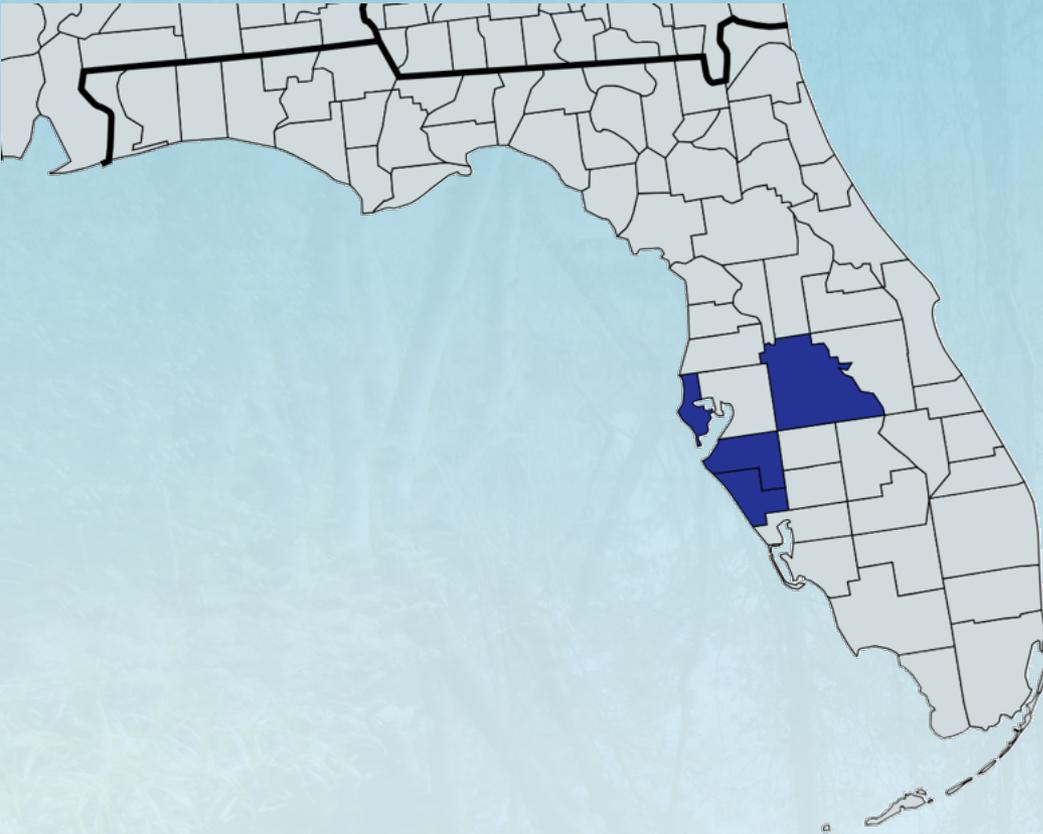


Empowering the Public to Make Change Through Watershed Education and Stewardship

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UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



COVID Adaptations

Canvas: 2020



FWSP Florida Waters Stewardship Program

Class IV

MONDAYS 4-6 PM
September 14-November 23

FLORIDA WATERS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Welcome to Class IV of the Pinellas Florida Waters Stewardship Program (FWSP)! We will be learning all about Florida's water resources in the weeks and months to come. Every Monday from 4-6pm, we will meet online to learn about a different water topic, have class discussions, hear from guest speakers and participate in virtual tours of unique water features. In the time between our online class sessions, you will be doing your own online explorations (see Assignments below).

Program Goal

The goal of FWSP is to help you see the Florida waterscape in a new way – a way that motivates positive action, as informed by current research, best practices, and information and skills acquired through the program.

How To Participate

All class sessions will take place online using Zoom. You can access the Zoom Meeting Room through our [Modules](#) each week. Please plan to access the online classroom a few minutes early to ensure your audio settings are working properly.

Between class sessions, you will use this Canvas platform to access assignments, online discussions, class announcements and more.

Assignments

Following class sessions 1a, 2a, 3a, and 4a you will be asked to complete an online exploration and share your findings in our online discussions. Links to these will be posted [here](#).

Google Sites: 2021-23



FLORIDA WATERS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



Announcements (Updated 09/20 at 2:33pm)

- I have posted the online Mini-Session 3.5 in the [Homework tab](#)
- Remember to share your findings from your Mini-Session and interact on our [Slack Page](#)
- I have posted a recording of the "Working with People" section of my presentation we didn't have time to get to during Session 4, along with the full PowerPoint Presentation and Yilin's presentation in the [Presentations tab](#).
- I have updated the "Upcoming Stakeholder Meetings" list below
- Scroll down to see Certificate of Completion requirements
- Check out our [word cloud](#) from Session 1!
- Remember, the link to provide anonymous **feedback** can be found below.

UPCOMING STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

Class Contact List Give Anonymous Feedback



[Welcome & Expectations](#)



[Schedule & Syllabus](#)



[Discussion Board](#)

Overarching Goal

To help participants see the Florida waterscape in a new way

– a way that motivates positive action –

as informed by current research, best practices, and information and skills acquired through the Florida Waters Stewardship Program



Key Components

- Seven to eight in-class sessions (3 hours each, ~ every two weeks)
 - Canned PPTs
 - Mini-tours
 - Guest speaker
 - Class discussion
 - Stewardship project planning

Working with Water, Working with People



Key Components

- Out-of-Class “Sessions”
 - Online explorations
 - Stakeholder meeting attendance
 - Online forum
 - Stewardship project
 - Post program socials



Topics Covered

- Watershed basics
- Current and future water sources
- Major users of water
- Managers of water resources
- Impact of growing populations on water resources
- Regulatory policies and tools
- Future and emerging issues
- “Working With People”

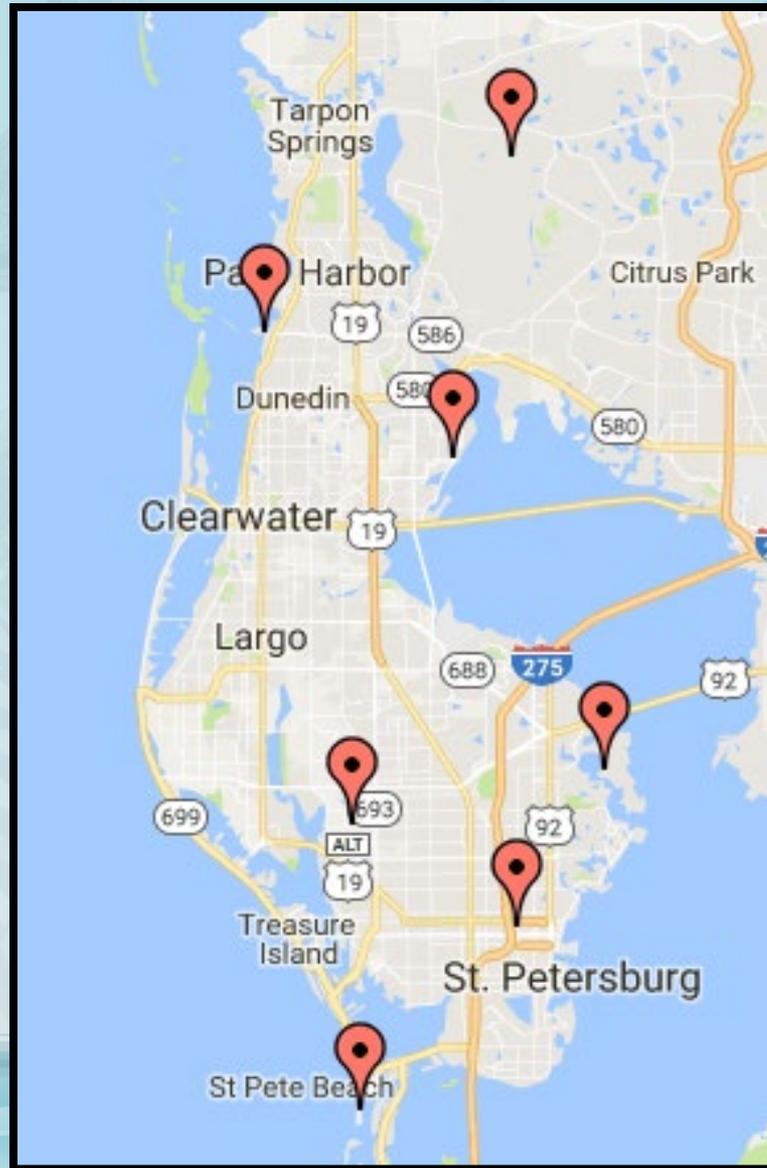


Example Schedule

Session# & Location	Working with Water	Working with People
#1. Brooker Creek	Watershed Basics	Stewardship and Leadership
#2. Honeymoon Island	Changing Waterscapes	Working With Thorny Issues
#3. Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute	Water Management	Panel Discussion
#4. South Cross Bayou Water Reclamation Facility	Regulatory Landscapes	The Power of Partnership
#5. St. Petersburg Water Resources Department	Looking Ahead: Future Water Supply + Emerging Issues	Communication Is More Than Words
#6. Safety Harbor Library	Water Resources Presentation	Stewardship Project Updates
#7. Bilmar Beach Resort	Speaking of Water	Elevator Pitches
#8. Weedon Island	Final Reflections	Where to From Here?



Florida Waters Stewardship Program



STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Essential Elements



Behavior Change*

Pinellas County

- More aware of their use of plastics and general use of water
- More conscious consumers, using less water and reducing plastic consumption

Polk County

- Attended public meetings
- Networking with water managers
- Local plant nursery added aquatic plants and reference materials for living shorelines

****All activities tracked (10 total) had at least one program graduate involvement increase as a result of program participation***



STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Behavior Change

Involved Graduates

- Wet Wednesday socials
- Continuing education
- Sharing and interacting via online forum
- Active volunteers: educate youth, install plants for county projects
- FWSP session planning and implementation



Projects

Pinellas County

- Microplastics sampling
- Planned bus tour
- Organized clean-up
- Contributed to virtual watershed tour
- Install and maintain a “watergoat”

Polk County

- Lakefront Landscaping class
- Model Rain Garden in HOA
- Aquatic Plant Seed Library
- Civic Engagement Opportunities for Youth



Success Story

Citizens Reclaiming Phillippi Creek

Environment



BY PHILIP LEDERER SRQ DAILY FRESHLY SQUEEZED CONTENT EVERY MORNING THURSDAY MAY 25, 2017

It's Saturday and the sun is shining, but residents are gathering in folding chairs in front of the podium inside South Gate Community Center. A man in the front holds a blown-up photograph of a pair of manatees playing, their lumpy heads nuzzled close. This was taken in his own backyard, he says. But they don't see the manatees that much anymore. Like many others attending the day's Reclaiming Phillippi Creek forum, he's worried about the effects humans have had on the natural waterways and what they can do to bring the manatees back.

Hosted by Florida Water Stewards, a new initiative from the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Extension and Sustainability, the forum saw concerned community members living along Phillippi Creek and the surrounding waters coming together for a panel of speakers ranging from local government and scientific institutions to real estate mavens and the water stewards



FREE CLASS!

YOUR LAKEFRONT LANDSCAPE

Saturday, Jan 27 at 2 pm
1047 E Main St, Lakeland 33801

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Guest Speaker Sean Patton is an aquatic biologist who founded Stocking Savvy Environmental Consulting with the goal of restoring Florida landscapes to their most balanced and natural forms.



THE
NECTARY
GARDEN FOR LIFE.

"Fabulous course & instructor!!"

"I loved this class and the connections to other resources, classes and people."

"Thank you for creating such a great program!"

Thank you! Questions?

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