

<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Thursday, May 30, 2024</b> <b>Class at UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County Office</b> <b>PM Field Trip – Viera Wetlands</b>
8:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Introduce FMNP, Instructors, Module, Host Site, Icebreaker Pre-test & Paperwork
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Freshwater Restoration Introduction PPT Presentation & Discussion, Field Trip Info, Group Work
1:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch on your own, travel to field trip location
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<p>Freshwater Restoration Field Trip - <b>Viera Wetlands, 3658 Charlie Corbeil Way, Viera</b></p> <p>Located between the Moccasin Island Tract of the River Lakes Conservation Area and the Brevard Zoo, Viera Wetlands encompasses 200 acres divided into four cells with a central lake. Viera Wetlands is a popular destination for birders, photographers, and eco-tourists. More than 200,000 people come to the wetlands each year.</p> <p>In November 2006, Brevard County Natural Resource Management Office was awarded an educational grant by the Florida Wildflower Foundation focusing on the use of wildflowers along the banks of lakes, retention ponds, and canals, creating an amazing range of aquatic plants for shallow water, plants for moist soil, and upland plants for dry slopes, demonstrating the use of native plants well-adapted to their environment to benefit soil stabilization and reduce maintenance requirements.</p>
<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Friday, May 31, 2024</b> <b>Class at Turkey Creek Sanctuary</b> <b>PM Field Trip – Micco Water Management Area</b>
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Small-Scale Freshwater Restoration PPT Presentation & Discussion, Field Trip Info, Group Work
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Guest Speaker: <b>Kimberli Ponzio</b> , SJRWMD – SJRWMD Wetland District Restoration Projects in Upper St Johns Basin
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Guest Speaker: TBD
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch on your own, travel to field trip location
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<p>Small-Scale Freshwater Restoration Field Trip - <b>Micco Water Management Area</b></p> <p>The Micco Water Management Area (WMA) in Brevard County helps improve the quality of water discharged to the North Prong of the St. Sebastian River, a tributary of the Indian River Lagoon. The WMA is an environmental engineering achievement that benefits coastal waters while providing aesthetic benefits and many recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The property includes a series of ponds and restored wetlands to remove pollutants from a 21,000-acre watershed before reaching the lagoon, one of North America's most biologically diverse estuaries. This stormwater is treated as it travels through a series of ponds, the Herndon Swamp constructed wetland treatment system, and additionally created wetlands. One of the special highlights of this property is its more than 3 miles of trails that allow visitors to see the wetland treatment system.</p>

<b>Day 3</b>	<b>Saturday, June 1, 2024</b> <b>Class at Indian River County Intergenerational Recreation Center</b> <b>PM Field Trips in Vero Beach –Osprey Acres Stormwater Park and Nature Preserve, and Egret Marsh Stormwater Park and Wildlife Sanctuary</b>
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Large-Scale Freshwater Restoration PPT Presentation & Discussion, Field Trip Info, Group Work
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Guest Speaker: <b>Alexis Peralta</b> , Stormwater Educator, Indian River County Stormwater Division/Natural Resources Department
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch on your own, travel to field trip location
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM	<p>Large-Scale Freshwater Restoration Field Trips in Vero Beach:</p> <p><b>1. Osprey Acres Stormwater Park and Nature Preserve, 925 5th St SW, Vero Beach, FL 32962</b></p> <p>Osprey Acres Stormwater Park and Nature Preserve is an 83.7-acre facility that boasts a range of natural Florida ecosystems, including uphill pine, mesic oak hammock, a small scrub area, and now manmade wetlands. Having these various habitats promotes a wealth of biodiversity within the property. Originally slated for more than 400 home parcels, Osprey Acres was bought by Indian River County to not only preserve these fragile ecosystems but to aid in further treatment of stormwater and reverse osmosis reject water before these waters enter the Indian River Lagoon. Water for treatment comes from Osprey Marsh (next door) and untreated canal water. Osprey Marsh removes dissolved nutrients from canal water and the South County Water Treatment Plant’s reverse osmosis brine discharge before flowing into the Indian River Lagoon. Osprey Marsh began operation in the spring of 2015. Daily, it removes dissolved nitrogen and phosphorus from ten million gallons of canal water and up to 1.5 million gallons of reverse osmosis brine discharge. Osprey Marsh’s treatment train includes a 4.6-acre algae farm that removes much of the water’s nitrogen and phosphorus. Additional nutrients are removed in a polishing pond and a created wetland.</p> <p><b>2. Egret Marsh Stormwater Park and Wildlife Sanctuary</b></p> <p>Egret Marsh removes dissolved nutrients from canal water before the water enters the Indian River Lagoon. Egret Marsh began operation in April 2010, and it cost \$7.3 million to construct, including improvements. It removes dissolved nitrogen and phosphorus from eight to ten million gallons of canal water daily. Egret Marsh’s treatment system includes a 4.6-acre algae farm that removes much of the water’s nitrogen and phosphorus load. Additional nutrient quantities are removed when the water flows through a large downstream polishing pond system and a created wetland before reentering the canal system. Egret Marsh is also a dedicated wildlife sanctuary home to many reptiles, mammals, and bird species.</p>
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Electronic Post-Test and Evaluation (be sure to bring your cell phone or tablet); Graduation!