



Water Quality Committee September 2024 Update

Committee Co-Chair Karen McCague reports that as of September 3rd, the CPCC team will have collected monthly data for 6 months at 3-4 locations including Ponce Park, Alligator Creek and 2 sites within the PGI canal system. In addition, storm event monitoring was conducted during Tropical Storm Debbie. In October, the plan is to expand to 6 locations, including one in the BSI canal as well as adding nutrient analysis in addition to bacteria analysis.

The project plans to increase its scope to 10 sites by year-end. “We have a 10-person volunteer team, so we have enough manpower to execute as planned,” according to McCague. However, expanding the scope is dependent upon release of MAC grant funding in November and interim funding from the Punta Gorda Rotary.

Scaling to 10 sites will require 3 monitoring teams operating simultaneously required 3 sets of equipment and supplies. Therefore, the ability to expand the project scope to this level is dependent on the release of MAC grant funding which will be in November 2024. Interim funding may be needed to support expanding the program to 6 sites and additional analysis and field data collection in October. Additional Rotary funds of \$5K (local) and \$7.5K) regional are pending. We have a volunteer team of 10 so we have the manpower to execute as planned.