



CBCC is "For People who love Coral Bay"

Our mission is to serve by protecting the environment, improving infrastructure, supporting education, encouraging social progress, and planning for appropriate low-impact development.

In 2023, the Coral Bay Community Council (CBCC) celebrated its 20th anniversary of serving the community. This report highlights projects from the year and themes that will continue forward.

Watershed Work in Coral Bay

Stormwater Toolkit for Neighborhoods:

CBCC received a grant to develop and implement "[The Stormwater Device Toolkit](#)," for use by voluntary neighborhood groups and homeowners' associations to address the prevention of erosion and flooding issues in the Coral Bay watershed management area on St. John in the US Virgin Islands, through better long-lasting written documentation and tools to encourage routine maintenance practices. It is to be completed by December 2024. St. John is in a long drought period interspersed with extreme rainfall events, therefore

stormwater issues and maintenance of stormwater drainage devices like culverts and best management practices (BMPs) is not top of mind but road and drainage structure maintenance is very important for preventing destructive flooding and erosion in the future on an ongoing basis. Visit our website to learn more! In addition to managing and advocating for

the Coral Bay Watershed, CBCC has hosted the quarterly watershed calls for several years with a wide variety of government and nonprofit agency officials to discuss Watershed Management projects and issues territory wide. This quarterly one-hour networking call helps all of our partners interested in protecting our blue waters from stormwater runoff, septic tank leakage, and other pollution keep up to date with each other's work.



Hydrology and Hydraulics Study: The final report for CBCC's [Hydrology and Hydraulics \(H&H\)](#) study was released in September 2023. The FEMA-HMGP funded H&H Study's main goal was to provide a basic H&H study for the whole Carolina Valley watershed and better understand flooding potential. This report includes permanent links to the H&H modeling information, detailed files, and maps and is intended to be useful to ALL future land developers and government agencies in Coral Bay. The report also provides analysis for several selected drainage problem areas *from Ridge to Reef* and proposes potential solutions to improvements to reduce stormwater hazards both on public and private lands. Visit the H&H webpage to read the report!

Small Docks Planning: CBCC has been working with local landowners to [plan for small docks](#) in Coral Harbor. The goal is to plan several small access docks and associated services for transient, recreational boaters in Coral Bay, St. John, and provide a final report that may be useful for replicating these docks in other bays in the Virgin Islands. Multiple small docks would help spread the economic benefit of boating access to various landowners and community, allow boaters to visit more locations and amenities, and is intended to reduce both water and land-based environmental impacts along the shoreline by avoiding congestion in one area. Funded by a federal Boating Infrastructure Grant through DPNR.

Gift a Special 20th Anniversary Donation or Become a Member Today!

CBCC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and relies on your assistance, both volunteer and financial.

Clean Drinking Water & Ocean Waters:

Drinking Water and Wastewater Professional Workshops: CBCC has been hosting the [USVI Drinking Water and Wastewater Professional Workshops](#) since 2015 in partnership with the Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR), and RCAP Solutions. These workshops enable a collaborative stakeholder network by gathering professionals in all fields of water and wastewater management to identify issues and provide practical solutions in the territory. The 2023 workshops boasted over 30 presentations and 30 participants, in person and virtually, for each workshop. Making sure we have safe drinking water and proper wastewater systems ensures our health and community safety while also preventing harm to our environment and watershed. Details on the CBCC [website](#).

New Brochures: Some of this literature, informed by our workshops and other research, can be found on our [website](#) and in our office!

Drinking Water Testing: CBCC hosts two Drinking Water testing days each year to make it easier for homeowners to sample their water coming out of their cisterns and through their purification systems.

Coral Harbor Water Quality Testing: CBCC hired UVI to test water samples taken from different bays in Coral Bay. Although DPNR tests the water in Coral Harbor and Johnson



Bay quarterly, there were some concerns expressed in a community meeting that these results may not be representative of the full bay. CBCC was mainly concerned with the levels of enterococci in the waters. Enterococci reflects the level of fecal matter in the water which can carry harmful bacteria and viruses. The results showed the levels of enterococci to be **significantly less** than the safe USVI standard. The USVI standard is no more than 70 enterococci colonies in 100 milliliters of water, every sampling location tested at 10 colonies or less! Read more about the [report](#) in our [press release](#).

BVI Incinerator and Landfill Burns: The EPA and CBCC held a community meeting in July to address public health and environmental concerns impacting the Coral Bay community. In particular, EPA Region 2 staff wanted to hear personal accounts from residents about the impact the smoke from BVI incinerator and landfill burns have impacted their health and lives. About 30 residents participated. DPNR staff also came over from St. Thomas to discuss environmental concerns with the community and provide information. Read the meeting recap [here](#).

Street Naming Initiative: CBCC has been working with the Lt. Governor's Office and Coral Bay neighborhoods to get our roads named so that navigation will be easier for emergency response vehicles and everyone else.

VI Comprehensive Land & Water Use Plan process: CBCC has been participating in DPNR's Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan and ensuring that Coral Bay folks will be able to provide input in the planning process.

Financials: CBCC's annual detailed financial reports are available on our website.



CBCC Staff, Board, and Communications

STAFF: In early 2023, CBCC hired Maya Craig as the Watershed Coordinator and Kaitlyn Cummings as the Communications Specialist. Maya has been a Coral Bay resident for over twenty years and Kaitlyn was born and raised in St John. CBCC finished the year by hiring its first-ever paid Executive Director, Monica Miller-Smith Ed.D. This position was previously held by Sharon Coldren in a volunteer capacity. More on our [Staff](#) page.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Sharon Coldren (President), Steve McKibben (President Elect), Tracy Pajewski (Vice President), Christa Pool (Secretary), Francesca Segarra (Treasurer), Kate Reed, Loraine (Pat) Richards, Terry Witham, and Eric Fales.

COMMUNICATIONS: CBCC members and others in the community receive periodic emails about news and upcoming events. Email is the major way we share news, and "call" for volunteers, participation and donations. Sign up [HERE](#) or on the website listed below.

FOLLOW US on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#): @CoralBayCommunityCouncil

OFFICE: Stop by CBCC's office across from Skinny Legs and see the resources that our members support. Free brochures are available with helpful guidance!

