

FLORIDA POLICY AND INNOVATIONS IN WATER QUALITY AND RESILIENCE

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Florida is well known for its abundant and beautiful water resources. Without appropriate stormwater management, the rainfall that created these resources can also make them vulnerable to water quality impacts and put development at risk from flooding. Fortunately, Florida also has a long history of being on the leading edge of stormwater management and water quality treatment. The original regulatory framework put in place to protect our water resources from impacts and our developments from flooding have evolved over the years as additional data, modeling and technology have increased not only our understanding of the characteristics of our water resources, but also our tools for implementing more effective stormwater management measures.

As new resource needs are identified, new strategies and technologies must be developed and implemented to meet the challenges of protecting our water resources while accommodating Florida's rapidly increasing population and economic expansion. The solutions to these challenges need to consider our water quality, flood protection and water supply needs together holistically in order to move toward a truly resilient Florida.

This presentation will provide an overview of the evolution of stormwater management in Florida and explore how new and innovative technologies can be integrated into programs and strategies to protect water quality, enhance flood protection, and enhance water supplies.

PRESENTER BIO: Mike Register is a registered P.E in Florida with more than 30 years of experience in water resource engineering. He has a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Engineering degree from the University of Florida – both in Agricultural and Biological Engineering. Mr. Register has extensive experience with Florida's Environmental Resource Permitting, Consumptive Use Permitting, Minimum Flows and Levels and Water Supply Planning programs. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the SJRWMD.