



FLERA FOCUS!

Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies
Your *RESOURCE* for Environmental Protection

www.flera.org

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2009 FLERA Annual Conference July 29-31, 2009 – REGISTER TODAY!

Sustainability & Local Government – Roles, Responsibilities & Opportunities What can you do to keep your city or county green? This year's Conference will give you new perspectives on the roles of local governments as Florida addresses the critical issue of climate change and sustainability! Join us July 29- 31, 2009 at the recently-renovated Hyatt Regency Sarasota. Visit the FLERA website at <http://www.flera.org/conference.html> for the Conference program, brochure and registration form.

Green Stimulus Funding Opportunities

The FLERA Quarterly Education meeting will be held on May 29 at 1:00PM in Orange County to discuss "Green" infrastructure funding, including the EECBG. Learn about what types of projects and funding are eligible. **Register Today** by going to the FLERA website <http://www.flera.org/membership.html>. Invite a guest - there is no cost to attend but registration is required as seating is limited!

Florida Forever Funding

Florida Forever funding is not dead in this Session! Funding is contained in Senate Bill 2430, which has been passed by the Senate. There is still an opportunity for funding in FY 2009-10 if legislators are contacted immediately. For more information go to <http://www.supportfloridaforever.org/action/action-4-29-09.shtml>.

Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grants (EECBG)

The Department of Energy (DOE) has awarded Florida \$168.8 million for grants to cities and counties to fund projects that reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions. \$73.6 M is allocated to 17 counties with populations greater than 200,000 and \$64.5M to 69 cities with populations greater than 35,000 people. Cities and counties that were selected to receive money by formula (population size) should be working on Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategies and identifying eligible projects. Submittals are due by June 25, 2009. Additional information about the EECBG Program can be obtained at the EECBG website: <http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/>. Other jurisdictions may be eligible for additional grants coming out of the Florida Energy Office, check the website at http://www.myfloridaclimate.com/env/home/climate_quick_links/florida_energy_climate_commission.

Funding Available for Alternative Fuel Vehicles

Clean Cities is bringing a huge stimulus grant to Florida for alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure. If you are considering the purchase of such a vehicle, the Department of Energy Clean Cities grant will pay up to 50% of the cost. This is a public/private partnership in which all FLERA members can participate. Contact Jennifer Szaro at the Orlando Utilities Commission at JSzaro@ouc.com for more information. The submittal deadline is May 15th.

UF Offers Online Environmental Forensic Certificate and Masters Degree Programs

For the past ten years, the University of Florida has been offering Forensic Science Masters Degree Programs online and its now the world's largest graduate-level forensic program. Based on popular demand UF expanded its program in 2008 to include an Environmental Forensic Certificate. For more information, visit <http://www.forensicscience.ufl.edu/programs.asp?p=139> or contact Ann Louise Everett at annlouise.everett@apollidon.com.

Other Grant Funding Opportunities

- ♦ **Smart Grid Demonstrations** - includes regionally unique demonstrations to verify smart grid technology viability, quantify smart grid costs and benefits and validate new smart grid business models, at a scale that can be readily adapted and replicated around the country. Find out more at <http://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect>.
- ♦ **LUST Recovery** – Provides funding to assess and clean up leaking underground storage tanks. It will include \$11,276,000 in funding for Florida. For more information, visit EPA's stimulus web page: <http://www.epa.gov/recovery/>. Additional funding opportunity announcements can be found at <http://www.grants.gov>.

FLERA Members Receive Discount on Green Cities Florida Conference Registration

The Green Cities Florida Conference: *Sustainable Solutions for Business and Government* is co-sponsored by FLERA and will be held on May 19-21, 2009 at the Orange County Convention Center. Go to <http://www.greencities.com> for more information!

"Providing Community-Based Environmental Protection"

How green are you? Play the game at <http://go.ucsusa.org/game/>