



FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING™

Beautiful Landscapes Protecting Florida's Water

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Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING™

BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPES PROTECTING FLORIDA'S WATER

Overview of the Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) program.

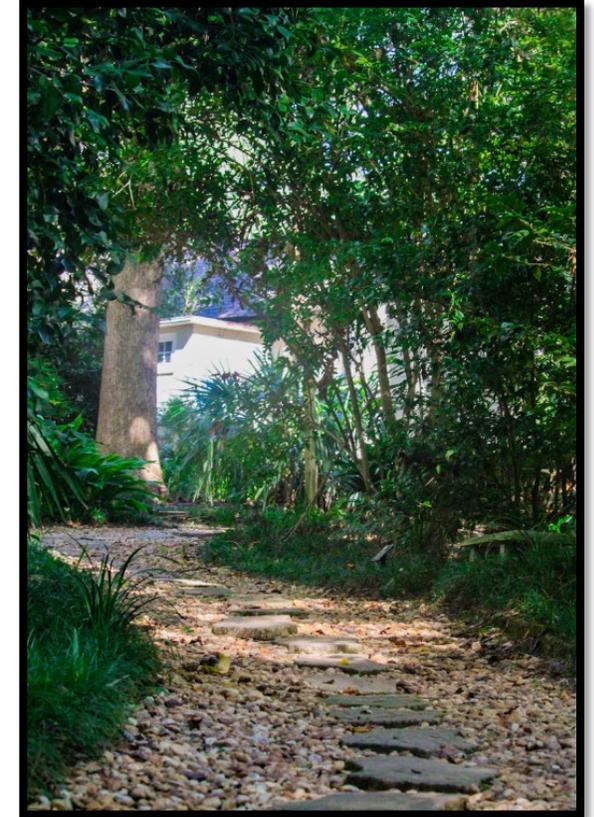
Landscape Recognition Updates.

New and Upcoming Social Media Campaigns.

Expanding Existing Initiatives.

Landscape Irrigation and FFL Design Standards.

Clean Water Act (CWA) 319(h) Grant Funding.





FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING™

WHO, WHAT AND WHY?

The Nine Principles:

1. Right Plant, Right Place.
2. Water Efficiently.
3. Fertilize Appropriately.
4. Mulch.
5. Attract Wildlife.
6. Manage Yard Pests Responsibly.
7. Recycle Yard Waste.
8. Reduce Stormwater Runoff.
9. Protect the Waterfront.



- The program began as a grass roots movement, receiving DEP funding for the first time in 1993.
- All commercial fertilizer applicators are required to pass the Green Industries Best Management Practices certification, administered by the FFL program.
- The Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ program and its principles are defined in Chapter 373.185 of the Florida Statutes (F.S.).



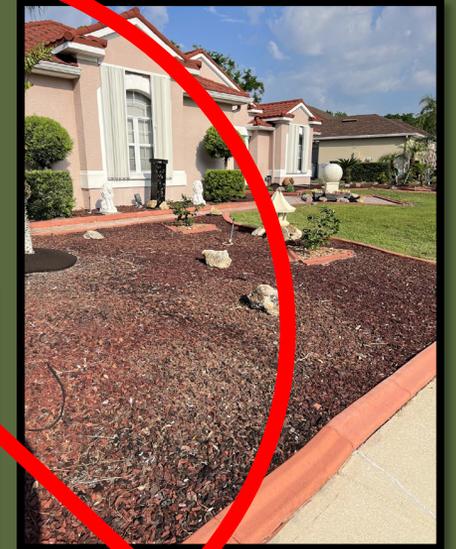
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WHO, WHAT AND WHY?

Florida-Friendly Landscaping uses minimal inputs. Landscapes designed and planted with the Right Plant, Right Place principle should need little to no irrigation or fertilizer once established.



Florida-Friendly Landscaping is not xeriscaping. The program does not support large areas of rock, mulch or artificial turf.





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LANDSCAPE RECOGNITION UPDATES

Current Landscape Recognitions:

- Residential.
- Commercial and Common Area.
- New Construction.
- Florida WaterStar.

Under Development:

- Neighborhood.
- Community.
- FFL Natural.

Recognition Updates:

- FFL Home Landscape Recognition Checklist revision.
- New Neighborhood Recognition.
- Upcoming FFL Community Recognition.
- Upcoming FFL “Natural” Recognition.





FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING™ EXPANDING EXISTING INITIATIVES



Florida-Friendly Ponds

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Edible Ornamental Landscaping Guide for North-Central Florida¹
Amanda Marek, Mark Bailey, and Gail Hansen²

Edible ornamental landscaping is the “artful combination of edibles and traditional ornamentals in the garden” (Hansen 2019). Well-designed edible ornamental landscapes, also called foodscapes, provide landowners with aesthetically pleasing, multipurpose gardens that provide food, color, and cover year-round. Not only can these landscapes provide a source of healthy, locally grown food in urbanized communities, they can also promote energy and water conservation, improve food security, and provide wildlife habitat (Çelik 2017). By converting conventional yards into sustainable, edible ornamental landscapes that utilize the principles of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™, we may quell some of the health and environmental impacts of rising population growth and urbanization (Çelik 2017).

The purpose of this publication is to guide Floridians on how to design, install and maintain their edible ornamental landscape using reliable plants suitable for north-central Florida and the best management practices of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™.

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ with Edibles

The Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) program (<https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/>) is a statewide initiative to promote attractive, low-maintenance landscapes that conserve water.

principles of FFL can be applied to any landscape, including edible ornamental landscapes, to reduce maintenance costs, irrigation, and the need for chemical pesticides and fertilizers (see *Edible Landscaping Using the Nine Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles* at <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/EP594>).



Figure 1. A lovely loquat tree is center stage in this residential

<https://doi.org/10.32473/edis-EP616>

Foodscaping



Youth Education



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ New and Upcoming Social Media Campaigns

FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING™ PLEDGE

For a closer look, click the expand icon at top right of each item on the dashboard below.

English-US

Take the FFL Pledge!

We can all play a role in protecting Florida's natural resources. Please sign the pledge to make your landscape more Florida-Friendly today!

I pledge to make my landscape more Florida-Friendly!*

I pledge to make my landscape more Florida-Friendly!

First Name

Total Number of Pledges

982

Esri, USGS | FDEP, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, US... Powered by Esri

Pledges by County

Alachua	56
Brevard	30
Citrus	10
Columbia	17
Flagler	26
Hernando	27
Indian River	31
Leon	17
Manatee	39
Miami-Dade	84
Okaloosa	29
Palm Beach	26
Polk	54
Sarasota	12
St Lucie	8
Sumter	3
Volusia	46
Washington	1
Pasco	121

Jan. 30, 2024

April – Water Conservation Month:

DEP to host a water conscientious landscape photo contest.

May – Gardening for Wildlife Month:

Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission to partner with FFL on a month-long gardening for wildlife campaign!





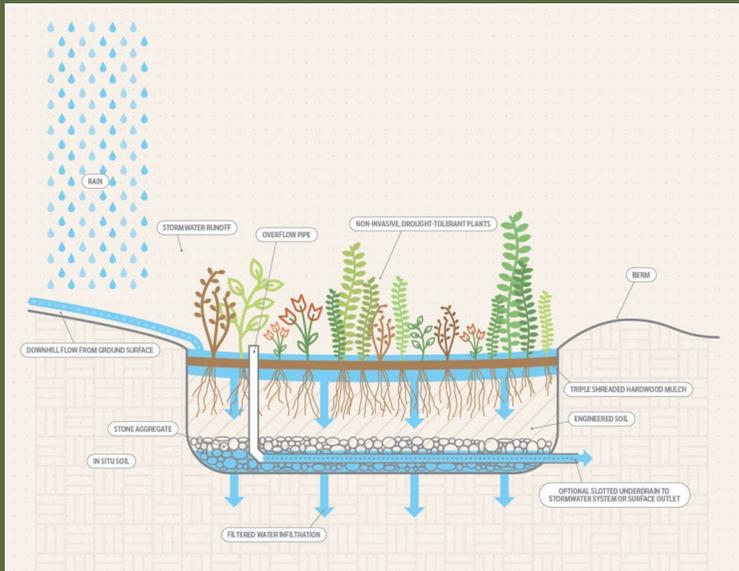
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GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

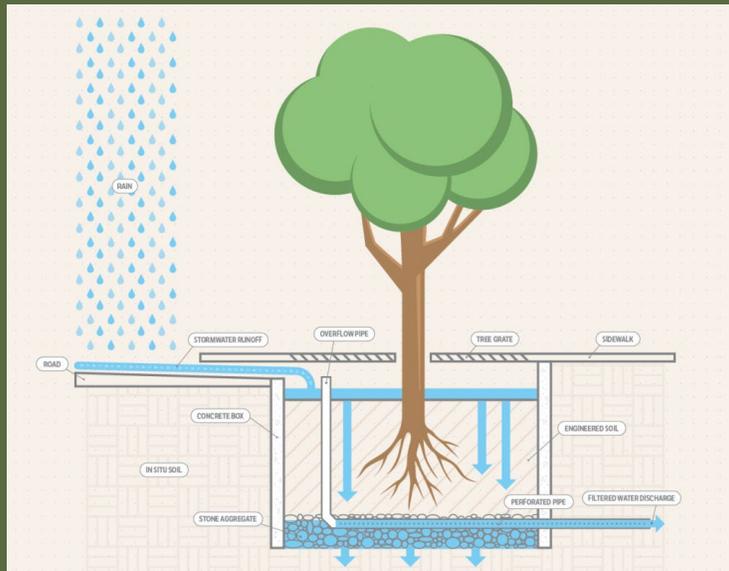
Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) can be used to supplement or replace traditional gray stormwater infrastructure for managing the impacts of rain in urban areas.

GSI reduces pollution and treats stormwater by retaining rainfall near its source instead of directing it to a centralized pond or treatment system.

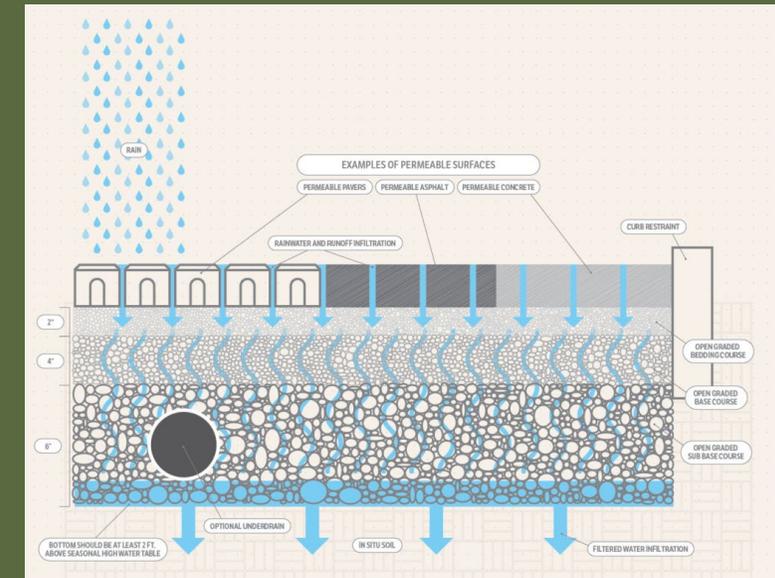
Bioretention Cells



Tree Box Filter



Permeable Pavement





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GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Technical resources:

- General GSI tools and resources.
- GSI code audit tool.
- Modeling tools.
- Maintenance manuals and trainings.

Regional GSI/Low Impact Development (LID) manuals:

- List of region-specific GSI/LID manuals.
- Example projects/library.

Community engagement resources:

- Introduction to GSI.
- GSI education resources.
- Webinar series.
- Nonpoint publication tool.

Funding resources:

- Grants and loans.



GSI.FloridaDEP.gov





FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING™

LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION AND FFL DESIGN STANDARDS

Landscape Irrigation and Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Design Standards

CREATED DECEMBER 2006, UPDATED JANUARY 2024



section 373.228 F.S.

Goals:

- To provide landscape/irrigation design and installation standards.
- Encourage water conscious landscapes.

Main Audience: Irrigation professionals.

Key Points:

- A properly designed landscape will conserve more water.
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping principles such as Right Plant, Right Place and Mulch can significantly reduce irrigation requirements.
- A Florida-friendly landscape should be able to thrive with little to no irrigation after establishment.
- Technical guidance for irrigation professionals including spacing, flow rates, etc.



FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING™

AVAILABLE FUNDING

The CWA 319(h) grant can fund nonpoint source pollution research and public education on a limited basis.

Projects funded in the past include:

- Brevard County rain barrel workshops.
- Pinellas County Florida-Friendly Landscape Incentive Program (FLIP).
- Seminole County fertilizer education for retail stores.
- Volusia County save our springs and rivers education.
- GSI pilot projects and monitoring.
- GSI modeling tool development.



For funding information, contact: Emily.Lang@FloridaDEP.gov



THANK YOU

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