



**AGENDA FOR MONTHLY MEETING
VOLUSIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

5:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 12, 2022

University of Florida IFAS Extension Auditorium

3100 E. New York Avenue, DeLand, FL 32724

Also accessible via Zoom video conferencing at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8049850206?pwd=c2JuOGloOWpCdWk4eEQrZDgvcmg5dz09>

Meeting ID: 804 985 0206 Password: SWCD

- I. Call to Order
- II. Supervisor Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes from December 8, 2021 meeting
- IV. Announcements and other updates
- V. Reports:
 1. Conrad Wysocki, U.S.D.A. N.R.C.S. Soil Scientist
 2. Andy Kelly—Treasurer’s report
 3. William Bliss--Website update
 4. Reports from Supervisors on individual initiatives
- VI. Correspondence:
 - a. mail, e-mail, phone
- VII. Old Business
 - a. Update of Tree Planting Plans
 - b. Resolution 2022-1 on Biodiversity Enhancement Ordinance
 - c. Resolution 2022-2 to Preserve Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Resolution 2022-3 to Three Islands North project in Deltona
- IX. Supervisor Final Remarks and Public Comments
- X. Adjournment



A RESOLUTION 2022-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE VOLUSIA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, FLORIDA, TO URGE ALL GOVERNMENTS TO REQUIRE ANY CORPORATIONS OR LANDOWNERS PROPOSING NEW DEVELOPMENTS OR CHANGES TO CURRENT LAND USES TO FACILITATE AN INCREASE IN THE LOCAL BIODIVERSITY AND SPECIES DENSITY OF NATIVE FLORIDA PLANTS AND ANIMALS

WHEREAS, it is the purpose¹ of Florida's Soil & Water Conservation Districts to connect the people to the best management practices and most up-to-date scientific advice on how to maintain and improve the local natural environment, while safeguarding and protecting the quality of life of the people and wildlife living in and depending on this environment and also ensure that existing property rights and entitlements remain in place.

WHEREAS, the human civilization will continue to physically rely on the existence of a intact biodiverse natural ecosystem² for the supply of clean water, fertile farms, and ecological services;

WHEREAS, Florida's clean and naturally biodiverse environments are a significant tourist attraction, and tourism is Florida's largest economic sector³;

WHEREAS, in Florida and all around the world, human development is destroying natural environments at an unsustainable rate, directly causing a species extinction rate that is 10,000 times higher than the 'background' rate⁴;

WHEREAS, these high species extinction rates are predicted to destroy as much as half of all existing species on Earth by 2050 unless we halt our destruction of natural habitats;

WHEREAS, by providing proper stewardship of Florida's biodiversity, we protect our economy, our quality of life, and the possibility for future human civilizations to survive and thrive;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VOLUSIA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, IN OPEN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED ON THIS 12th DAY OF JANUARY, 2022, AS FOLLOWS:

The Volusia County Soil and Water Conservation District hereby

SECTION 1. Encourages all stakeholders who control land and/or physical structures to require all future changes to these lands and physical structures be constrained to known scientific principles that have been proven to promote biodiversity.



SECTION 2. Recommends that the following examples of biodiversity enhancing transitions plus numerous others should be incorporated in all public and private new developments and major additions or changes to existing developments:

- New buildings should be encouraged to incorporate green roofs and walls.
- New building codes for sidewalks and parking lots should exclude the use of turf grass, and maximize permeable surfaces whenever possible, and include requirements for high density trees, bushes, and physical structures designed to promote diverse plant and animal habitats.
- New or extensively repaired solar panel arrays should be elevated, and the land underneath be augmented so as to be suitable for use as gardens, parks, forests, or allowed to grow into a native Florida vegetation community.
- Sodded grass lawns should be replaced with native plants, waterwise plantings and ground covers.
- Closed golf courses should be retained as green space and transitioned into parks, neighborhood gardens, environmental conservation, or similar uses to support biodiversity whenever possible.
- Private owners of native lands who are intending to build housing developments, should be encouraged to instead pursue the best and highest use of the property by constructing high rise resort-style apartment buildings, thus allowing the soils, terrestrial ecosystems, and water bodies between these high rise buildings to remain in tact and supporting biodiverse ecosystems.

SECTION 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Citations

1. <https://www.flsenate.gov/Laws/Statutes/2018/0582.02>
2. <https://www.ecowatch.com/biodiversity-and-human-survival-2636494557.html>
3. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florida#Economy>
4. https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/import/downloads/species_extinction_05_2007.pdf

DONE AND ORDERED IN OPEN MEETING.

Wendy Anderson, Chair,
Volusia County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Date

Attest, Conrad Wysocki, Soil Scientist,
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Date



RESOLUTION 2022-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE VOLUSIA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF RETENTION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

WHEREAS, As Florida's economy and population continues to grow, Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide a critical service promoting conservation of our most valuable asset, Florida's natural resources;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts fully support maintaining Florida's agricultural industry one of the most productive and profitable in the United States of America and the world;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide essential technical assistance to agricultural producers and landowners relating to the implementation and use of Best Management Practices (BMP's) in their operations;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts promote urban community gardens, healthy food programs, and educational outreach for underserved populations facing food insecurity;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts assist agricultural producers and landowners in securing cost share dollars for conservation practices and equipment;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts support and provide assistance for youth educational activities such as speech and poster contests, Future Farmers of America (FFA) and 4-H Club events, Soil Judging contests, and Arbor Day;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts promote educational activities for the general public regarding water resources, soil health, food quality, and healthy lifestyles in Florida;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts act in partnership to assist Federal (Natural Resources Conservation Service) and State (Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services) agencies to host workshops, conduct surveys, and complete various other projects;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide low-cost rental of agricultural equipment to producers and landowners that aids in conservation and efficiency but is often too expensive for most citizens to purchase;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide cost share assistance for qualified landowners to combat and treat invasive, aquatic weeds in ponds, along with other extensive practices;



NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VOLUSIA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, IN OPEN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED ON THIS 12th DAY OF JANUARY, 2022, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The above recitals are true and correct, and by this reference are hereby incorporated in and made an integral part of this Resolution.

SECTION 2. The Volusia County Soil and Water Conservation District hereby

1. Opposes any legislation, specifically Senate Bill 1078 and House Bill 783, that would abolish or weaken any Florida Soil and Water Conservation District
2. Supports all Soil and Water Conservation Districts in their protection of our natural resources, our agricultural industry, and the general health and well-being of the citizens of the State of Florida.

SECTION 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

DONE AND ORDERED IN OPEN MEETING.

Wendy Anderson, Chair,
Volusia County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Date

Attest, Conrad Wysocki, Soil Scientist,
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Date



RESOLUTION 2022-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE VOLUSIA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, FLORIDA, RECOMMENDING MAINTENANCE OF NATURAL HYDROLOGY AND PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE CORRIDOR PROTECTION STRATEGIES FOR THREE ISLAND NORTH RESIDENTIAL PLANNED URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DELTONA, FL

WHEREAS, the Volusia County Soil and Water Conservation District purpose is to provide assistance, guidance, and education to land owners, land occupiers, the natural resources of the County, including its soil and water; and the general public in implementing land and water resource protection practices; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature charges the soil and water conservation districts to work in conjunction with federal, state, and local agencies in all matters that implement land and water resource protection practices; and

WHEREAS, The Volusia Soil and Water Conservation District has a stated goal of supporting sustainable development of Volusia County's communities; and

WHEREAS, proposals for land development usually impact land and water resources,

WHEREAS, the Three Island North RPUD will impact wildlife corridors and hydrologic patterns in the Northeast Deltona, Florida area,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VOLUSIA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, IN OPEN VIRTUAL MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED ON THIS 12th DAY OF JANUARY, 2022, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The above recitals are true and correct, and by this reference are hereby incorporated in and made an integral part of this Resolution.

SECTION 2. The Volusia County Soil and Water Conservation District hereby approves and adopts this resolution, thus fulfilling our statutory right and obligation by reviewing the Three Island North Residential Planned Urban Development proposal and:

1. Recognizing that the proposal represents significant risk to the wetlands to the (NORTH?) (EAST?) by reducing surface and subsurface hydrologic flow from Three Island Lake
2. Recognizing that the wildlife corridor for various vertebrates species including but not limited to aquatic and terrestrial mammals and birds such as otter, black bear, deer, coyote, wild turkey, and sandhill cranes
3. Recommending that the site plan reduce density to maximize infiltration of stormwater and retain green space as a wildlife corridor between the lakes and the wetlands



4. Recommending that the site employ Low Impact Development strategies to maximize infiltration of stormwater and reduce risk of localized flooding and restriction of hydrologic flow between the lakes and the wetlands, and to create wildlife habitat and corridors that mitigate the loss of such natural spaces

SECTION 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

DONE AND ORDERED IN OPEN MEETING.

Wendy Anderson, Chair,
Volusia County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Date

Attest, Conrad Wysocki, Soil Scientist
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Date