



**Alachua County
Environmental Protection Department**

**Alachua County
Citizens Academy
Spring
2018 Presentation
Chris Bird, Director**



Alachua County Environmental Protection Department

Environmental Stewardship

- Clean Water
- Protection and Purchase of Sensitive Lands
- Responsible Hazardous Waste Management
- Healthy, Natural Environment





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Programs Overview

- **Pollution Prevention**
 - Petroleum Storage Tank Compliance Inspections
 - Hazardous Wastes Collection
 - Petroleum-Contaminated Site Cleanup Oversight
- **Natural Resources**
 - Environmental Planning
 - Environmental Review of Land Development
- **Water Resources**
 - Water Quality
 - Water Conservation
 - Stormwater Management
 - Hazardous Materials Management





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Pollution Prevention Division – Storage Tank Compliance



- State-funded petroleum storage tank compliance inspection program
- Prevent groundwater contamination
- Sixteen county region managed by Alachua County
- 1,295 registered petroleum storage tank facilities
- Conduct 724 routine compliance inspections
- Funds 5 local jobs with a \$474,000 budget

***1 gallon of
gasoline can
contaminate
1 million
gallons of water***

Desired Outcome: Clean Water





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Pollution Prevention Division - Petroleum Cleanup



- State-funded Clean-up of petroleum contaminated sites
- Eleven county region managed by ACEPD
- Technical and financial oversight of private contractors
- 422 petroleum contaminated sites
- Average cost of clean-up ~ \$400,000 per site
- Funds 8 local jobs with a \$986,000 budget

Desired Outcome: Clean Water





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Pollution Prevention



**Hazardous Waste Collection
Center & Rural Collection
Centers**



Neighborhood Collections



Reuse/Recycle Center

Proper Disposal and Recycle of Hazardous Wastes -- Oils, Gasoline, Antifreeze, Batteries, Pesticides, Household Chemicals, Discarded Pharmaceuticals, Paints, Computers, Monitors, TVs, Electronics, Waste Vegetable Oil

Desired Outcome: Responsible Hazardous Waste Management





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Pollution Prevention



**Waste Vegetable Oil to
Biodiesel Fuel**

- **FREE Services to Homeowners**
- **Contact EPD for Information**



**Unwanted
Pharmaceutical
Disposal**

Heating Oil Collection



Desired Outcome: Clean Water





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Protecting the **Natural Resources** of Alachua County

- Citizen response
- Pre-screening of building permits
- Development review, zoning, land use requests
- Compliance and Enforcement
- Environmental Planning

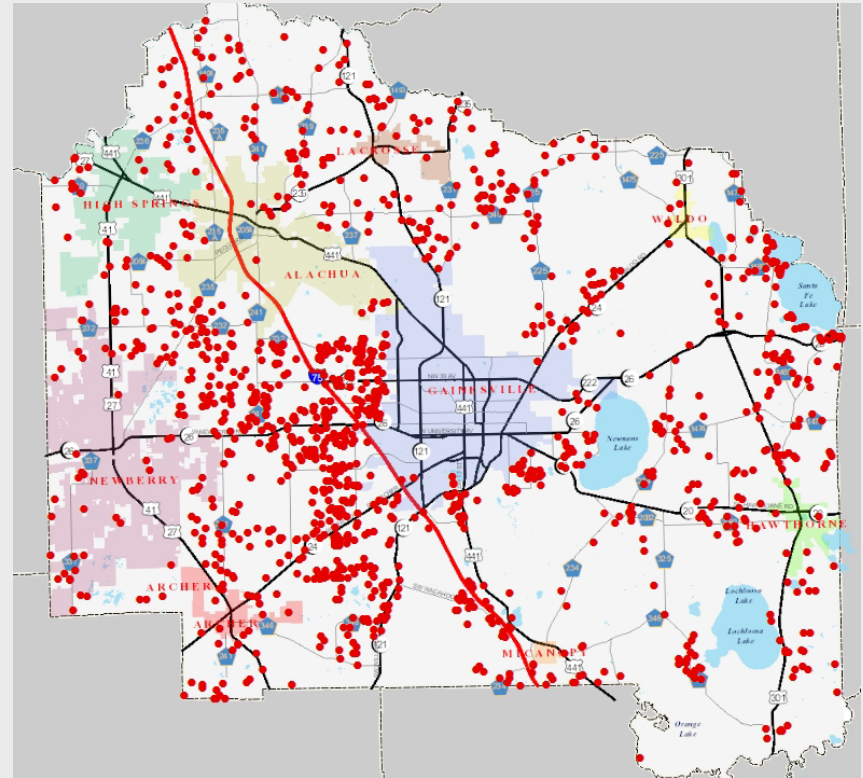




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Protecting the Natural Resources of Alachua County

- Citizen response
- **500** site visits per year
- **800** building permit reviews per year
- **200** development review projects per year
- Compliance and Enforcement
- Environmental Planning



Building permit sites in unincorporated Alachua County with natural resources issues (red dots).





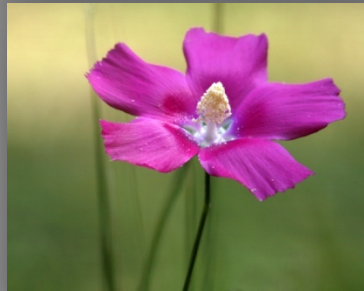
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What are Alachua County's **natural resources**?





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*We **all** benefit from our natural resources*

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Environmental Stewardship

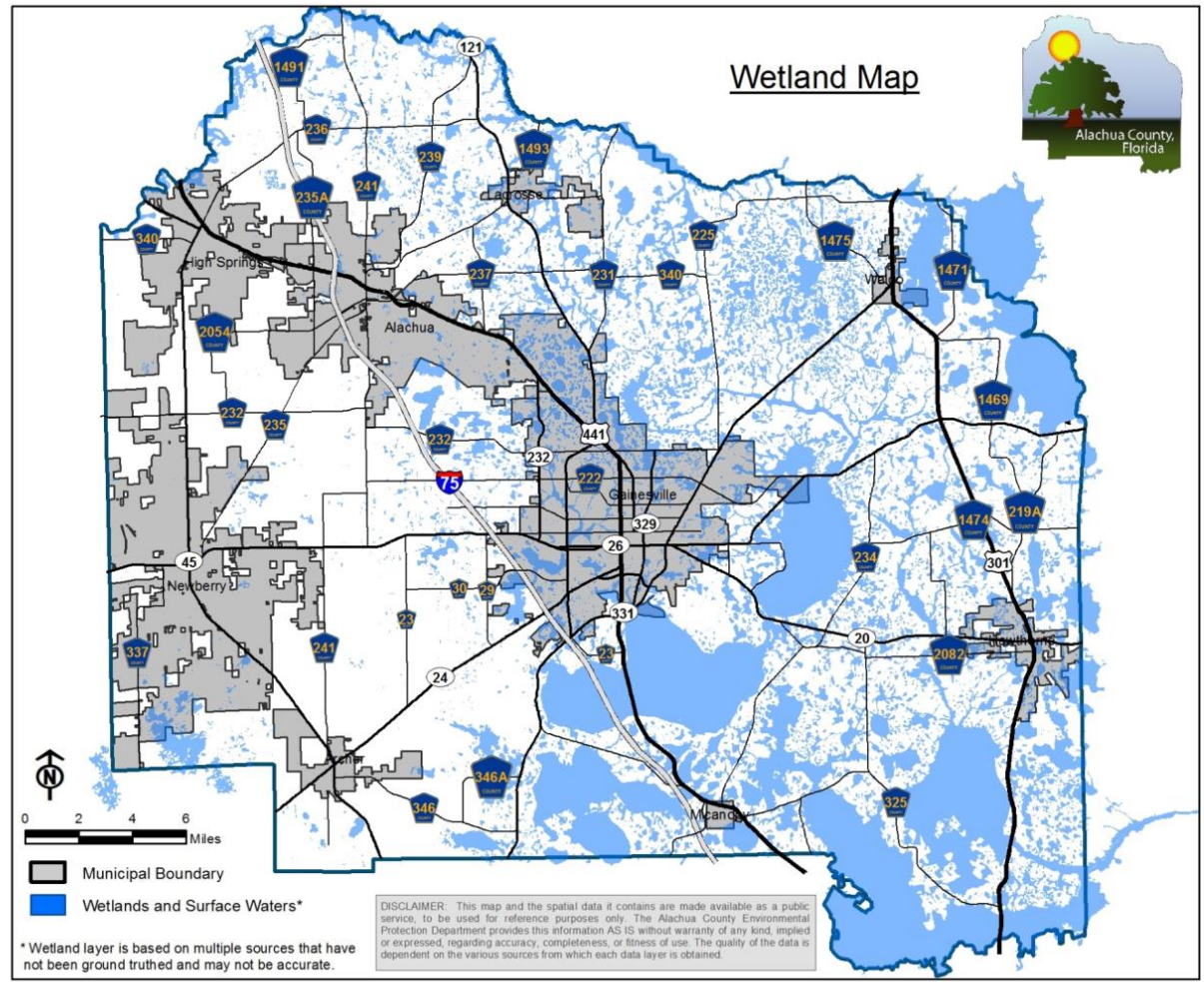




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New Water Quality Code that protects wetlands county- wide:

- Sets minimum buffers
- Strong avoidance policies
- Applicable within municipalities
- For information, visit our website or email wetlands@alachuacounty.us





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Mapped Environmental Information

In Unincorporated Alachua County
Websites:

- Growth Management
 - <http://growth-management.alachuacounty.us/>
- Property Appraiser
 - <http://www.acpafl.org/>

Contact Alachua County EPD

- Natural Resources Section (352) 264-6800
<http://www.alachuacounty.us/epd/nr/>

BE AWARE: GIS MAPS MAY NOT INCLUDE ALL RESOURCES. Always have an environmental professional ground-truth your site before commencing any work to ensure that you will not impact natural resources.





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*Learning to be more **GREEN**...*

Green landscaping



Florida Friendly Landscaping using native plants which are well adapted to our climate and soils and require less irrigation

Green planning



Low(er) Impact Design (LID) features such as swales and porous pavement to allow groundwater recharge throughout a development

Green building



Clearing only enough land for the footprint of the house and adopting materials and building standards to make your house more energy efficient (skylights)





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WATER RESOURCES



MONITORING

**COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE
& ENFORCEMENT**

CLEANUP & RESTORATION

EDUCATION & OUTREACH





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Monitoring local groundwater & surface waters





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Compliance Assistance & Enforcement



Facility Inspections

- 1000 regulated facilities
- 500 inspections per year
- Compliance assistance
- Complaint response





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Protecting environment and property values



Emergency Response to Spills



**Monitor Remediation of
Contaminated Sites**





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Water Conservation

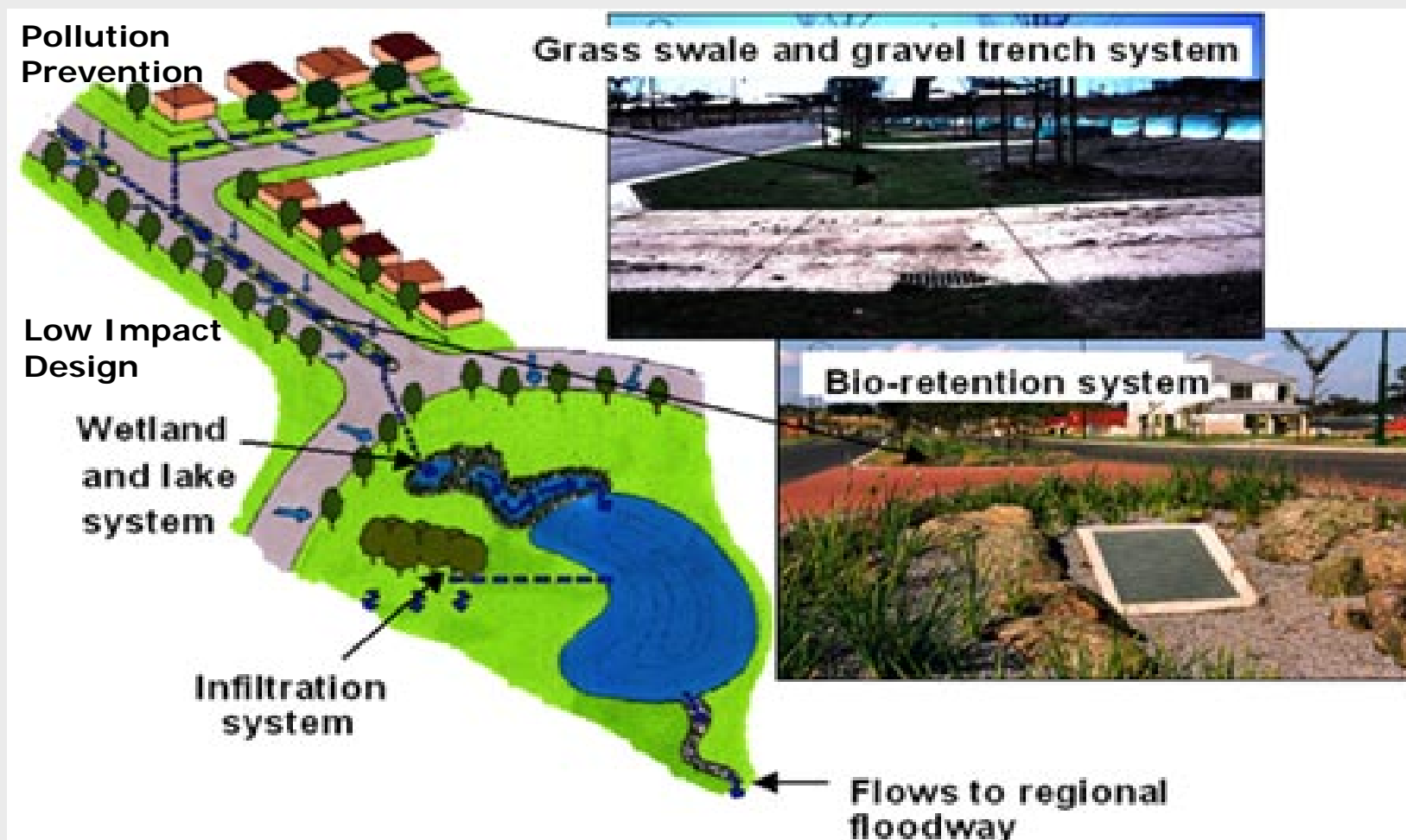
- Implementation of landscape irrigation codes
- Education and outreach
 - Classroom presentations
 - Community events
 - Presentations
 - Media campaigns





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Water Quality – Stormwater Management





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Thank you!

