaluation program. Over 1,000 irrigation evaluations were completed and over 700 rain sensors were replaced in 2010.
- Expanded the reclaimed water system to Alaqua Lakes adding 500 customers that can use reclaimed instead of drinking water for irrigation.

Trash to Energy

Seminole County operates a Gas-To-Energy Facility at the Osceola Road Landfill that takes methane emitted from the landfill and converts it to electricity. During fiscal year 2010, the facility combusted over 948 million standard cubic feet of landfill gas that otherwise would have been wasted to produce nearly 44 million KWH of electricity (enough power for about 2,600 homes).

Keeping the County Clean

Solid Waste Management Division managed 287,000 tons of garbage, 52,000 tons of yard waste, 17,000 tons of recyclables, 5,300 tons of construction and demolition debris, 430 tons of white goods-appliances and 560 tons of waste tires.

Minimizing Pollution

Solid Waste also kept polluting waste from reaching the landfill. The Household Hazardous Waste Program collected and managed 739,501 pounds of hazardous waste, 397,600 pounds of old electronics, 11,120 pounds of medical sharps (needles) and 8,329 gallons of used oil from more than 18,600 residential customers. The County Landfill also now receives some household hazardous waste including: used oil, propane tanks and batteries.

Improving the Quality of Our Waterways

Seminole County's Education and Restoration Volunteer Program (SERV) has had a monumental year with the creation and Board approval of the program. This is due to the creation of new partnerships with community members and local schools that involve the integration of ongoing educational presentations and active restoration projects. Most notably, the Lake Management Program restoration events were the most successful in terms of volunteer support (volunteer hours increased from 6,297 to 10,386 in 2010).

In addition, the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) program educates homeowners about the impact of their landscape practices and changes their behavior in order to improve water quality through sustainable landscapes. The FYN program worked specifically with lakefront homeowners about lake protection at five lakes and also reached five HOA's in 2010. The FYN program taught 27 Florida-friendly landscaping classes reaching an additional 1,580 people.

Environmental Education

Environmental programming reached over 2,000 participants with the message of learning and living in harmony with the natural surroundings.



Last year County offices donated 1,580 empty toner/ink cartridges to Habitat for Humanity to be recycled and reused rather than just thrown away.

Improving Environmental Lands

Seminole County manages more than 6,600 acres of Natural Lands at 13 separate locations. In 2010, one new wilderness area opened for public access, Lake Harney, creating access to 300 acres and several miles of nature trails. Natural areas also need regular maintenance. The 2010 Air Potato Raid conducted at the Spring Hammock Preserve was the largest most successful Air Potato Raid in its eight year history. Over 1,000 volunteers participated to collect over 10,000 lbs of the air potato, an invasive and exotic species that threatens the native habitat in our natural areas.

Parks Hosted a “Green” Tournament

Seminole County hosted the very first NCAA “Green” Tennis Tournament in Florida – hosting 32 men’s and women’s college teams from around the country. Over 3,000 plastic bottles which equals 300 lbs were recycled at this single event! The event also introduced “The Life of a Tennis Ball” – to show how tennis balls can provide hours of entertainment from competition, instruction and play.

Protecting the Water Supply from Leaking Fuel

The Petroleum Compliance Program ensures that facilities that operate regulated petroleum storage tank systems are in compliance with Department of Environmental Protection Rules, and that these facilities are not releasing hazardous pollutants to the environment of Seminole County. The Petroleum Compliance Program completed 581 inspections on 357 regulated facilities during the last fiscal year. Of the 357 facilities, 73 were found to be out of compliance with Department of Environmental Protection Rules for their tank system and had to be corrected.

The Petroleum Storage Tanks Bureau’s Petroleum Cleanup Program oversees the assessment and remediation of petroleum storage facilities that have documented releases to the environment. During the last fiscal year the Petroleum Cleanup Program oversaw cleanup activities on 118 facilities that have documented releases across Seminole County and determined that 19 of the reported discharges had been fully abated during the fiscal year.

The funding source for both programs comes entirely from annual grants from the State’s Inland Protection Trust Fund administered by the Department of Environmental Protection’s Bureau of Petroleum Storage Systems.



Eight Eco Camps were held at several locations around the County last year to help children ages 8 - 15 increase their appreciation for nature, science and the environment.

FOSTERING Economic Growth

Promoting economic growth and opportunity for the businesses within our community is essential to the future of the County. Through our partnerships, business development incentives and expanding tourism, we have maintained a thriving economy.

US 17-92 CRA

The US 17-92 Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) continues to expand the economic opportunities of the County and our partners: Casselberry, Lake Mary, Sanford and Winter Springs. Building upon last year's capital investment, the US 17-92 CRA approved five public projects with a capital investment of \$1,851,718 that improved the corridor with decorative street lighting; low maintenance, drought tolerant landscaping; sidewalk and storm drain improvements; and water, sanitary sewer and reclaimed water line extensions. In addition, nine private partnership projects with a capital investment of \$1,323,407 enabled businesses to enhance the corridor.

Attracting New Jobs to the County

The Economic Development Program helped attract new jobs to the County with 7 projects generating 1,151 jobs with an average wage of \$49,907 and a total capital investment of \$15.2 million:

- Roses Southeast Papers
- BNY/Mellon Investment Management Services, Inc.
- Pershing, LLC
- ACD Search Engine Optimization Online, LLC
- Calvert Manufacturing, Inc.
- Fiserv
- EZ Yield.com, Inc.

Tourism, a Vital Part of the Economy

Working closely with the area hotels, attractions and restaurants, Tourism played a vital role on the economic impact in Seminole County. Last year, our community benefited by more than \$20 million dollars in economic impact – as over 40 sporting events came to our County, generating approximately 16,141 hotel room bookings.

The most notable sporting event in 2010 was the US Soccer Club's Elite Club National League Showcase held at Sylvan Lake Park and Sports Training Center. The Elite Club National League (ECNL) girl's soccer showcase took place December 27 - 29 at Lake Sylvan Park and the Seminole Soccer Complex, with a total of 112 teams participating, representing 22 different states. More than 3,000 people traveled to Seminole County including players, family members, coaches and college recruiters. The Seminole County Tourist Development Council (TDC) reported that the event generated nearly \$2.2 million in direct economic impact for Seminole County, and dramatic increases of up to 80% in restaurant sales and other attractions during that time.

Agriculture Still Plays a Role in the County

The County's Extension Office has a Commercial Horticulture/Agriculture Agent that provides trainings and support for niche agricultural industries within Seminole County including small scale/urban vegetable production, blueberries and other tree fruit production, hydroponic vegetable production, and honey production. These industries represent a \$17.8 million agricultural industry.

The bitter cold of 2010 caused major crop damage and substantial economic drain to the agriculture industry in Seminole County. Through the efforts of County Extension Office and Department of Public Safety, small business low interest loans were made available to farmers and the agriculture businesses to help to keep employees working and businesses growing.



One of the roles of government is to manage and satisfy the needs of its community. Seminole County addresses social needs through quality, innovative programs and initiatives.

Community Services: Helping Those in Need

Seminole County offers services to assist those who have nowhere to turn for help. The County's home and financial assistance offices saw increases in service needs.

- Community Assistance met with over 3,500 citizens (a 20% increase) this past year who were experiencing a financial hardship. The division provided help to prevent homelessness, loss of utilities and other critical services such as dental, vision, burial and hospital care.
- Community Assistance provided approximately \$500,000 to assist homeless families with children through partnerships with CBC of Seminole and Jewish Family Services.
- Community Development received \$7,000,000 in Federal funding under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program which resulted in over 65 homes that were in foreclosure being purchased, rehabilitated and either sold or rented to low income families.
- Over \$3,000,000 in Federal HUD Community Development Block Grant Funds and State SHIP Funds were used to assist low income neighborhoods with infrastructure improvements, home rehabilitation, senior housing, down payment assistance and foreclosure prevention.
- Seminole County Veterans Services Office had 12,543 client contacts, 50% more than the previous fiscal year with over 2,700 individuals or families assisted.



Creating a Healthier Community

- More than 15,000 Seminole County youth and adults participated in recreational sports, events and wellness programs in County parks and trails over the past year.
- Seminole County Extension Service trained approximately 10,000 families on sustainability in 2010. Topics covered ranged from food preservation to gardening techniques – helping residents be more self sufficient and save on grocery expenses.
- Food and Nutrition Education Program taught 1,746 participants this year covering the subjects of increasing consumption of whole grains, fruits and vegetables, consuming low-fat dairy products and proteins, lowering fat intake, reading labels, food safety practices and money saving techniques.
- The Seminole County Family Nutrition Program (FNP) provides nutrition education to children who attend schools where 51% or more of the student population is eligible to receive a free or reduced school lunch. Eight schools received FNP programming. Seminole County FNP serves as a pilot program for the state of Florida.



Building a Smarter Community

Evolving into a community gathering place for information and resources, walk into our libraries and see our citizens learning to e-mail grandchildren, conduct a job search, prepare for early reading at story time and doing research for school assignments. 289,457 citizens have a library card...that's around 70% of our county population of 420,100 or two of every three Seminole County residents have a library card.

During the year, libraries provided story programs that introduced reading to 63,323 parents and children. The library also participated in the Collaborative Summer Library Program funded by the State Library and the Friends of the Library. This highly successful program kept 7,414 children reading in Seminole County over the summer.

MAKING A Difference in the Community

Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

In 2010, 4,648 6th grade students participated in our 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Program. That equals 91% of all 6th graders in the county and that is just one of the programs 4-H offers. 4-H programs and activities help youth ages 5 - 18 years of age develop leadership skills with programs including: Science, Engineering and Technology; Citizenship, Leadership and Communication Arts; Individual, Family and Consumer Science; Environmental Education and Agriculture.

Prosecution for Youth (PAY)

The PAY program offers both Community Arbitration and Teen Court programs as an alternative to pre-adjudicated youth charged as first time offenders with misdemeanors or those youths who are charged with a misdemeanor or non-violent third-degree felony offenses. The PAY Program offers an opportunity to divert youths from the juvenile justice system and juvenile detention.

- PAY provided services to an average of 1,100 youthful offenders per year, which is approximately one-third of annual juvenile arrests for Seminole County.
- The program-wide one year recidivism rate has averaged 9% for the past five years, compared to the court/probation rate, which is between 35 and 40%.
- Last year almost 300 young clients participated in the Teen Court program, with a successful completion rate of 93% .
- PAY clients performed almost 11,000 community service hours and repaid nearing \$15,000 in restitution.
- The cost for serving a juvenile through diversion is approximately \$600, while the cost of court processing is estimated at \$2,000 per client. For the 1066 clients served by PAY in FY 09/10, this represents a savings to taxpayers of \$1,492,400.
- Expanded the Teen Court program into one Middle School as a demonstration project. The intent is to expand this program into other schools in the coming year.

Appreciation of our Community's Heritage

Seminole County through the Museum of Seminole County History provides a link to the past and educates our citizens about what has been so that future generations can appreciate being a part of our history. During 2010, the Museum added its 55th historical marker in the county at the George C. Means Memorial Bridge near Cameron Wight Park.

Support for Haiti

Seminole County supported the United States and the country of Haiti with the largest evacuation and repatriation of citizens in U.S. history. During the operations, the Orlando Sanford International Airport (OSIA) was the primary site for individuals evacuating Haiti immediately after a devastating earthquake caused millions of dollars of damage and thousands of injuries. The Emergency Operations Center was activated for five weeks during the course of this event. OSIA saw more evacuees pass through the terminal building than all other airports in the State of Florida combined.

County Employees Have the Spirit of Giving

Seminole County employees give back to the community they serve by participating in activities and events throughout the year. Despite the slow economy, the Charitable Giving Committee selected several agencies in which to support. Employees collected over 2,000 lbs. of food, they donated toys to over 100 children, they raised almost \$2,000 for terminally ill adults and children, they collected back-to-school supplies for two local schools, collected clothing and blankets for earthquake victims and they formed a team to walk in several benefits. Employees also participated in nine community events and donated over 40 hours of their time.

A young man who had successfully completed the PAY program returned as Teen Court adult volunteer. Originally charged with Petit Theft, he successfully completed his assigned sanctions. Since that time he has completed his two year degree in Criminal Justice and is planning to continue his education at the University of Central Florida, with the goal of pursuing a career in Criminal Justice.



Seminole County has one of the lowest tax rates in the Central Florida area with a millage rate of 4.8751.



Seminole County Budget Summary

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2010/11 adopted budget for Seminole County totals \$774.9 million, a **decrease of \$110 million** from the FY 2009/10 budget. The budget includes \$19.6 million of cash brought forward for grants and capital equipment funded by special revenue sources.

The County's base operating and capital spending plan totals \$462.9 million with estimated incoming revenue of \$427 million. The adopted budget was amended to include \$315 million of cash brought forward for capital improvement and operating projects not completed in the prior year.

A conservative and proactive financial management approach is being maintained to ensure the County sustains a strong financial position. The financial challenges that lie ahead are being managed through a long-term fiscal planning perspective, as higher reserves have been maintained to provide stability during the economic downturn. By continued focus on our service delivery and effective business practices, critical services can continue in a stable tax environment.

Unincorporated Residential Home Property Tax Calculation with an Average Taxable Value of \$123,000

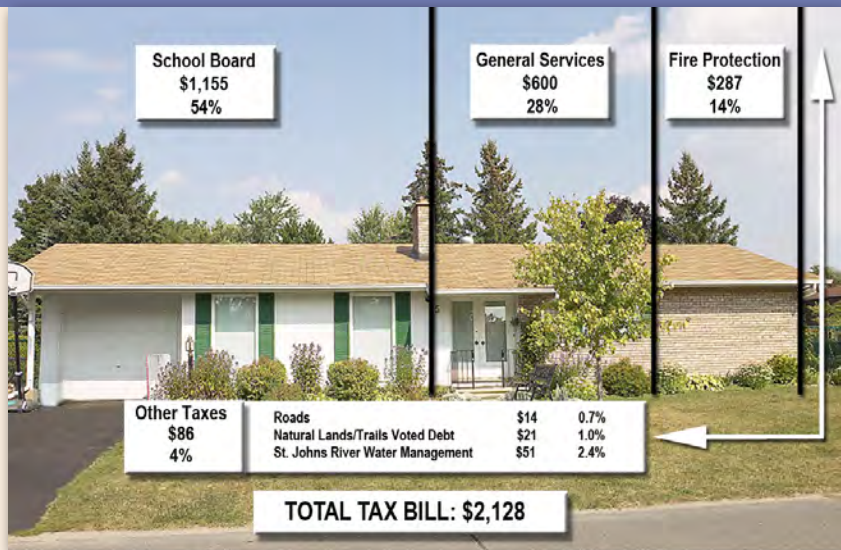
(Includes a \$50K Countywide and a \$25K Homestead Exemption)

School Board: The School Board is responsible for public schools pursuant to Florida Statutes and State Board of Education rules. Residents receive only a \$25K homestead exemption because schools were excluded from Amendment 1 homestead exemptions.

General Services: The Seminole County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) determines the county-wide ad valorem taxes required for county-wide services such as law enforcement, court facilities, roads, drainage, libraries, parks and other general government responsibilities.

Fire Protection: A Municipal Service Taxing Unit providing for fire protection and prevention, and rescue/emergency medical services for unincorporated Seminole County, Altamonte Springs, Winter Springs, and areas included by special mutual aid agreements.

Other Taxes: *Roads* - A Municipal Service Taxing Unit supporting transportation systems for local feeder roads, distributor roads and access roads within unincorporated Seminole County. *Natural Lands/Trails Voted Debt* - Countywide voter approved debt service millage necessary to repay bonds issued to acquire natural/environmental lands and to construct a countywide trails system. Debt retirement will be in FY 2012/13. *St. Johns River Water Management District* - One of Florida's five water management taxing districts whose mission is to preserve and manage Florida's water resources. This agency manages groundwater and surface water in all or part of 18 counties in northeast and east-central Florida.



SEMINOLE COUNTY FOCUS IN 2010

GETTING READY FOR THE Future

Becoming More Energy Efficient

Seminole County was awarded \$2,925,100 from the U.S. Department of Energy to reduce total energy use and improve energy efficiency in County facilities. Under the grant, Seminole County will install energy efficient HVAC upgrades, roofs and energy efficient pumps at two water treatment plants. Funds will also be used to review and amend the County's Land Development Code to include energy efficient related measures to increase energy conservation in private development.

Developing Better Transportation & Growth Strategies

Focusing on pedestrian safety throughout the County as a whole, the County is working on an overall mobility strategy in partnership with the cities that will have an emphasis on pedestrian, transit and bicycle improvements.

Growth Management will be engaged in process improvement initiatives including:

- Expediting the permit review, inspections and development review processes to reduce cost and time to the development community.
- Updating the Land Development Code to be more responsive to the changing economic conditions.
- Reviewing current code enforcement procedures to ensure quality of life is maintained in Seminole County.

Job Creation

The Economic Development (ED) Task Force which began in January 2011 will be working to craft a new ED strategy for the County which will be completed in May/June 2011. Although Seminole County has seen job creation of about 1,000 jobs per year, more jobs have been lost than gained since 2008 due to economic conditions. The Task Force will be crafting strategies to counter this trend.

Focusing on our Utility Customers

The Environmental Services Department will be implementing several new ways to improve customer service including:

- AMR technology installations in meter reading to improve accuracy
- Credit and debit card payments acceptance at some teller windows
- Water treatment plant upgrades for the Southeast Regional, Markham, Country Club and the Lynwood Water Treatment Plants.
- Completion of phase 1 of the Yankee Lake Surface Water facility.

A Better Park for the Winwood Community

Grant funding will be making a difference in our community. Winwood Park will be getting replacement sports amenities, playground and improved parking. The anticipated completion is March 2011.

Coordinating Care for the Homeless

Since the demand for assistance services continues to be on the rise, Community Assistance is facilitating community collaboration among social service providers to improve coordination of services and either expand or improve services, particularly for those who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness.

The County is engaged in continuously improving. From using grant money to save the citizens money to looking at new service options, becoming more green or streamlining processes, the County is focused on creating a better community in the future.



HOW TO Get Involved

Citizen involvement is instrumental in running a successful government. By volunteering, participating in programs and events and being informed, the community will be an even better place to live, work, learn and play.

We're Just a Click Away

Log on to the Seminole County Web site, www.seminolecountyfl.gov, and find everything you need to know about our programs and services. Pay your water bill, fill out an employment application, read about upcoming events or watch Seminole Government Television (SGTV), which is streamed live 24-hours per day.

Donate Your Time

At Seminole County there's something for just about everyone when it comes to volunteering. Whether you love getting hands-on with dogs and reptiles, walking through the beautiful outdoors, cleaning our local lakes and rivers or making a difference in the life of a child, we can provide you with an opportunity. Check out the **"Make a Difference! Volunteer"** link on the right side of the County's Web site for more information.

Be a Spectator

Attend public meetings, participate in County-sponsored events and see how your understanding and appreciation of your community grows. Throughout the year, the County offers many programs and events for your education and enjoyment, including Safe Kids car seat safety checks, the Library summer reading program, Animal Services Responsible Pet Ownership Day and night hikes through our natural lands. To learn more about the County's codes and primary issues, attend one of our public meetings such as: the Board of County Commissioners, Code Enforcement Board, Planning and Zoning Board and the Board of Adjustment.

Get into the Action on an Advisory Board or Committee

Citizens who want to make an active difference in the community are encouraged to apply for one of our many advisory boards or committees. Board members should have an interest or experience in the area of service desired and the necessary expertise to accomplish the goals and objectives of that Board. Many of the Boards require financial disclosure and, if selected, the appointee would be to file a Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests within 30 days of appointment. Anyone interested in serving on a Board or Committee must complete an **Appointment Information Form** (www.seminolecountyfl.gov/bcc/form.asp). Board and committee descriptions and the application form can be found on the County's Web site at www.seminolecountyfl.gov/bcc/advisory. Interested parties can also call 407-665-7201. Sign up today.

Invite Us for a Talk

Let us do the work for you. The **Seminole County Speakers' Bureau** is available to provide highly professional and knowledgeable public speakers for your civic organization, church, club, Home Owners' Association or school, and it's free. There are more than 100 topics to choose from including: animal care, financial matters, health and wellness, gardening and water conservation. Visit the Web site at www.seminolecountyfl.gov/cm/sbureau or call 407-665-7224 to request a speaker or for more information.

Watch Us on 199

SGTV, the County's 24-hour cable channel, broadcasts on Bright House Networks, Channel 199. The award-winning channel features live County meetings; an informational show on County programs and local events, Seminole Scoop; State and Federal programs and original programming about the County's services and community events.



COUNTY FACILITY Locations

COUNTY MAIN OFFICE LOCATIONS:

COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING • 1101 East First Street, Sanford
 Location for: Administration, Board of County Commissioners, Fiscal Services, Human Resources, Information Technology Operations, Planning & Development, County Attorney, Property Appraiser and Tax Collector

1

CIVIL COURTHOUSE • 301 North Park Avenue, Sanford
 Location for: Court Functions - Civil Trials and Clerk of the Circuit Court (Marriage Licenses, Passports, Power of Attorney)

2

HEALTH DEPARTMENT • 400 West Airport Boulevard, Sanford (3)
 108 Sausalito Boulevard, Casselberry (9) Locations for: Health Services and Department

3

9

REFLECTIONS PLAZA COMPLEX • NW corner of Lake Mary Boulevard and Hidden Lake Drive, Sanford Location for: Environmental Services, Community Services, Veterans' Services and the Engineering Division of Public Works

4

SHERIFF & PUBLIC SAFETY • 100 & 150 Bush Boulevard, Sanford
 Location for: Seminole County Sheriff's Office and Public Safety

5

CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER • 101 Bush Boulevard, Sanford
 Location for: Court Functions - Criminal Trials & Clerk of the Circuit Court (Pay Traffic Tickets)

6

FIVE POINTS OPERATIONS CENTER • NW corner of County Home Road and U.S. 17-92, Sanford. Location for: Animal Services, Extension Services, Museum of Seminole County History, Roads - Stormwater, Traffic Engineering and Public Works Administration

7

CENTRAL TRANSFER STATION • 1950 State Road 419, Longwood
 Location for: Solid Waste Management including Recycling, Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Sharps Collection, etc.

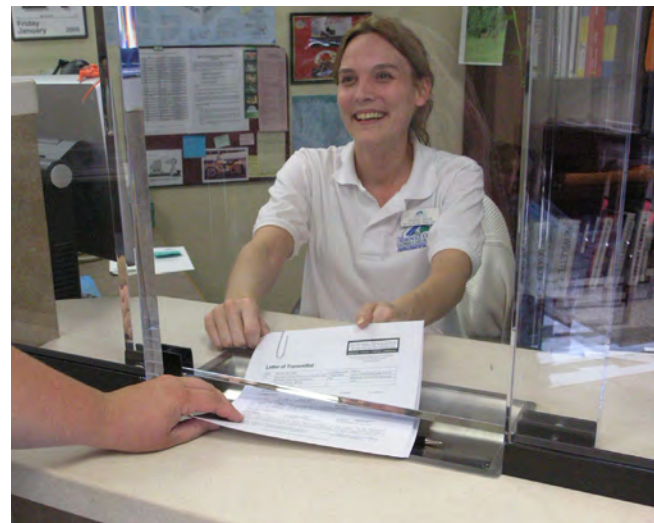
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • 1055 AAA Drive, Heathrow
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU (TOURISM)
 1000 AAA Drive, Suite 200, Heathrow, FL 32746. Location for Tourist Information.

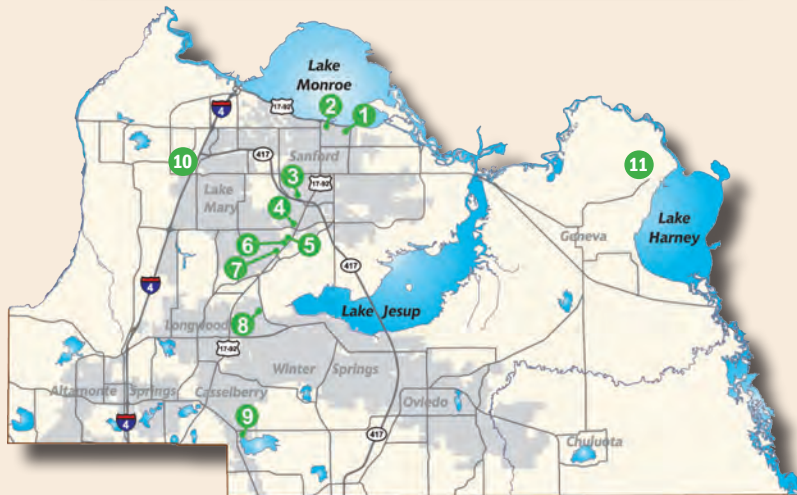
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COUNTY LANDFILL • 1930 E. Osceola Road, Geneva. Main Location for: Trash Collection

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LOCATION MAP OF COUNTY FACILITIES





SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
1101 East First St. • Sanford, FL 32771
(407) 665-0311 or Dial 311 • www.seminolecountyfl.gov

OTHER COUNTY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
(407) 665-4330
www.seminoleclerk.org
Civil Courthouse • 301 North Park Ave.
Sanford, FL 32771



HEALTH DEPARTMENT
(407) 665-3000
www.seminolecohealth.com
400 West Airport Blvd.
Sanford, FL 32773



PROPERTY APPRAISER
(407) 665-7506
www.scpafl.org
1101 East First St.
Sanford, FL 32771



SHERIFF'S OFFICE
(407) 665-6600
www.seminolesheriff.org
100 Bush Blvd. • Sanford, FL 32773



SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
(407) 708-7700
www.voteseminole.org
1500 E. Airport Blvd. • Sanford, FL 32773



TAX COLLECTOR
(407) 665-1000
www.seminoletax.org
1101 East First St. • Sanford, FL 32771

