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SEPT.  
2019

## PRIORITY WATER RESOURCE PROJECTS

*submitted by South Florida Water Management District*

*The South Florida Water Management District is accelerating projects to see benefits sooner for region-wide water quality and Everglades restoration.*

In January of this year, newly-elected Governor Ron DeSantis signed a historic executive order entitled *Achieving More Now For Florida's Environment*, focusing on accelerating key water quality and Everglades restoration projects. In his order, Gov. DeSantis identified more than two dozen projects that must be accelerated and completed in order to provide improvements to water quality, water quantity and water supply for Florida.

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) developed a web page with an interactive map of the priority projects. This page serves as an important tool in keeping the public informed on the status and upcoming milestones for key Everglades projects and what actions SFWMD is taking to accelerate each project in order to realize benefits sooner.

Website information includes status of project, next upcoming milestone and expected completion date as well as what SFWMD is doing to accelerate the project. The webpage will be closely monitored and updated as projects progress – all being constructed by SFWMD. It also includes priority projects being constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers such as the Kissimmee River Restoration Project and the Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation and Repair as well as major operational changes needed for restoration such as the updating of the Lake Okeechobee System Operation Manual.

**See WATER, page 2**

**See SFWMD graphic page 2**

## Governor's Priority Restoration Projects

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Central Everglades Project Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Storage Reservoir Conveyance Improvements and Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) | 18. Restoration Strategies Bolles Canal  |
| 2. Caloosahatchee (C-43) West Basin Storage Reservoir  | 19. Restoration Strategies Stormwater Treatment Area 1 West Expansion #1                       |
| 3. Indian River Lagoon C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) (STA only)   | 20. Restoration Strategies Stormwater Treatment Area 1 West Expansion #2                       |
| 4. Central Everglades Project Structure S-333N   | 21. Restoration Strategies C-139 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB)                                 |
| 5. Central Everglades Project Old Tamiami Trail Removal  | 22. Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation and Repair  |
| 6. Picayune Strand Restoration   | 23. Lake Okeechobee System Operation Manual  |
| 7. Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands L-31E Component   | 24. Upper Kissimmee Chain of Lakes Regulation Schedule   |
| 8. Lakeside Ranch STA Phases II and III  | 25. Everglades National Park/ South Dade Hydrologic Improvements (C-111 Detention Areas)       |
| 9. Brighton Valley Water Farm  | 26. Kissimmee River Restoration  |
| 10. Bluefield Grove Water Farm   | 27. Improved Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park Phase II: Tamiami Trail Road Raising |
| 11. Scott Water Farm   | 28. Improved Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park Tamiami Trail 2.6-mile Bridge        |
| 12. Nubbins Slough Stormwater Treatment Area (STA)   | 29. C-139 Annex Wetland Restoration Phase II   |
| 13. Lake Hicpochee Restoration   |  |
| 14. Caulkins Water Farm  |  |
| 15. C-43 Water Quality Study   |  |
| 16. Restoration Strategies- Stormwater Treatment Area 1 East Modifications   |  |
| 17. Restoration Strategies Stormwater Treatment Area 5/6 Internal Improvements   |  |



Gov. Ron DeSantis' Priority Projects for SFWMD

*CRAFT, con't from page 1*

### Projects in the Upper East Coast Region

The following are key projects located in the Upper East Coast (within the 16-county SFWMD area) that are part of the Priority Project list being expedited by the SFWMD.

- **The Indian River Lagoon C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area (STA component only) are part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan**
  - Located on approximately 12,000 acres on the northern side of the St. Lucie Canal in western Martin County, the C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) project will capture local basin runoff and Lake Okeechobee releases.
  - The reservoir will store 50,600 acre-feet of water.
  - The STA component will treat the water to reduce nutrient loads and improve water quality, improving the health of the St. Lucie Estuary and the Indian River Lagoon.
  - The SFWMD is working with the contractor to expedite completion of cells 1,2 and 3 by the end of 2019.
- **Lakeside Ranch Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) – Phases II and III are part of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program.**
  - The 2,700-acre Lakeside Ranch Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) in Martin County is a key component of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program that aims to restore and protect the Northern Everglades ecosystem.
  - Lakeside Ranch helps restore the water quality of Lake Okeechobee by reducing nutrient levels and improving the water quality of local stormwater runoff from the Taylor Creek and Nubbin Slough watersheds, which historically have had some of the highest concentrations of any watershed flowing into the lake.
  - When operational, it will remove approximately 19 tons of phosphorus per year.
  - The STA has been completed and construction of the S-191A Pump Station to move water in and out of the STA is expected to be completed by April 2021.
  - The SFWMD is expediting the design update for the pump station and advanced the procurement process for construction.

Visit [SFWMD.gov/AchieveMoreNow](https://www.sfwmd.gov/AchieveMoreNow) for these and other projects ongoing in your area. For more information about the work of the South Florida Water Management District, visit [sfwmd.gov](https://www.sfwmd.gov).

# CRAFT PREPARES TO ROLL OUT APPLICATIONS

*submitted by Florida Citrus Mutual*

The Citrus Research and Field Trial Foundation Inc. (CRAFT Foundation) Board of Directors, Technical Working (TWG), staff and a legion of volunteers have been working at top speed throughout the summer finalizing the formation, organization and funding of the CRAFT program.

The first priority for the CRAFT Foundation's staff and Board of Directors has been securing all available funding for the program. More than \$6.5 million has been awarded from the USDA HLB-MAC to fund program work, data collection and administration of the program. In addition, the CRAFT Foundation has submitted a proposal for \$2M in response to the Citrus Research and Development Foundation (CRDF)'s Request for Proposals on Large-Scale Citrus Research Field Trials and Demonstrations. A decision by the CRDF on that proposal is expected by September 26. Continued funding decisions by the USDA for the next two years are expected by October 1.

In the first year, CRAFT anticipates funding the 2,000 acres of new solid-set plantings and 240 acres of re-sets in groves for rehabilitation (where new re-sets account for 25% of the planted trees) with approximately 65 growers participating. Projects, limited to orange and grapefruit varieties, will be distributed across the major citrus growing regions of Florida, thus representing the different soil types and environmental micro-climates within each citrus production region. Depending on the availability of funding, it is expected that year two could include the planting of an additional 3,000 acres. The program is expected to collect data from each participating grove for 6-8 years. The data will be analyzed to determine the best practices or combination of best practices to mitigate the effects of HLB.

At its core, the CRAFT program is a broad-scale research project carried out under commercial citrus production conditions. As such, growers who wish to participate in the CRAFT Program will be asked to select between one and three factors to test from a list of testable items developed by the TWG. These "test factors" will be employed by the grower on test blocks of 20 to 100 acres. The factors that can be selected for testing include methods and treatments that past research has shown to have a positive impact on HLB mitigation. A complete list of test factors will be included in the online application and will include categories such as grove architecture (i.e. tree density, rootstock) tree health (i.e. irrigation, nutrition, bio-stimulants etc.) and vector management (i.e. bag enclosures, reflective mulch, physical barriers, etc.) Upon review of applications, CRAFT Foundation may choose to negotiate project elements with growers to achieve a multi-location design, across major growing regions and help fill out CRAFT experiment design goals.

The CRAFT application will be available online in the next few days at [www.craftfdn.org](http://www.craftfdn.org). Applications will be due by 5:00 p.m. on October 15, 2019. The approval process will not be "first-come, first-serve" so there will be plenty of time to apply. Information and directions on the application process will also be available on the CRAFT website. Growers will be able to print an application work sheet to assist them in gathering information before beginning the application process.

Once the application window has closed, participating projects will be selected by the CRAFT Foundation Board of Directors in a blind-selection process. Contracts will be offered to the growers whose projects best align with CRAFT experimental design goals. Growers selected for contracts will be contacted by CRAFT representatives to make sure the participant understands all terms and conditions of their contract before signing. Upon execution of the program contract, growers will be responsible for carrying out all production-related activities and their portion of the data collection as

***See CRAFT, page 5***



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### ***CRAFT, con't from page 3***

outlined in each contract. Data collected will be inputted into the USDA/ARS data management tool and will be made available to the public while maintaining anonymity for the participating grower.

In return for the data provided and access to the groves being tested, participating growers will be paid an annual fee amounting to up to \$3,000 the first year for solid set plantings (a reduced amount for re-sets in established groves in the program). To qualify for year one fees, all planting must take place after execution of the contract and before June 30, 2020. The grower must fully perform all terms and conditions of his contract as well to qualify for payments. Additional, smaller payments will be made as funding permits for subsequent years of participation.

“The success of the CRAFT program will, undoubtedly, come from the combined efforts of the Florida citrus growers and the support team who has put in so much effort already,” said CRAFT Foundation, Inc. Executive Director Kristen Carlson. “From Florida Citrus Mutual working diligently to help secure funds, to our volunteer Board of Directors and Technical Working Groups, to Commissioner Fried’s staff, and the team members at the USDA, UF/IFAS and CRDF who have all stepped up and worked overtime to get all aspects of the CRAFT Foundation and Program up and running, we couldn’t have made it this far without their assistance. Now it’s time for the selected growers to bring the project to life and to help provide invaluable data and guidance for all citrus growers to learn from.”

For more information on the CRAFT program, visit [www.craftfdn.org](http://www.craftfdn.org) or contact Kristen Carlson at [kristen@craftfdn.org](mailto:kristen@craftfdn.org) or Tamara Wood at [tamara@craftfdn.org](mailto:tamara@craftfdn.org).



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**January 21, 2020 — Indian River Citrus League Banquet  
Pointe West Country Club – Vero Beach**

**January 22-23, 2020 — 2020 Florida Citrus Show  
Fenn Center – Ft. Pierce**

**March 27, 2020 — IRCL River Fun Shoo  
Quail Creek Plantation - Okeechobee**

Newsletter Advertising  
Publication schedule is September through June.

For more information on these opportunities,  
please contact the League office.  
772-595-5026 or [info@ircitrusleague.org](mailto:info@ircitrusleague.org)





## STREETMAN RECEIVES FLORIDA CITRUS PACKERS' HIGHEST HONOR

Florida Citrus Packers honored George H. Streetman with its John T. Lesley Award for Excellence at Packinghouse Day. The John T. Lesley Award is the organization's highest recognition, reserved for individuals making sustained and outstanding contributions to Florida's fresh citrus industry. The list of recipients reads like a "who's who" of the Florida citrus industry.

Mr. Streetman served as president of Florida Citrus Packers, as a member of the Indian River Citrus League and New Varieties Development & Management Corp. Boards of Directors, and chaired the Citrus Administrative Committee, overseeing a Federal marketing order for fresh Florida citrus. He served on the Florida Citrus Commission, including as chairman from 2010-11. Mr. Streetman received the Legends of the River award in 2015. He has long been respected for his professionalism and effective leadership style, but perhaps equally as important, for his love of industry, willingness to serve and gracious nature. His leadership extended to the regulatory arena as well as numerous bank boards. He was awarded the "Hammer Award" by USDA, which was presented by Al Gore.

Florida Citrus Packers congratulates Mr. George H. Streetman – Recipient of the 2019 John T. Lesley Award.



# FALL 2019 FARM LABOR SUPERVISOR TRAINING SCHEDULE

**NOVEMBER 19 - 20**  
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2685 SR 29 North, Immokalee, FL 34142  
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**Register:**

**<https://fls2019Immokalee.eventbrite.com>**

## DAY 1

Day 1 - Time	Classes
8:00AM - 8:30AM	Registration
8:30AM - 10:15AM	Farm Labor Contractor Basics & Navigating H-2A
10:30AM - 12:15PM	Wage/Hour Regulations & Managing H-2A Workers
12:15PM - 1:00PM	Lunch
1:00PM - 2:30PM	EEOC Compliance - Harrassment and Discrimination
2:45PM - 4:30PM	Management Communications

## DAY 2

Day 2 - Time	Classes
8:00AM - 8:30AM	Registration
8:30AM - 10:00AM	Safe Driving
10:15AM - 11:30AM	Pesticide Safety
11:30AM - 12:15PM	Lunch
12:15PM - 1:30PM	Heat Sress Prevention
1:45PM - 3:30PM	Hand Labor Equipment Safety

### **WHO SHOULD TAKE THESE CLASSES?**

Labor Supervisors, Contractors, Crew Leaders, Foreman, Bus & Van Drivers, Human Resources, Payroll, Compliance, Labor Managers, and Farm Managers.

**LANGUAGE:** English or Spanish

**CLASS INFORMATION:** A Certificate of Farm Labor Managment is earned by attendees who pass tests in all classes.

### **FEE: \$75 per class, \$525 for the complete**

**certificate program** (one student must attend all 8 classes)

**MINIMUM CLASS SIZE:** 10 participants

### **TO REGISTER, VISIT:**

**<http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/programs/economics/fls>**  
or go directly to the Eventbrite page shown for each location.

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# EMBRACING THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER

When he took office, Gov. Ron DeSantis quickly responded to Florida's water resource challenges by issuing an executive order, *Achieving More Now For Florida's Environment*, and laying out a directive for the "rapid improvement for water quality, quantity and supply."

The St. Johns River Water Management District is following Gov. DeSantis' order and building on its proud history of tackling ambitious water quality and water supply projects throughout its 18-county jurisdiction.

The district's crown jewel is its Upper St. Johns River Basin Project, one of the largest

flood control and marsh restoration projects in the world. Working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, by May 2016, the district was able to celebrate the project's many benefits---flood control, water quality, water supply and habitat improvements.

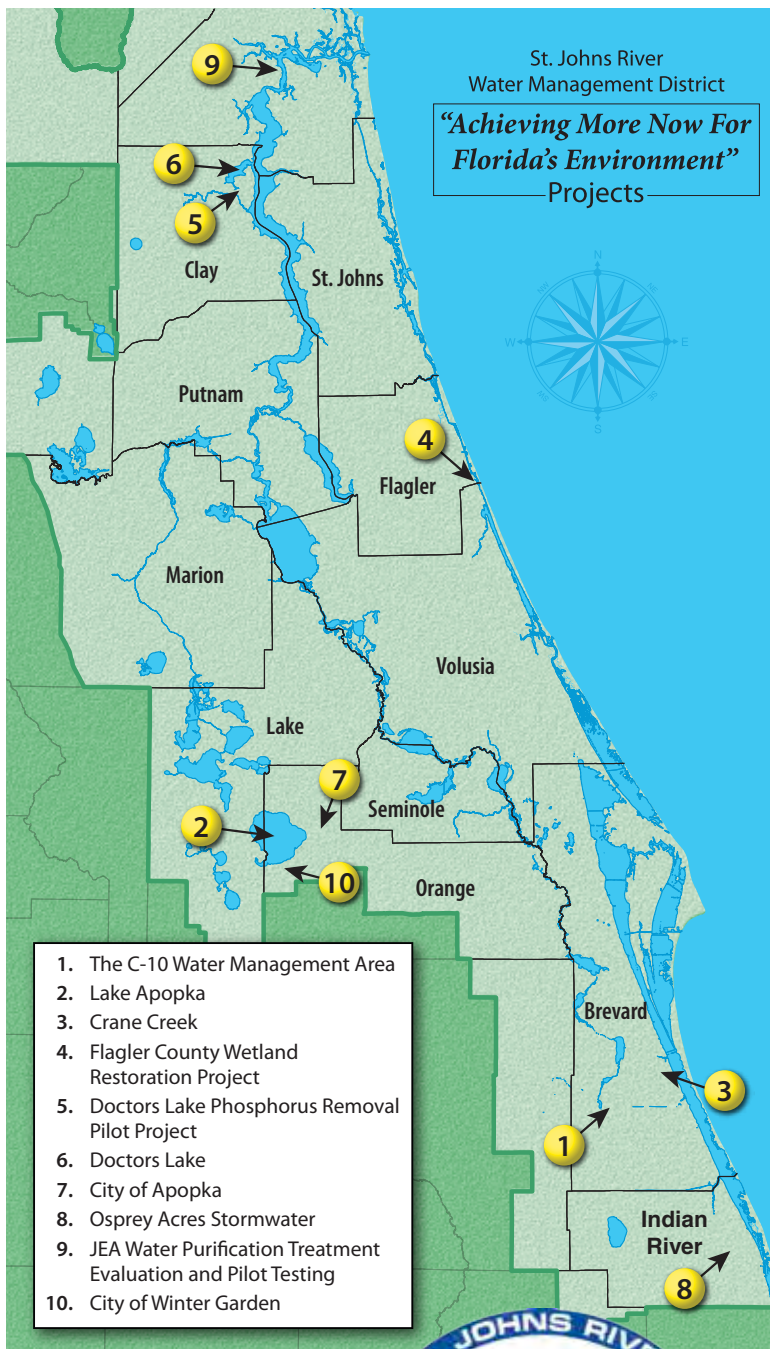
Since 2014, the district has invested \$114 million in more than 20 projects to help restore and protect the Indian River Lagoon. This includes muck dredging, septic-to-sewer and stormwater treatment projects along the central and northern stretches of the 156-mile-long estuary. Visit [www.sjrwmd.com/static/waterways/IRL-projects-fact-sheet.pdf](http://www.sjrwmd.com/static/waterways/IRL-projects-fact-sheet.pdf) for a map and list of projects.

Today, the district is focused on numerous projects aligning with Gov. DeSantis' directive. Here are a few current highlights:

- The C-10 Water Management Area (WMA) and the C-10 Pump Station will help restore historic flows to the St. Johns River and reduce nutrient loading to the Indian River Lagoon.
- The use of innovative technology will remove phosphorus and improve the water quality of Lake Apopka.
- Restoration of the Crane Creek M-1 Canal flows with cooperative funding from Brevard County and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- Restoration of 96-acre dragline ditch-impacted coastal wetlands in Flagler County in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), DEP, and Florida Park Service.
- Design of a full-scale demonstration project to remove phosphorus from a wastewater treatment plant on Doctors Lake.
- Partnership with Clay County Utility Authority on septic-to-sewer and advanced septic systems within the Doctors Lake watershed.



*Lake Apopka is the headwaters of the Ocklawaha Chain of Lakes. The district and partners have worked since the 1980s to improve the lake's water quality and habitat, achieving significant water quality and habitat improvements.*



**St. Johns  
River Water  
Management  
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[www.sjrwmd.com](http://www.sjrwmd.com)

## General Cost-Share Projects

For FY 2018–19, the district is projected to complete 52 cost-share projects with a combined total of more than \$28 million in district and state funding. These projects are estimated to result in approximately 16 million gallons a day (mgd) in alternative water supplies, the conservation of more than 0.5 mgd in potable water, nutrient load-reduction of approximately 369,000 pounds per year of nitrogen and 108,000 pounds per year of phosphorus, and the protection of nearly 2,250 acres from flooding.

Among the current projects the district is supporting:

- The city of Apopka's Water Reclamation Facility Nutrient Removal Improvement, which involves upgrades to the existing water reclamation facility.
- Indian River County's Osprey Acres Stormwater Park which diverts stormwater from an agricultural area to the project where it undergoes treatment for nitrogen and phosphorus before ultimately discharging to the Indian River Lagoon via two canals.
- The JEA Water Purification Treatment Evaluation and Pilot Testing project which includes the testing of two treatment processes to evaluate the effectiveness of treating wastewater to potable standards.
- The expansion of the city of Winter Garden reuse water service to retrofit four subdivisions in the Stoneybrook West community.

## Additional Cost-Share and Economic Development projects

This fiscal year, the district has completed or is working on 32 agricultural cost-share projects with a total of \$4.2 million in district funding as well as \$2.8 million in cost-share fund benefitting Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) communities. In addition, the district is funding projects using innovative technology to provide data supporting full scale implementation of alternative water supplies.





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