



2019 Alachua County State Legislative Program



Where Nature and Culture Meet



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New Alachua County Agriculture Center: \$1 million request - \$9 million local match

The new Agricultural Center is a \$10 million project. This appropriations request is for \$1 million with Alachua County and the City of Newberry providing a \$9 million dollar local match. Creating a new Agricultural Center, which includes relocating the UF/IFAS Extension – Alachua County facility there, will be an enormous economic boost for the City of Newberry as well as Alachua County.

The County will purchase and renovate the existing Canterbury Equestrian site as the Alachua County Agriculture Center. The County will also purchase land and build a new UF/IFAS office and a new community center.

ECO Industrial Park: \$3.5 million request - \$4.2 million match

This request is for \$3.5 Million for the design and construction of a 20,000 SF anchor facility dedicated to research and business incubation for waste-based industries. To be located at the Alachua County ECO Industrial Park, this anchor building will be the next step in the County's long-term collaboration with the City of Gainesville and the University of Florida in a comprehensive waste management strategy. Alachua County has committed \$1.6 M in land and engineering in addition to the Phase 1 site work cost of \$2.6 M, to be completed in Spring 2019.

The facility will include 37 acres of shovel-ready sites. The sites will be suitable for waste-based manufacturers supporting industries that utilize waste products from the State of Florida as their raw material for the manufacturing processes.

Newnans Lake Improvement Initiative Phase III - \$470,000

Newnans Lake has a total maximum daily load (TMDL) for nitrogen and phosphorus, with nutrient reduction goals set forth in the Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan. A major step toward water quality improvement in the lake is addressing external loading from the tributaries that feed the lake. In fiscal year 2016/2017 Phase I work began with a legislative funding initiative to assess and conceptually design a pilot project for water quality improvements in the Little Hatchet Creek watershed. Phase II provides funds for construction of a pilot treatment project on Little Hatchet Creek and a preliminary assessment of nutrient sources in the Hatchet Creek watershed. Proposed Phase III activities include expansion of the pilot project to enhance water quality treatment, reduce nutrient loading to the lake from Gum Root Swamp, and further assess nutrient loading from Hatchet Creek and locate potential areas for instream nutrient reduction treatment.