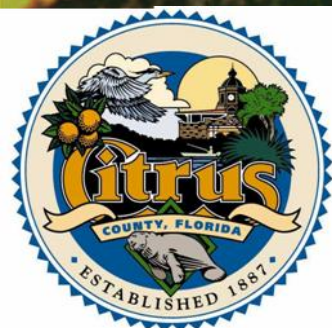


Neighborhoods Protecting Water Quality: Homeowner-based Approaches

Christine Collins, Southwest Florida Water Management District

Audrey Durr, Citrus County Water Resources

Jackie Gorman, City of Crystal River



Southwest Florida
Water Management District

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GI-BMPs



- Green Industries Best Management Practices (GI-BMPs) training required for all commercial fertilizer applicators by January 1, 2014
- Developed by FDEP, UF/IFAS and the Green Industries to protect water resources
 - Consists of five modules: Overview; Lawn & Landscape; Irrigation; Fertilizers; Pesticides



GI-BMPs



- Two-pronged (supply and demand) approach for promotion: promote training to landscape companies and encourage homeowners to seek a certified professional
- Multi-county collaboration (Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Sumter) to offer monthly trainings at rotating locations
 - In 2011, the team trained 36% of all professionals certified in Florida

Youth Education



- 183 programs reaching 8,165 youth
 - Week-long environmental education camp
 - In-school programs
 - Garden programs for Lecanto Primary School classes
 - Exhibits at science fairs
- Soil science, composting, the Floridan aquifer, sinkholes, indoor water conservation, pollution, habitats
- All participants receive a water flow bag, leak detector tablets and wildflower seeds to use at home



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Youth Education



Youth Education



Youth Education



Youth Education



Youth Education



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Youth Education



DIY Workshops



- Rain Barrels (since 2007)
 - 29 workshops with 676 participants and 703 rain barrels sold
- Worm Composting (since 2009)
 - 19 workshops with 472 participants and 297 worm composting bins assembled

DIY Workshops



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DIY Workshops



DIY Workshops



- National household survey of 12,000 people conducted by George Mason University found that the best indicator of pro-environmental behavior was NOT
 - Education level
 - Age
 - Socioeconomic Status
 - Race/ethnicity
- It was believing that “the actions of a single person like me can make a difference”