Dear Stakeholder(s) / Partner(s) -

On behalf of the Volusia Soil & Water Conservation District (VSWCD) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, we would like to formally invite you to participate in our 2024 Local Working Group meeting to be held on May 8th @ 5:00 pm at the UF IFAS Extension office in DeLand. Please see below for additional details:

NRCS Admin. Area 2 – USDA DeLand Service Center / Volusia SWCD   
When: May 8th , 5 – 7 p.m.   
Where: UF IFAS Extension Office, 3100 East New York Ave., DeLand FL 2724

Local working groups are subcommittees of the State Technical Advisory Committee and provide recommendations to USDA NRCS on local and state natural resource priorities and criteria for delivering conservation activities and programs. Such recommendations and feedback are critical to best focus and allocate Program funding based on natural resource concerns throughout the State.

Working groups are typically comprised of various stakeholders and partners, inclusive of representatives from various local, state and federal agencies with knowledge of natural resources concerns and management; along with local farmers, ranchers, landowners, non- industrial forest landowners, environmental & conservation groups and civic groups. Note that your input and feedback from past LWG meetings has allowed us to prioritize and strategically direct funding to address the most critical resource concerns for agricultural operations throughout both Volusia and Flagler counties, Area 2 and the State for NRCS.

The LWG is also an opportunity to discuss with all of you the priorities and efforts of the Volusia Soil and Water Conservation District and to explore new opportunities for partnerships on initiatives for protecting the natural resources of Volusia County.

Working Group meetings are open to the public to garner input and recommendations from stakeholders / partners, but final decisions are made by USDA NRCS State and Area leadership.

Please RSVP no later than Monday, May 6th if you are planning to attend / participate in the meeting via the USDA NRCS DeLand Field Office @ 386-277-3195 or by email @ [brian.zielinski@usda.gov](mailto:brian.zielinski@usda.gov) to confirm. \*\* Refreshments will be provided.

Anyone needing special accommodation to participate in this meeting or more information should contact the USDA NRCS DeLand Field Office (see above contact information).

Thanks for your consideration and we hope you can participate on May 8th !

Sincerely,

Volusia Soil & Water Conservation District