



# FLERA FOCUS!

Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies

Your *RESOURCE* for Environmental Protection

[www.flera.org](http://www.flera.org)

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5

## **FLERA Members – Don't Miss the November Quarterly Educational Meeting!**

FLERA members enjoy the benefit of top quality quarterly educational meetings with no registration fee! The November meeting features presenters Stephen Hofstetter (Alachua County), Pierce Jones (IFAS) and Jack Merriam (Sarasota County) as they focus on Low Impact Development Techniques - one of the primary methods to improve surface water quality and meet regulatory requirements in your jurisdiction. The meeting will be held from **1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on November 5<sup>th</sup>** in the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Office, 119 West Kaley Street in Orlando. Complete the form at <http://www.flera.org/education.html> and fax it to FLERA at (850) 222-4124 by November 2<sup>nd</sup>! Do you know someone who would benefit by attending this meeting? Invite them to come as your guest!

## **Orange County Supports “Kilowatt Crackdown”**

The Central Florida Energy Efficiency Alliance (CFEEA) was recently formed and has issued its first challenge – the “Kilowatt Crackdown.” The Kilowatt Crackdown is a challenge to encourage building owners and managers to reduce energy consumption in their buildings, first by benchmarking energy use with EPA’s Energy Star Portfolio Manager. Recognition and awards will be given. The aggressive goal is to sign up 2010 buildings by June 30, 2010. CFEEA includes two FLERA members, Orange County and the City of Orlando, as well as associations such as BOMA (Building Owners and Managers Association), ASHRAE (American Society of Heating and Refrigeration Engineers), USGBC (US Green Building Council), FGBC (Florida Green Building Coalition), IFMA (International Facilities Managers Association), AIA (American Institute of Architects), Net Impact Orlando, utility companies and academic institutions including UCF (University of Central Florida). This effort is being funded with stimulus dollars from Orange County. To learn more, visit <http://www.orangecountyfl.net/cms/DEPT/CEsrvc/epd/CFEEA/default.htm>.

## **Voluntary Agreement to Maintain Bay Water Quality Sent to Regulators**

A landmark agreement between 32 area government and private industry representatives to limit nitrogen pollution in Tampa Bay has been sent to regulators and local authorities for approval. The agreement spells out how much nitrogen can enter Tampa Bay through stormwater, air pollution, treated wastewater and industrial discharges through 2012. The Tampa Bay Estuary Program facilitated a consensus-based approach by the Tampa Bay Nitrogen Management Consortium, representing every major government in the Tampa Bay watershed and key industries such as utilities, fertilizer manufacturers, commercial agriculture, and regulatory agencies. <http://www.tbep.org/news/whatsnew.shtml>

## **Ibis Isle Restoration Project**

Palm Beach County through its Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) is working on a “muck makeover” at Ibis Isle. Due to its close proximity to the C-51 Canal, the benthic habitat surrounding the area known as Ibis Isle has been blanketed with one to seven feet of muck sediment. Restoration of this area involves placing 12 inches of sand and rock over 8 acres of muck sediments to create mangrove, tidal marsh and oyster habitat for fish and wildlife. Since the beginning of construction in late June over 33,000 tons of sand has been placed. Read more at <http://www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/erm/downloads/pdf/newsletters/Fall2009.pdf>.



## **Broward County's LEED Certified Buildings**

Broward County's Environmental Monitoring Laboratory has just received a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification. Along with Broward County's new South Regional Library, Broward County now has two LEED certified buildings. LEED is a voluntary, internationally recognized rating system for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings that emphasize five areas: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials and resources selection, and indoor environmental quality. Features of the new Environmental Monitoring Laboratory include: a comprehensive security system with intercom access, proximity cards, cameras and security alarm; impact resistant glass windows rated at 145 miles per hour; fire sprinkler systems and fire alarms; lightning protection; two mechanical mezzanines; on-site stormwater retention and treatment; and, specialized waste piping with a pH neutralization tank. [http://www.broward.org/library/factsheet\\_sr.htm](http://www.broward.org/library/factsheet_sr.htm).

## **City of Jacksonville's New Animal Care & Protective Services Facility Obtains LEED Gold Certification!**

The City of Jacksonville's new Animal Care & Protective Services facility is the first LEED Gold certified facility in Jacksonville and includes state of the art features such as a cool roof, low flow plumbing fixtures, and drought tolerant landscaping. In addition, the building includes heavy usage of recycled materials and low-emitting adhesives and paints. The cutting edge center includes new labs and equipment, kennels, automatic water-bowl fillers, bicycle racks, storage and locker rooms. More information and LEED specifications can be found at <http://www.flera.org/pdf/CityJaxAnimalCare.pdf>.