



# Pender County Government Update

## Department

### COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

#### **4-H Youth Development - Traci Spencer –**

The Agent attended the Eastern Regional 4-H Shooting Sports Tournament with the Pender County 4-H Holly Shelter Shooting Sports Club and helped score the Senior Rifle Competition. Team members placed in many categories and four were invited to compete in the State 4-H Shooting Sports Competition in October. The club also held a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser in Hampstead to raise funds for inventory such as clay pigeons and air pistols.

Attended the NC Extension 4-H Agent Association Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference in Boone.

Pender Co. 4-H Robotics club at Pender High School will be going to the First Robotics THOR competition at Topsail High School **September 18, 2021**.

**4-H Teen Council Meeting, 5:30 pm, September 28, 2021.** Lillie Hansen, newly elected Southeast District 4-H Vice President, will be introduced to new 4-H teens and discuss plans for the fair.

**National 4-H Week begins October 3rd through the 9th.** There will be an ice cream social and 4-H Open House outside of the auditorium and attendees may view the National kick off live stream event in the auditorium. Tractor Supply in Rocky Point will be taking clover donations for 4-H at their store. All donations are matched by Tractors Supply and the proceeds go to the Pender County 4-H program.

**4-H and Empowering Youth and Families** will be setting up an informational booth at the Back to School Bash at Burgaw Middle School. **October 7, 2021.**

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#### **Consumer Horticulture - Tiffanee Boone –**

The Pender County Extension Master Gardener volunteers 2021 Speakers Bureau program topics, times and locations can be found on this website: <https://pender.ces.ncsu.edu/2021/08/pender-county-extension-master-gardeners-speakers-bureau-update/>

Horticulture in the Classroom program for Pender County elementary students is re-starting through zoom.

EMGV's held a plant sale at Poplar Grove Plantation earlier this week and are planning another one on September 29th from 8-1 pm. They will have a late fall plant sale, and a youth activity at Poplar Grove's Halloween Festival "Goosebumps in the Grove" on October 30th from 10-5 pm and October 31st from 10-4 pm.

They are accepting applications for horticultural grants until September 30th. Information about the grants and the grant application can be found here: <https://pender.ces.ncsu.edu/2021/09/horticultural-grants/>

Research is being conducted to find disease resistant basil varieties. First year results from statewide plots will be released soon.

A rain garden presentation with hands-on learning opportunities was held Saturday, September 11, 2021. Eleven (11) participants learned about native plants and how to build a rain garden.

A new initial Master Gardener class is planned for January. Applications are due December 1st and can be found here: <https://pender.ces.ncsu.edu/2020/01/nc-state-extension-master-gardener-pender-county-initial-certification-training/>

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#### **Area Natural Resources and Environmental Education Agent - Amy Mead**

The Agent attended the NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation training for rain garden construction and utilizing state Community Conservation Assistance Program funds for stormwater BMP construction

Co-hosted the Rain Garden and Native Plant Workshop on September 11, 2021.

Working on the Eagle's Island Central Park Task Force to provide sustainable and environmentally sound development recommendations for this area.

Working with homeowner associations and individual homeowners in the region to teach storm water run off management strategies to mitigate localized flooding and improve backyard sustainability.

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#### **Agriculture and Commercial Horticulture / Administration / Community Development Mark Seitz, County Extension Director –**

##### **Agriculture / Commercial Horticulture**

**Crop Update:** Field corn harvest is approximately 60% complete across the county with good to excellent yields. Harvest has been delayed because grain elevators are full. No significant rain in nearly 6 weeks is good for corn harvest but farmers are losing yield potential in soybeans. Strawberry farmers began fumigating land and laying plastic for weed control to plant strawberries in early October. Fall armyworm migrations have been heavy and caused a 100% loss in a 200-acre soybean field near Angola Bay. Fall armyworm larvae (worms) hatched in early September and ate the entire field in four days!!! This was an extremely rare, isolated, event but is an example of how quickly crop losses can occur.

##### **Pesticide Applicator Training:**

Re-certification classes for private and commercial pesticide applicator license holders will be held at the Ag Building, 801 S. Walker Street, Burgaw, NC 28425 on **Thursday September 30, 2021**. The first session will begin at 10 AM and cover specialty training (X credits) with the second session beginning at 1 PM (V – safety). Private applicators will need 2 hours of X and 2 hours of V to automatically renew their licenses. License holders can look up their re-certification hours on this NC Department of Agriculture website:

<https://apps.ncagr.gov/AgRSysPortal/publiclicensesearch/index>

Pesticide applicator core exam training is being held for Heide Trask High School Agriculture Students. Currently 14 students are studying to take the NCDA&CS Pesticide Applicator Exam as part of their high school Ag curriculum.

##### **Community Development**

CED will be presenting information on County Trade Pull Factors and County Tier Status. Oct. 8, 2021 at the Topsail Chamber of Commerce and November 8, 2021 in Savannah, GA at the National Extension Tourism Conference. A revised FY 20-21 report is being worked on pending release of county level data from the NC Commerce Department.



# Pender County Government Update

## Department

### PARKS & RECREATION

- Our next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting is Tuesday September 21st in the BOCC meeting room in Burgaw.
- Join Pender County Sheriffs Office, the Holly Shelter Shooting Range and Pender County Parks & Recreation for a Women's Intro Shooting Clinic on October 2nd. For more information or to register call 910-259-1330. Flyer is attached.
- Join us on October 20th for Cosmic Bingo at Penderlea Community Park. Flyer is attached. Register online at: <https://penderpr.recdesk.com/Community/Program>
- On October 23rd at Hampstead Kiwanis Park we are hosting our first ever kick or treat event. The event includes live music, a food truck rodeo and a Halloween Kickball tournament. Register your kickball team online at: <https://penderpr.recdesk.com/Community/Program>
- Today staff met with our consultants from McGill to kickoff the update to the parks and recreation master plan. More information to come about the update process in the coming weeks.
- Our Nature Explorers environmental education series continues in October featuring Bats and Beavers. Programs will be held at Millers Pond Park and at Hampstead Kiwanis Park. Flyer is attached.
- Our youth athletics recreation partner programs are in full swing with the Fall seasons at Hampstead Kiwanis Park, Hampstead United Methodist Church Athletic Fields and Pender Memorial Park.
- The Holly Shelter Shooting Range had a total of 814 shooters for the month of August.



# Bats and Beavers

Come learn all about bats and beavers and discover what they have in common!

Millers Pond Park:  
October 7th

Hampstead Kiwanis  
Park: October 21st

Free Program  
6:00 PM - 7:00 pm  
Hands on activities  
Crafts and more!

*"One flies through the air with the greatest of ease,  
the other swims and thinks nothing of gnawing  
through trees."*





# Cosmic Bingo

Under Black Lights

**October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**

**Price Includes**

Ten rounds of Bingo  
Glow Bingo Dauber  
Glow Sticks

**A chance to win awesome prizes**

**\$15** Per player

**OR**

**\$40** for four  
players

**Penderlea Community Park**

**Pre register at [Penderpr.recdesk.com](http://Penderpr.recdesk.com) or  
Scan the QR code**



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PENDER COUNTY  
Parks & Recreation

# KICK OR TREAT

## HALLOWEEN KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 23RD 1PM HAMPSTEAD KIWANIS PARK

**COSTUMES ENCOURAGED**

6-15 PEOPLE PER TEAM

SINGLE ELIMINATION

\$50 PER TEAM

**PRIZES FOR:**

WINNING TEAM

BEST DRESSED TEAM

BEST DRESSED INDIVIDUAL

REGISTER AT [HTTPS://PENDERPR.RECDESK.COM](https://penderpr.recdesk.com)

**OR** SCAN THE QR CODE FOR REGISTRATION



LIVE MUSIC  
FOOD TRUCKS  
AND MORE!

**Presented by WOMEN ON TARGET**

**Sponsored by**

**Pender County Parks & Recreation**

**Pender County Sheriff's Office**

**Holly Shelter Shooting Range**



# Women's Intro Shooting Clinic

**Saturday, October 2nd**

**\$25 for 6 hours of training**

**@ Pender County Sheriff's Office and  
Holly Shelter Shooting Range**

**Classroom training - Pistol instruction - Rifle instruction**

**Firearms, ammunition and targets will be provided**

**Gift bag with eye and hearing protection and other swag**

**For more information or to register, contact  
Pender County Parks & Recreation at 910-259-1330**

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# Pender County Government Update

Department

PENDER FIRE AND EMS

Here You Go.

| PENDER EMS AND FIRE 2021 |               |        |      |                        |        |      |  |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------|------|------------------------|--------|------|--|
| EMS Operation            |               |        |      | EMS Call Type Summary  |        |      |  |
|                          |               | Weekly | YTD  |                        | Weekly | YTD  |  |
| Station 1                | Burgaw        | 42     | 1574 | Cancelled              | 39     | 1238 |  |
| Station 14               | Sloop Point   | 39     | 1138 | Refusals               | 77     | 2485 |  |
| Station 16               | Hampstead     | 48     | 1315 | Stand By's             | 8      | 113  |  |
| Station 18               | Scotts Hill   | 0      | 0    | Transported            | 132    | 4404 |  |
| Station 23               | Surf City     | 26     | 988  | Treated and Released   | 22     | 476  |  |
| Station 29               | Currie        | 4      | 100  |                        | 278    | 8716 |  |
| Station 4                | Topsail Beach | 18     | 413  |                        |        |      |  |
| Station 5                | Union         | 24     | 678  |                        |        |      |  |
| Station 7                | Rocky Point   | 44     | 1479 |                        |        |      |  |
| Station 13               | Maple Hill    | 1      | 151  |                        |        |      |  |
| Station 9                | Atkinson      | 32     | 850  |                        |        |      |  |
| M-6 QRV                  | East Side     | 0      | 30   |                        |        |      |  |
|                          |               | 278    | 8716 |                        |        |      |  |
| Fire Operations          |               |        |      | Fire Call Type Summary |        |      |  |
|                          |               | Weekly | YTD  |                        | Weekly | YTD  |  |
| Station 1                | Burgaw        | 7      | 250  | FIRE                   | 3      | 111  |  |
| Station 14               | Sloop Point   | 6      | 401  | Motor Vehicle Crash    | 4      | 268  |  |
| Station 16               | Hampstead     | 4      | 291  | Search and Rescue      | 0      | 3    |  |
| Station 18               | Scott Hill    | 4      | 164  | Service Calls          | 7      | 227  |  |
| Station 29               | Hwy 421 South | 6      | 136  | EMS First Response     | 14     | 1016 |  |
| Station 21               | Long Creek    | 1      | 203  | Cancelled              | 9      | 339  |  |
| Station 4                | Topsail--OR   | 0      | 10   | Ocean Rescue           | 0      | 16   |  |
| Station 13               | Maple Hill    | 5      | 243  |                        | 37     | 1980 |  |
| Station 17               | Penderlea     | 2      | 169  |                        |        |      |  |
| Station 28               | Island Creek  | 2      | 113  |                        |        |      |  |
|                          |               | 37     | 1980 |                        |        |      |  |



# Pender County Government Update

## Department

### PLANNING

**Permitting Data:** Pender County's Permitting Division continues its excellent work recovering from significant challenges faced during the spring of 2021. Using single-family residential building permits as an indicator of success, the average turnaround time for this type of permit since June 1, 2021 of this year still just over 13 business days. 221 permits of this type have been applied for during this time period, seventeen of which were applied for since the last County update. The average turnaround time is expected to continue to tick slightly upwards as time goes on due to permits being put on hold for various reasons. While the average turnaround time is below the County's target of a fifteen day turnaround for all permits, the Permitting Division is committed to bringing this turnaround time figure down further.

In terms of single-family permits issued, the County has seen a decline in the number of permits issued per month over the last three months. The month of June saw 112 single-family residential permits issued, while July saw 88 and August saw 61 of that particular permit type issued. So far in September, 27 of these permits have been issued. A desktop analysis as to the reasons behind this decline found that there are a number of large scale subdivision projects that are reaching the end of their lot inventory. That being said, a number of those projects have additional phases coming forward, and there are new subdivision projects that will be coming forward for platting in the not-too-distant future as well.

**Inspections:** Pender County Planning and Community Development is excited to welcome Manny Sanabria to the Department, who will be joining us as our 6th Building Inspector. He will start with us on Monday, September 20th and we cannot wait to see what he is able to accomplish.

**Long Range Planning:** Pender County Planning has working to assist the Parks and Recreation Department in an update to the Pender County Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Staff presented a purchase order and contract with McGill Associates to the Board of Commissioners at their September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at which time the proposal was approved unanimously. Staff will be holding a kickoff meeting with McGill Associates on September 17, 2021 and anticipate a finalized, adopted Plan in late-Winter 2022.

Meanwhile, the Pender County Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval of an update to the Pender County Collector Street Plan at their September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 meeting. This update is the result of collaboration between the County and the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization, with WSP serving as a consultant. This Plan update was spurred on by experiences of Staff and of the ultimate users of the Plan since its original adoption in 2016. This plan will be presented to the Board of Commissioners at an upcoming meeting, and again in a public hearing for adoption at their October 18, 2021 meeting.

**Current Planning:** Pender County Planning staff continue to work on a number of cases, including residential, commercial, and industrial projects. Staff are particularly excited to be currently working on a number of commercial and industrial projects that will seek to bring many exciting new opportunities to Pender County in terms of providing needed goods and services, as well as employment opportunities, to County residents.

The Pender County Board of Adjustment is not meeting in September due to a lack of cases, and similarly, the Pender County Planning Board cancelled their October meeting due to a lack of cases.

However, Staff expect these two Boards as well as Board of Commissioners to be rather busy with Planning hearings from mid-October through the end of the calendar year. If you are interested in any project the Department is currently working on, please give us a call at (910) 259-1202.

**Floodplains and Resiliency:** Pender County Planning and Community Development is excited to welcome Mr. Emmons Garner to the Department, who will take over as the County's first Watershed and Drainage Technician. He and Daniel Adams (Floodplain Administrator) are working diligently to ensure that the County is ready to implement the Beaver Bounty program as well as assist citizens with beaver issues throughout the County. More information will be published on these programs in the very near future.



# Pender County Government Update

Department

SHERIFF

## August 2021 Sheriff's Office Update

### **Sheriff's Office**

2,366 calls for service dispatched to Sheriff's deputies

52 Investigations assigned to Investigators

### **911 Communications Center**

The Pender County 911 Communications Center dispatched the following number of calls in August 2021:

EMS – 1,367

Fire – 1,472

Total Law Calls (including municipalities) – 5,146

The 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the Pender County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Academy was postponed due to the increased COVID-19 cases and will be rescheduled. More information about the 4<sup>th</sup> session which has been scheduled will be released in the coming weeks.

Sheriff Alan Cutler will be holding an "In the Community" meeting at the Pender County Courthouse, 100 S Wright St., Burgaw on October 11, 2021, beginning at 5:30pm until 7:30pm. This is an opportunity for citizens to hear an update about the Sheriff's Office from Sheriff Cutler and to meet with him and his staff to ask questions or talk about concerns.



# Pender County Government Update

Department

TOURISM

County Update, Sept. 17, 2021

## TOURISM Update

Our update begins with Labor Day, the unofficial end of summer, but our visitation continues to be steady.

**Outdoor NC**, a program with Visit NC and Leave No Trace, is moving forward. We are partnering with the state on this program. The purpose is to raise awareness of the importance of good stewardship of our natural resources (trash your trash, leave it as you find it, be careful with fire, etc.). #makeityournature

We continue our planning with the **North Carolina Beach Inlet and Waterway Association's** fall conference.

Tourism is serving on the fall **tailgate planning committee**.

We continue working with the **Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail** regarding trail projects. We have also been contacted by two thru-hikers who will reach us in October.

We attended (virtually) the Town of Topsail Beach Commissioners' meeting.

We continue to work with **Pender Education Partnership** and the planning of other annual Pender County State of Education and Economy meeting.

We met with various stakeholders regarding the Topsail Chamber's **economic development** committee. They are gathering sources of information.

On Saturday, 9/11, we attended the Topsail Beach **9/11 20th Anniversary Observance** ceremony.

We continue to work the various organizations on the CF Pope Project, an oral history of alumni who attended CF Pope School. We assisted with the grant application process with PEP.

We continue to work with both of our **Chambers of Commerce**. Olivia and Stephanie attended the Women Connect group in Burgaw. Tammy attended the Topsail Chamber's board meeting and ribbon cutting.

We are working with the Town of Topsail Beach's plans of a **Lighted Christmas Parade and Christmas Tree Lighting**, set for Nov. 27.

We had two Board of Director meetings during the week of Sept. 13-17, the **NCBIWA and the Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail**.

Sept. 16 was our **Tourism Development Board** meeting.

We have contacted our "collectors" regarding their **top target markets** – North Carolina, Virginia, Ohio, PA, NJ, NY, SC, and Florida continue to be our strong markets.

We have **travel writers** here Sept. 17-19. It's also Jeep Week. We will be very busy this weekend. Stephanie has worked tirelessly on arranging an itinerary.

We are participating in a select group reviewing Griot, The Evolution of Edgecombe with the **NC Department of Natural Resources and Culture**.

Olivia continues her work with the **long-term recovery group**.

We are approaching the deadline for the **2022 Visitor Guide**. We have approximately the correct amount of the 2021 books remaining for the rest of the year.

**NC Cycle** will bring their mountains to coast ride through Pender County. We are working with them on the first break stop at Wells Pork Products and Bear Ridge Farms. We are recruiting volunteers to assist.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

We have fielded a great many media inquiries in the last two weeks.

We continue to update our county website and our social media.





# Pender County Government Update

## Department

### UTILITY OPERATIONS

#### PENDER COUNTY UTILITIES (PCU) & WATER DISTRICTS:

The design work for the Scott's Hill elevated water tank and wells is about 75% complete, with an anticipated construction bid date in December and completion in Spring 2023. The 500,000 gallon tank will be located at Pender EMS & Fire Station 18 on US 17. One well will be located at the proposed tank, one will be adjacent to the existing Hampstead elevated water tank on US 17 and one will be adjacent to South Topsail Elementary School on Hoover Road. We are finalizing easement discussions with Pender County Schools on the Hoover Road site. These wells will provide additional water supply for the US 17 corridor to meet demand until the proposed reverse osmosis water treatment plant is constructed. The current schedule for completion of the treatment plant is in early 2026, but is very dependent on our search for a viable site.

#### Field staff work and status updates since last report:

- Public Water Audit from NCDEQ for Maple Hill Water system. No negative findings.
- The Pender water system has seen the most demand of the whole summer (since May) in the last 2 weeks running both wells and sometimes overnight.
- 4 water taps by staff.
- 270 locates in the last two weeks.
- Met with builders at Camden Court on the last phase of utility box issues and solutions.
- James P. passed Collection 4, Chris P. passed Spray Irrigation and Glen passed A- Distribution certification exams
- Automatic flush valves on daily flush on Camden Court, Riverland Drive, & Michigan Avenue.
- Rigorous flushing in distribution system in Wyndwater and surrounding area. Still getting a complaint in Wyndwater and noticing around high flow times in the system.
- All monthly reports last month completed and submitted.

## WATER PRODUCTION NUMBERS:

March 2021 Daily Avg : 1.20 MGD from WP, 0.267 MGD from Wallace, 0.762 MGD to Hamp/SH, 0.0009 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 0.763 MGD for Hamp/SH)

April 2021 Daily Avg: 1.57 MGD from WP, 0.245 MGD from Wallace, 0.937 MGD to Hamp/SH, 0.151 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.088 MGD for Hamp/SH)

May 2021 Daily Avg: 1.77 MGD from WP, 0.293 MGD from Wallace, 0.965 MGD to Hamp/SH, 0.394 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.359 MGD for Hamp/SH)

June 2021 Daily Avg: 1.28 MGD from WP, 0.238 MGD from Wallace, 0.712 MGD to Hamp/SH, 0.322 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.034 MGD for Hamp/SH)

July 2021 Daily Avg: 1.55 MGD from WP, 0.152 MGD from Wallace, 0.940 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.166 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.107 MGD for Hamp/SH)

August 2021 Daily Avg: 1.58 MGD from WP, 0.250 MGD from Wallace, 1.003 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.053 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.056 MGD for Hamp/SH)

September 2021 Daily Avg (thru 15th): 1.517 MGD from WP, 0.277 MGD from Wallace, 0.968 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.249 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.217 MGD for Hamp/SH)

HAMPSTEAD/SCOTTS HILL WATER USAGE FOR FIRST HALF OF SEPTEMBER IS UP 48% OVER 2020

## WATER TREATMENT PLANT

- Repairs were made to the altitude valve, check valve and sump pump at the Malpass Corner Elevated Water Tank.
- All remaining supplies and materials have been removed from the BASF facility.
- Isolated and draining the North Pond in preparation of this year's sludge removal project.
- Received first delivery of 10% sodium hypochlorite. We will be making the change from 5.25% on Friday.
- Repaired drain valve on filter #2.
- Hach was on-site for quarterly cleaning and calibrations on the turbidimeters and CL17s.
- Tom passed the Physical/Chemical Grade 2 exam.

- Water production numbers for September through the 15th: 22.76 million gallons for an average of 1.51MGD.

## PCP WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT - MKKAES (Melinda K. Knoezer Adaptive Ecosystem)

Another busy two weeks out here in the woods. SEE PHOTOS.

- We assisted the company Wood in pulling two well pumps out of the ground so they could finish capping the ground wells out here.
- Staff from both plants finished moving all of PCU's surplus out of BASF.
- Helped relocate PCU sign by the road.
- Finished the media install.
- Graded the ground after running the forklift all over the yard.
- Filled dumpster for recycling metal items at BASF site.
- Cleaned up our yard.
- Worked on three blower units.
- Ordered Alum.
- Pulled quarterly Toxicity samples.

## SOLID WASTE

The Transfer Station scale house is operating well. Our new part-time employee, Janet, started Monday, September 6 at the Transfer Station and is doing great.

Transfer Station daily creates about 100 - 115 disposal tickets daily. Waiting time at scales is about 3 minutes in and 4 minutes out.

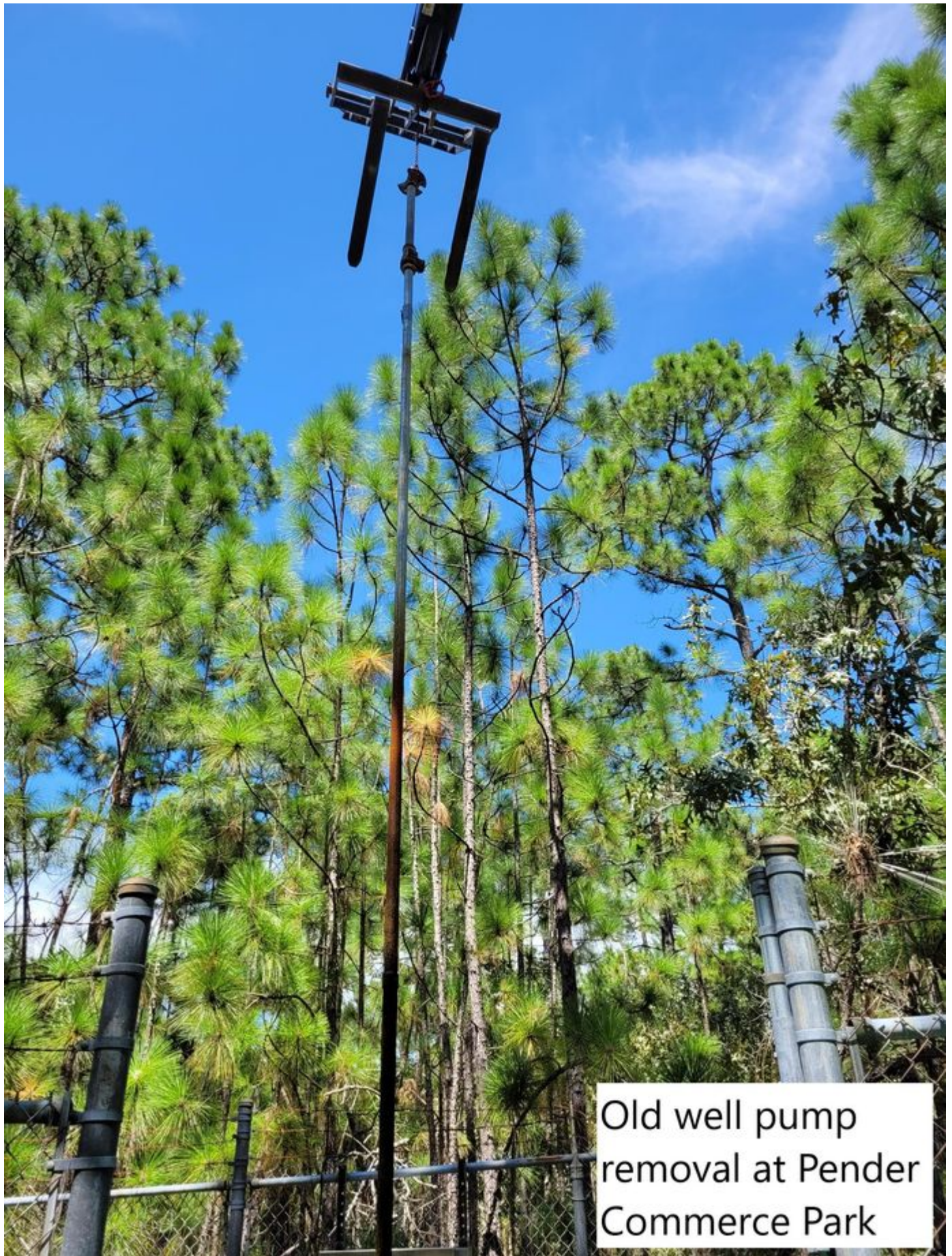
## SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL TONNAGE FOR AUGUST 2021

|                             |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| MSW Kitchen trash collected | 2,816.86 tons |
| Construction & demolition   | 566.88 tons   |

|                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Recycling                     | 112.38 tons |
| Tires recycled                | 86.77 tons  |
| Scrap metal recycled (shreds) | 93.05 tons  |
| Whitegoods recycled           | 6.08 tons   |
| TV & Electronics              | 15.73 tons  |



Old well pump  
removal at Pender  
Commerce Park



Old well pump  
removal at Pender  
Commerce Park

Media installation  
in PCP\_WWTP basin

