

FRIENDS OF ST. SEBASTIAN RIVER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025 – 9:45am, Ryall house/South Prong Preserve

CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

CALL FOR ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S) – pp. 2-3

TREASURER'S REPORT – pp. 4-11

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Ryall house debris cleanup update

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1) Adopt-a-Road – IR County for route 512 segment – awaiting County Attorney approval of new contract
- 2) St. Sebastian River road signs – no update

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Environment Enhancement Award – Graham Cox, certificate vs. plaque/memorial tree?

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advocacy – Herrmann

- 1) SJRWMD permits – Sebastian Highlands Unit 17, 125 Empress Ave, permit #163077
- 2) ACOE permits – none
- 3) FL DEP Barefoot Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility permit renewal – pg. 12
- 4) MRC Lagoon Action Assembly, July 2024, full report - <https://lovetheirl.org/science/action-assemblies>
- 5) City of Sebastian septic conversion vs. sewer
- 6) IR County Legislative Delegation, St. Sebastian River, "Outstanding FL Water" – FL Administrative Code
- 7) FL Right to Clean Water Campaign assistance – pp. 13-15

Education/Outreach – Bolton/Stephen

- 1) General Meetings – Jan. 28 – Jim Moir, IR Lagoonkeeper, Mar. 25, Justin Teall, SSR Preserve State Park/park tour? or MRC IR Lagoon Report update, May 27 – ORCA/SSR pollution mapping
- 2) Wimbrow Park/River manatee signs
- 3) PIAS Landscape Conference
- 4) Roseland Women's Club/Community Celebration, Feb. 22 – pg. 16
- 5) City of Sebastian Natural Resource Board, developing Sustainable Sebastian action plan – pp. 17-19
- 6) City of Sebastian Natural Resources Board/PIAS, Air Potato Round-Up, Englar Dr. Stormwater Park, Feb 8 – pg. 20
- 7) City of Sebastian Natural Resources Board development of an Environmental Stewardship Award – pp. 21-23

Financial – Greene, new CD established, IR Lagoon Small Grants – pp. 24-31

Governance – Herrmann

Information – Glover – no update

Membership – Herrmann, Jan. renewals- Chambreau, Demott, Peterson, Stieglitz; new members – none

Publicity – Penny Phillips

Volunteer – vacant – South Prong Preserve volunteer dates?

Round robin –

Adjournment

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Next BOD meeting – February 11, 9:45am, Ryall house
- 2) IR County Cons. Lands, Lakela mint habitat restoration volunteer, Hallstrom farmstead, Jan. 17 (third Friday), 9am-noon, RSVP at <https://indianriver.gov/parksandrecreation> and click on "Program Registration."
- 3) Pelican Island Audubon Transforming Landscapes Conf., Jan. 18, 8am to 4:30pm, RSVP required
- 4) Roseland Women's Club/Community Park workday, rescheduled for Jan. 22
- 5) MRC Love Our Lagoon Celebration/Fundraiser, Hilton Melbourne Oceanfront, Feb. 7, 1-3pm, RSVP required
- 6) Roseland Women's Club/Community Celebration, Roseland Community Park, Feb 22, 9am to 2pm
- 7) Sebastian Earth/Arbor Day, Riverview Park, Saturday, April 26, 2025

FRIENDS OF ST. SEBASTIAN RIVER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024--9:45 am, Ryall House, South Prong Preserve

CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE--Pres. Glover called the meeting to order at 9:48am. In attendance were Herrmann(vice-pres.), Peterson(secy.), and directors Bolton, Stephen, and Zingman. Treas. Greene had an excused absence. Advisory director Hinck joined on speaker phone.

CALL FOR ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA--How to honor passing of Graham Cox added to New Business

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)(AP, pp.2-3)--Motion by Bolton, seconded by Herrmann, to approve Minutes of November 12, 2024 BOD mtg.—approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT--Pres. Glover reported that he and treasurer Greene figured out how to reflect accrued interest from the recently acquired \$10,000 CD. Herrmann made a motion, seconded by Bolton, that the treasurer's report as of Nov. 30, 2024 be accepted for audit--approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT--None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1) Adopt-a-Road--IR County for Rte. 512 segment--awaiting County approval of new contract
- 2) St. Sebastian River road signs--no update
- 3) Internet service options(AP, p.11)--Glover showed directors 4G hot spot device we presently use provided by Mobile Beacon that relies on cellular service. Until we switch to a more expensive service, such as the MIMO signal booster system, we will continue to use what we already have in place.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Roseland Community Assoc. membership renewal, last donation \$50, May 2024-- Herrmann made a motion, seconded by Stephen, that we donate another \$50-- approved unanimously.
- 2) Environmental Enhancement Award--IR Land Trust?--Stephen made a motion, seconded by Bolton, that we honor the memory of Dr. Graham Cox through this award in light of his unexpected passing--approved unanimously.
- 3) SRHS George Schum Award--confirm to school before?(AP, pp.12-13)--Herrmann made a motion, seconded by Bolton, that 2 \$500 scholarships be awarded to deserving students. Recipients to be determined by Sherry Shipley and Kathy Wegel of the Awards Committee.
- 4) Feather flag(AP, pp.14-16)--Discussion ensued among directors. High cost of a single flag questioned. Perhaps we should locate a local vendor to create original flags for us. Item tabled for now.
- 5) Tom Bauer's used canoe(AP,pp.17-20)--aluminum, weighs 35 lbs., wants \$200. Herrmann made a motion, seconded by Peterson, that we purchase the canoe--approved unanimously. Glover will pick up and store on Ryall house property.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADVOCACY--Herrmann

- 1) SJRWMD permits-Sun Terra Lakes, Babcock St., north of Deer Run, 1109 acre PUD, permit #228038
- 2) ACOE permits--none
- 3) IR County Commission Public Hearing--one year ext. of moratorium for application of biosolids, Dec. 17--Herrmann will find out how CC plans to vote.
- 4) MRC Lagoon Action assembly, July 2024, full report-<https://love.theirl.org/science/action-assemblies>--Glover provided directors with copies of report.

5)City of Sebastian septic conversion next steps(AP, pp.21-33)--three proposed remediation options under consideration. Option 1 is probably the best option and would cost roughly \$23,000 per home. Grant funding would be necessary to assist residents with conversion costs.

6)IRNA Water & Lagoon Comm. goals--will begin more scientific research rather than report on other organizations.

7)Draft letter to IR County Legislative Delegation; meeting Jan. 6, 2pm(AP,pp.34-35)- Glover will complete draft of letter, with editorial assistance from Peterson.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH-Bolton/Stephen

1) General Meetings:

Jan. 28-Jim Moir, IR Lagoonkeeper. Glover will remind members in audience of meetings to follow to encourage greater attendance. Mar. 25-Justin Teall, SSR Preserve State Park/park tour?

May 27-ORCA/SSR pollution mapping

2)Wimbrow Park/River manatee signs--no action

3)South Prong Preserve Open House review--directors all agreed that the event was successful in terms of music, food, and Board preparations. Low turnout was a disappointment. Those who did attend really enjoyed themselves. Guests outnumbered Friends members. Herrmann requested that we ask Gail and Rich Cali to become Board members. We will try to advertise our next open house earlier and on more social media sites.

4)PIAS Landscape Conference, Jan. 18 attendees?(AP, p.36)--Bolton and Hinck will use two free entry tickets and set up display booth in lobby.

5)ELC Lagoon Fest, Jan. 25, 10am-6pm(AP, pp.37-39)

FINANCIAL-Greene, new CD?(AP, pp.40-41)--Herrmann made a motion, seconded by Zingman, that we purchase a new \$10,000 CD for 7 mos. at 4%--approved by all.

GOVERNANCE-Herrmann-none

INFORMATION-Glover-no update

MEMBERSHIP-Herrmann, Dec. renewals-T. Greene, B. Herrmann, James & Cathy Spoto, new members-none

PUBLICITY-Penny Phillips-none

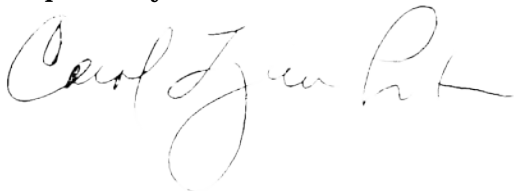
VOLUNTEER-vacant-South Prong Preserve volunteer dates, Jan. 3, plus

ROUND ROBIN-Glover, Herrmann, and Stephen will meet to discuss Stephen's data re Sebastian herbicide applications on canals.

ADJOURNMENT--Meeting was adjourned at 11:13 am.

Next BOD mtg.--January 14, 2025 at 9:45 am, Ryall house

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Lynn Peterson
FSSR Secretary

Profit & Loss

December 2024

	<u>Dec 24</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
43400 · Direct Public Support	
43440 · Gifts in Kind - Goods	14.74
43450 · Individ, Business Contributions	<u>206.56</u>
Total 43400 · Direct Public Support	221.30
45000 · Investments	
45030 · Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	<u>34.48</u>
Total 45000 · Investments	34.48
47200 · Program Income	
47230 · Membership Dues	<u>30.00</u>
Total 47200 · Program Income	<u>30.00</u>
Total Income	<u>285.78</u>
Gross Profit	285.78
Expense	
62800 · Facilities and Equipment	
62890 · Rent, Parking, Utilities	<u>32.81</u>
Total 62800 · Facilities and Equipment	32.81
65000 · Operations	
65020 · Postage, Mailing Service	170.00
65040 · Supplies	14.74
65050 · Telephone, Telecommunications	<u>10.01</u>
Total 65000 · Operations	194.75
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	
65160 · Other Costs	<u>19.26</u>
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	<u>19.26</u>
Total Expense	<u>246.82</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>38.96</u>
Net Income	<u><u>38.96</u></u>

Friends of St. Sebastian River

Balance Sheet

01/07/25

As of December 31, 2024

Accrual Basis

	Dec 31, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · Checking	
10020 · Without Donor Restrictions	23,861.82
10030 · With Donor Restirctions	
10031 · Geo Schum Memorial Fd	1,000.00
10033 · Archie Laird Memorial	585.00
10034 · Grants	422.54
Total 10030 · With Donor Restirctions	<u>2,007.54</u>
Total 10000 · Checking	25,869.36
10100 · Petty Cash	45.00
10200 · PayPal	207.09
10210 · Zeffy	50.00
10220 · Wells Fargo CD 04/11/2025	10,104.24
Total Checking/Savings	36,275.69
Other Current Assets	
12000 · Undeposited Funds	35.00
12100 · Inventory Asset	
12110 · Puppets	300.50
12120 · Clothing	137.05
12130 · Miscellaneous Inventory	4.82
12140 · Hats	116.64
12100 · Inventory Asset - Other	1,236.59
Total 12100 · Inventory Asset	<u>1,795.60</u>
Total Other Current Assets	1,830.60
Total Current Assets	<u>38,106.29</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>38,106.29</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · Accounts Payable	32.81
Total Accounts Payable	32.81
Other Current Liabilities	
25500 · Sales Tax Payable	43.06
Total Other Current Liabilities	43.06
Total Current Liabilities	<u>75.87</u>
Total Liabilities	75.87
Equity	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	316.73
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	15,216.56
Net Income	22,497.13
Total Equity	<u>38,030.42</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>38,106.29</u>

Friends of St. Sebastian River
Reconciliation Detail
10000 - Checking, Period Ending 12/31/2024

Type	Date	Num	Name	Clr	Amount	Balance
Beginning Balance						24,924.15
Cleared Transactions						
Checks and Payments - 5 items						
Check	12/02/2024	DC	Google	X	-3.60	-3.60
Check	12/06/2024	DC	Native Butterflies	X	-19.26	-22.86
Check	12/07/2024	1054	US Post Office	X	-170.00	-192.86
Bill Pmt -Check	12/10/2024	DC	FPL	X	-37.08	-229.94
Check	12/11/2024	DC	Ooma	X	-6.41	-236.35
Total Checks and Payments					-236.35	-236.35
Deposits and Credits - 4 items						
Transfer	12/03/2024			X	515.00	515.00
Transfer	12/09/2024			X	500.00	1,015.00
Sales Receipt	12/17/2024	1129	Charities Aid Found...	X	83.28	1,098.28
Sales Receipt	12/19/2024	1130	Charities Aid Found...	X	83.28	1,181.56
Total Deposits and Credits					1,181.56	1,181.56
Total Cleared Transactions					945.21	945.21
Cleared Balance					945.21	25,869.36
Register Balance as of 12/31/2024					945.21	25,869.36
New Transactions						
Checks and Payments - 5 items						
Transfer	01/02/2025				-10,000.00	-10,000.00
Check	01/02/2025	DC	Native Butterflies		-26.75	-10,026.75
Check	01/02/2025	DC	Google		-3.60	-10,030.35
Check	01/07/2025	1055	Roseland Communit...		-50.00	-10,080.35
Bill Pmt -Check	01/08/2025	DC	FPL		-32.81	-10,113.16
Total Checks and Payments					-10,113.16	-10,113.16
Deposits and Credits - 1 item						
Transfer	01/02/2025				50.00	50.00
Total Deposits and Credits					50.00	50.00
Total New Transactions					-10,063.16	-10,063.16
Ending Balance					-9,117.95	15,806.20



FRIENDS OF ST. SEBASTIAN RIVER, INC.
SEBASTIAN RIVER INC
PO BOX 284
ROSELAND FL 32957-0284

Questions?

Available by phone Mon-Sat 7:00am-11:00pm Eastern Time, Sun 9:00am-10:00pm Eastern Time:

We accept all relay calls, including 711

1-800-CALL-WELLS (1-800-225-5935)

En español: 1-877-337-7454

Online: wells Fargo.com/biz

Write: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. (287)
P.O. Box 6995
Portland, OR 97228-6995

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Visit wellsfargo.com/digitalbusinessresources to explore tours, articles, infographics, and other resources on the topics of money movement, account management and monitoring, security and fraud prevention, and more.

Account options

A check mark in the box indicates you have these convenient services with your account(s). Go to wellsfargo.com/biz or call the number above if you have questions or if you would like to add new services.

Business Online Banking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Statements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Business Bill Pay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business Spending Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Overdraft Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other Wells Fargo Benefits

3 Things to watch out for when shopping online for the holidays

1. Fake Fraud alerts. Be careful if you receive a call or message about a fraudulent purchase. Always contact the merchant, your bank or card provider directly to verify.
2. Bogus shipping notifications. Look out for texts or emails that say there's an issue or problem with your package delivery. Don't click links or open attachments without verifying first.
3. Questionable sellers or sites. Watch out for sellers who pressure you to pay with a payment app, gift card or crypto. Only purchase concert and sporting events tickets from the original legitimate site. Be cautious of buying a new kitten or puppy from a social media ad. Meet the pet in person before paying.

Tip: Use a credit card to make online purchases if you can - it has additional security features built in.

How to donate safely this holiday season

This holiday season, safely support your favorite causes and avoid charity scams. Before donating, research new charities using a resource like Better Business Bureau® or give.org.



Statement period activity summary

Beginning balance on 12/1	\$24,924.15
Deposits/Credits	1,181.56
Withdrawals/Debits	- 236.35
Ending balance on 12/31	\$25,869.36

Account number: [REDACTED]
 FRIENDS OF ST. SEBASTIAN RIVER, INC.
 SEBASTIAN RIVER INC
Florida account terms and conditions apply
 For Direct Deposit use
 Routing Number (RTN): 063107513
 For Wire Transfers use
 Routing Number (RTN): 121000248

Overdraft Protection

This account is not currently covered by Overdraft Protection. If you would like more information regarding Overdraft Protection and eligibility requirements please call the number listed on your statement or visit your Wells Fargo branch.

Transaction history

Date	Check Number	Description	Deposits/ Credits	Withdrawals/ Debits	Ending daily balance
12/2		Recurring Payment authorized on 12/01 Google Gsuite_Fssr 650-2530000 CA S384336474347899 Card 2065		3.60	24,920.55
12/3		Zeffy US Zeffy US St-R8U5U8O5M8F5 Friends of St Sebastia	515.00		25,435.55
12/5		Paypal Transfer 241205 1038737996131 Friends of St. Sebastia	500.00		25,935.55
12/6		Purchase authorized on 12/05 Sq *Native Butterf West Melbourn FL S464340720379093 Card [REDACTED]		19.26	25,916.29
12/10		Fpl Direct Debit Elec Pymt 12/24 1232872117 Ppda Friends of St. Sebastia		37.08	
12/10	1054	Check		170.00	25,709.21
12/12		Recurring Payment authorized on 12/10 Ooma,Inc 888-711-6662 CA S384345691761204 Card [REDACTED]		6.41	25,702.80
12/17		Cybergrants-Cafa Cybergrant ACH_8619049 Friends of St Sebastia	83.28		25,786.08
12/19		Cybergrants-Cafa Cybergrant ACH_8657361 Friends of St Sebastia	83.28		25,869.36
Ending balance on 12/31					25,869.36
Totals			\$1,181.56	\$236.35	

The Ending Daily Balance does not reflect any pending withdrawals or holds on deposited funds that may have been outstanding on your account when your transactions posted. If you had insufficient available funds when a transaction posted, fees may have been assessed.

Summary of checks written (checks listed are also displayed in the preceding Transaction history)

Number	Date	Amount
1054	12/10	170.00

Monthly service fee summary

For a complete list of fees and detailed account information, see the disclosures applicable to your account or talk to a banker. Go to wellsfargo.com/feefaq for a link to these documents, and answers to common monthly service fee questions.

Fee period 12/01/2024 - 12/31/2024	Standard monthly service fee \$10.00	You paid \$0.00
The bank has waived the fee for this fee period.		



Monthly service fee summary (continued)

How to avoid the monthly service fee	Minimum required	This fee period	
Have any ONE of the following each fee period			
• Average ledger balance	\$1,000.00	\$25,746.00	⊖
• Minimum daily balance	\$500.00	\$24,920.55	⊖

C1/C1

Account transaction fees summary

<i>Service charge description</i>	<i>Units used</i>	<i>Units included</i>	<i>Excess units</i>	<i>Service charge per excess units (\$)</i>	<i>Total service charge (\$)</i>
Cash Deposited (\$)	0	5,000	0	0.0030	0.00
Transactions	2	100	0	0.50	0.00
Total service charges					\$0.00



IMPORTANT ACCOUNT INFORMATION

ATM Cash Deposit Security Limitations

Effective November 6, 2024, the section of the Deposit Account Agreement titled "Depositing Funds," subsection titled "Our right to decline deposits," is deleted and replaced with the following:

Our right to decline deposits

We may decline all or part of a deposit, including cash, for any reason. This could happen, for example, if a payee isn't a co-owner, authorized signer, or authorized representative on your account, we can't verify an endorsement, the check was issued from a credit account, the dollar amount of the deposit, the check looks suspicious, or it's a non-U.S. item. If we decline a deposit that you mailed to us, we may return it to you at your cost (including charging you for postage and handling to return foreign currency coin or paper), or retain any invalid checks or other documents included in the deposit without crediting your account, at our discretion. There are limits on the total dollar amount of checks that can be deposited at Wells Fargo ATMs per transaction. We may decline ATM check deposits that exceed \$1 million. For security reasons there may also be limits on the dollar amount or frequency of cash deposits you can make at Wells Fargo ATMs.

If we cannot verify an endorsement, we can also decline to pay, cash, or send the item for collection. We can require that all endorsers be present and that you deposit the item instead of cashing it.

Non-account owners are not allowed to deposit cash into consumer accounts. For business accounts, any person wanting to make a cash deposit must provide an acceptable form of identification before we accept a cash deposit.

Wells Fargo Deposit Account Agreement: Changes To Consumer Arbitration Agreement And Other Dispute Resolution Provisions



Merchant Account ID: [REDACTED]

PayPal ID: info@fssr.org

12/1/2024 - 12/31/2024

Statement for December 2024

Friends of St. Sebastian River, Inc.
PO Box 284
32957 Roseland

Balance Summary (12/1/2024 - 12/31/2024)

	Available beginning	Available ending	Withheld beginning	Withheld ending
USD	707.09	207.09	0.00	0.00



Merchant Account ID: [REDACTED]

PayPal ID: info@fssr.org

12/1/2024 - 12/31/2024

Activity Summary (12/1/2024 - 12/31/2024)

	USD
Beginning Available Balance	707.09
Payments received	0.00
Payments sent	0.00
Withdrawals and Debits	-500.00
Deposits and Credits	0.00
Fees	0.00
Ending Available Balance	207.09

Florida Today
26/12/2024
Miscellaneous Notices

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
NOTICE OF DRAFT PERMIT

The Department of Environmental Protection gives notice of its preparation of a draft permit to the Brevard County Utilities Department, (2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, BLDG. A-213, Melbourne, Florida 32940-6605) to operate the existing 1.041 MGD Barefoot Bay Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility, including the existing 1.041 MGD public access reuse system (R-001) and 0.188 MGD limited back-up discharge (D-001) to the North Prong of the Sebastian River, Class III fresh waters, (WBID# 3128). The facility is located at 7773 Dottie Drive, Barefoot Bay in Brevard County, Florida. The Department has considered the effects of reclaimed water discharged to groundwater and surface water and has assigned File Number FL0042293-014 to the project.

The permit application file and supporting data are available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the Department's Central District office at 3319 Maguire Boulevard, Suite 232, Orlando, FL 32803, or by sending an email to DEP_CD@dep.state.fl.us or at the link below:

[https://depedms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=hitlist&\[freeText=\]&\[folderName=\]&\[profile=Permitting_Authorization\]&\[creator=\]&\[entityType=any\]&\[createdDateTo=\]&\[catalog=38\]&\[searchBy=Profile\]&\[sortBy=Document+Date\]&\[createdDate=\]&\[County=_EQ_BREVARD\]&\[District=_EQ_CD\]&\[Facility-Site+ID=_EQ_FL0042293\]&\[Document+Date=_RG_\(04-01-2024,12-06-2024\)\]&\[Document+Type=_EQ_PERMIT+APPLICATION+RELATED\]&\[Permit+Type=_EQ_DW+-+DOMESTIC+WASTEWATER+FACILITY\]](https://depedms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=hitlist&[freeText=]&[folderName=]&[profile=Permitting_Authorization]&[creator=]&[entityType=any]&[createdDateTo=]&[catalog=38]&[searchBy=Profile]&[sortBy=Document+Date]&[createdDate=]&[County=_EQ_BREVARD]&[District=_EQ_CD]&[Facility-Site+ID=_EQ_FL0042293]&[Document+Date=_RG_(04-01-2024,12-06-2024)]&[Document+Type=_EQ_PERMIT+APPLICATION+RELATED]&[Permit+Type=_EQ_DW+-+DOMESTIC+WASTEWATER+FACILITY])

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

The Department intends to issue the permit unless as a result of public comment appropriate changes are made.

Written Comments or Request for Public Meeting

Any interested person may submit written comments on the Department's proposed permitting decision or may submit a written request for a public meeting to the Department's Central District office at 3319 Maguire Boulevard, Suite 232, Orlando, FL 32803, or by sending an email to DEP_CD@dep.state.fl.us in accordance with Rule 62-620.555, F.A.C. The comments or request for a public meeting must contain the information set forth below and must be submitted to the Central District Office.

The comments or request for a public meeting must contain the following information:

- The commenter's name, address, and telephone number; the applicant's name and address; the Department permit file number; and the county in which the project is proposed;
- A statement of how and when notice of the Department's action or proposed action was received;
- A statement of the facts the Department should consider in making the final decision;
- A statement of which rules or statutes require reversal or modification of the Department's action or proposed action; and
- If desired, a request that a public meeting be scheduled, including a statement of the nature of the issues proposed to be raised at the meeting.

If a public meeting is held, any person may submit oral or written statements and data at the public meeting on the Department's proposed action. As a result of significant public comment, the Department's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this draft permit.

Time Period for Submitting Written Comments or Requesting a Public Meeting

Comments submitted by any persons other than the applicant, and other than those entitled to written notice under Rule 62-620.550, F.A.C., must be received within 30 days of publication of the public notice. Failure to submit comments or request a public meeting within this time period shall constitute a waiver of any right such person may have to submit comments or request a public meeting under Rule 62-620.555, F.A.C.

If a public meeting is scheduled, the public comment period is extended until the close of the public meeting. However, the Department may not always grant a request for a public meeting. Therefore, written comments should be submitted within 30 days of publication of this notice, even if a public meeting is requested.

December 26 2024

LSAR0211645

Stuart News
26/12/2024
Miscellaneous Notices

File Name: Demboski Seawall

Legal Description: THAT PORTION OF PARKWAY ALONG WATERFRONT LYING NORTH OF THE EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE NORTHERN LINE OF LOT 9 BLOCK 8 AND LYING SOUTHERLY OF THE EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH LINE OF LOT 20 BLOCK 7 HOBE SOUND ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2 PAGE 99 PUBLIC RECORDS PALM BEACH NOW MARTIN COUNTY FLORIDA (Parcel ID #26-39-42-001-007-00001-0)

DEP File No.: 43-0446053-001-002-EE

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL



Friends of St. Sebastian River <friendsofstsebastian@gmail.com>

Fwd: Happy New Year, fellow Floridians!!!

1 message

Melissa Martin <admin@floridarighttocleanwater.org>
Bcc: info@fssr.org

Wed, Jan 1, 2025 at 7:41 PM

Dear friend, from us and our families to you and yours, we wish you a happy, meaningful, and inspired 2025.

We're grateful for everything you've done so far for the cause -- to attain an enforceable, fundamental right to clean and healthy waters in Florida. Please relay our thanks to the organization / business you represent that has been in support of this critical initiative.

Today, I'm inspired by and would like to share a sentiment from my years at the Naval Academy, where Plebes had to memorize "**The Man in the Arena**" by Theodore Roosevelt.

*It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. **The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena**, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; **who spends himself in a worthy cause**; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.*

I don't know about you, but I believe true Floridians WILL rise to the challenge of this moment. Once it qualifies for the ballot, we all know Floridians will vote it in, as history has clearly shown.

2025 is the full and final year where we, as leaders and influencers of communities throughout our beautiful state, can make monumental change for Florida's waters -- and therefore, her people, her wildlife, and her economies. We have until the end of December 2025 to collect 900k signed petitions.

There is no ask right now more than **a simple request that you reflect on this opportunity before us**; the magnitude of meaning it presents. And, if and when you and your organizations / businesses feel inspired to do so (and no number is too small), **let the world know what you'd like to commit to in 2025**. It is, of course, no contract -- just a quick but important message to all our fellow Floridians that "yes, we are all committed to seeing this thing through." "Yes, we will link arms with you and march together on this journey, doing what we can, to the very end."

This is no time for the faint of heart or the doubters who believe only in the power of big money. That's exactly what we're here to change, and how much sweeter will success be **as we accomplish it by the Will & Power of the People**. This is a moment of supreme importance, and it will be decided by you.

The team here, along with our amazing (and exhausted but determined) volunteers look to you and your decision in the coming weeks, hoping and believing in the power of "great devotions."

Thank you for your time and reflections,
r/Mel

Melissa Martin
Florida Right to Clean Water
Campaign Coordinator
FloridaRighttoCleanWater.org
13300 S Cleveland Ave, Ste 56
Fort Myers, FL 33907



Follow us on [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter/X](#) | [YouTube](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [TikTok](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Florida Right to Clean Water** <admin@floridarighttocleanwater.org>
Date: Tue, Dec 31, 2024 at 8:54 PM
Subject: Happy New Year, fellow Floridians!!!
To: <admin@floridarighttocleanwater.org>

January is everyone's opportunity to:

1. **CHOOSE** which future you want in Florida -- *business as usual* or necessary, systemic change through an enforceable, fundamental right;
2. **COMMIT** to helping by collecting signatures or donating / raising funds for the cause; and
3. **CREATE** a plan to fulfill your commitment.

The tools are in place and everything is published on the website so **Floridians -- serious about clean water -- can jump in at any time and make a meaningful impact toward the goal of qualifying the Right to Clean and Healthy Waters constitutional amendment for the 2026 ballot.**

We need to turn in 900k signed petitions by December 2025. So, talk amongst yourselves -- your friends and colleagues, bring it up in January's board meeting, and RESOLVE to be part of something much bigger than any and all of us. COMMIT to either collecting signatures or resourcing this citizens' initiative for the Right to Clean Water. Make 2025 meaningful.

We're very clearly saying that you, our fellow Floridians, will determine the fate of our waters -- whether and when we accomplish the mission.


We'll talk about where we are in early February.

In the meantime, check out our website updates (a couple are below) and have a wonderful New Year's!!!

New tool to track who's committing to
how many signatures!

New tool to reach potential signers in
YOUR network (by email)!

13300 S Cleveland Ave, Suite 56, Fort Myers,
Florida 33907

Pd pol ad by FL Right to Clean Water 

This email was sent from [this site](#).

If you no longer wish to receive this email, change your email preferences [here](#).



Roseland Celebration

HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

Saturday, February 22nd, 2025

9am - 2pm

12973 83rd Avenue, Roseland, FL

**Join us for a day of community, wellness, and family fun at
Roseland Community Park!**

The Roseland Women's Club, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is dedicated to fostering community connections and enriching lives.

Proceeds from the Roseland Celebration will support the 'Campership' program, providing summer camp opportunities for children in need, as well as outreach programs that promote healthy minds. By maintaining the Community Building as a hub for relaxation, creativity, and safe gathering, we aim to preserve a vibrant space supported by local artisans, professionals, and residents.

Live Music

Food Truck

Produce

Wellness Products

Raffle

Plant Sale

Family Fun!

Homemade Goods



Follow Us on Facebook: [Roseland Women's Club](#)



Visit Our Website: RoselandWomensClub.com



**NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD
AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7TH, 2025 - 6:00pm
1225 MAIN STREET, SEBASTIAN, FL**

*“To improve the quality of life in Sebastian by nurturing
the balanced relationship between our citizens and our environment by
protecting, preserving, and promoting our natural resources”*

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3) ROLL CALL
- 4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – **ACTION ITEM**

Item A. December 3rd, 2024 - Natural Resources Board Meeting Minutes

- 5) ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 6) AGENDA MODIFICATIONS
- 7) PUBLIC INPUT
- 8) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*Chairman announces the title of the item
Staff Presentation
Public Input
Staff Summation
Chairman calls for a motion
Board deliberation and roll call vote*

Item A. Sustainable Sebastian – Champion Selection for the Next Action Plan

Item B. Christmas Parade - Debrief

Item C. Centennial Celebration - Debrief

Item D. The Great Air Potato Round-up – Saturday, February 8th, 2025

9) **NEW BUSINESS**

*Chairman announces the title of the item
Staff Presentation
Public Input
Staff Summation
Chairman calls for a motion
Board deliberation and roll call vote*

Item A. Proposed Framework for the Environmental Stewardship Awards Program – ACTION ITEM

Item B. Earth Day & Arbor Day Celebration – Saturday, April 26th, 2025 – Preliminary Plans

Item C. Annual Selection of New Chairman and Vice Chairman – ACTION ITEM

10) **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA AND DATE:** Tuesday, February 4th, 2025

- i. Sustainable Sebastian
 - a. Development of the next Action Plan
- ii. Final Preparations for the Great Air Potato Round-up Event
- iii. Earth Day & Arbor Day Celebration Planning

11) **ADJOURNMENT**

ANY PERSON WHO DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE ON THE ABOVE MATTERS, WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH APPEAL IS TO BE HEARD. SAID APPEAL MUST BE FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE WITHIN TEN DAYS OF THE DATE OF ACTION. (286.0105 F.S).

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA), ANYONE WHO NEEDS SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THIS MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY'S ADA COORDINATOR AT (407)-589-5330 AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THIS MEETING.TWO OR MORE ELECTED OFFICIALS MAY BE IN ATTENDANCE.

Sustainable Sebastian - Prospective Champion Selection for the next Action Plan

Initiatives

Proposed Goals

Prospective Champion(s)

I. SUPPORT THE OVERALL REDUCTION IN THE USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTICS BY THE CITY AND ITS BUSINESS COMMUNITY BY ASSISTING AND PROMOTING KEEP INDIAN RIVER BEAUTIFUL'S (KIRB) AND KEEP BREVARD BEAUTIFUL'S (KBB) LITTER QUITTER (LQ) AND SURFRIDER FOUNDATION'S OCEAN FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS (OFR) PROGRAMS AND THROUGH THE IDENTIFICATION OF ALTERNATIVE PRODUCTS

Reduce the use of single-use plastics on City Property;
Educational Programs for the Public, including local schools
Recognition Programs for Businesses & Organizations

II. SUPPORT LANDSCAPING PRACTICES WHICH PROMOTE A HEALTHY, NATIVE ECOSYSTEM BY ASSISTING AND PROMOTING KIRB'S LAGOON FRIENDLY LAWNS AND UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA'S (UF) INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SERVICES' (IFAS) FLORIDA FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE PROGRAMS

Native Landscaping on City-owned Property
Tree City USA Growth Award Program
Invasive Plant Species Management Programs
Champion & Historic Tree Program
Recognition Programs for Homeowners
Edible Landscape Programs

III. PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CITY POLICIES AND CODES RELATED TO NATURAL RESOURCES

Update the Tree Protection & Landscaping Ordinances
Develop Ordinances for Low-Impact Development/Design
Predictive Analytics
Public Polls

IV. REDUCING THE CITY'S OPERATIONAL FOOTPRINT BY PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY RESOURCES THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGIES, WHERE PRACTICAL

Reduce resource consumption in City operations
Develop a Food Waste Reduction Program
Workshops & Educational Opportunities for the Public

V. PROTECT AND RESTORE THE WATER QUALITY OF ALL OUR CITY'S WATER BODIES BY SUPPORTING THE CITY'S STORMWATER PROGRAM IN THE CREATION OF TOOLKITS EMPHASIZING BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP), LOW IMPACT DESIGN (LID), AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (GI)

Develop the Green Infrastructure Plan
Workshops & Educational Opportunities for the Public
Develop Ecology-centered toolkits for Developers & Residents

VI. PROMOTE THE CITY'S OVERALL LIVEABILITY THROUGH THE PROMOTION OF ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION, INCREASING CONNECTIVITY AMONG TRAILS AND PATHWAYS, AND PROMOTING NATURE-BASED TOURISM

Increase marketing of the City's parks & green spaces
Educational Programs for Noise Pollution
Educational Programs for Light Pollution
Educational Programs for Living alongside Wildlife



SAVE THE DATE

SUSTAINABLE SEBASTIAN

PRESENTS



AIR POTATO ROUND-UP

Despite their heart-shaped leaves, air potato plants are unfortunately not a friend to our local ecosystems.

Air potato plants sprout new plants from their aerial tubers and can thrive in various conditions and habitats. This plant can quickly take over tracts of land, smothering our precious local landscapes and disturbing the ecological balance. You might find them crawling up your favorite palm tree or sprawling across the vacant lot next door.



**8 FEB,
2025**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Pelican Island Audubon Society and the Natural Resources Board need your help removing this invasive species from Stormwater Park, 297 Englar Drive, Sebastian, FL.

Volunteer shift times are yet to be determined. Follow the City of Sebastian on Facebook and Instagram @cityofsebastian to learn more!



CITY OF SEBASTIAN
NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD
STAFF REPORT



DATE	Tuesday, January 7 th , 2025
TO	Natural Resources Board
FROM	Felicia Gordian, Environmental Technician, Community Development Department.
SUBJECT	Proposed Framework for the Environmental Stewardship Awards Program

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Natural Resources Board Member, Mr. Matthew Krauss, approached Community Development Staff with the suggestion of developing an awards program to recognize outstanding citizens in our community who are paving the way toward a more sustainable future. Based on his initial suggestion, the staff has developed a framework for such a program. The program would be dubbed the Environmental Stewardship Award. With consent from the board, staff will inquire with the family of the late Dr. Graham Cox to name the program after him. The full title of the program would then be The Dr. Graham Cox Environmental Stewardship Awards Program.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Natural Resource Board review discussion and approval of the proposed program framework.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Framework for the Environmental Stewardship Award Program

Framework for the Environmental Stewardship Award

Key:

ELC= Environmental Learning Center

NRB = Natural Resources Board

- Categories:
 - Youth (<18 years of age),
 - Adult (>18 years of age),
 - Group
- Criteria
 - Volunteerism
 - Innovation and Creativity of Efforts
 - insightful approaches
 - new technology
 - etc.
 - Conservation and Sustainability Efforts and Practices
 - Alignment of Efforts with Sustainable Sebastian – must align with at least 1 of the 6 overarching initiatives
 - Impact of Efforts
 - Environmental Impact/benefits
 - Socio-economic viability – impact on our local economy and culture [societal implications]
 - Acknowledgement of any challenges faced, areas for improvement, and adaptations taken to overcome challenges
 - Ability to Replicate efforts
 - Could this be repeated by the nominee or others?
- The applicant will have to answer questions addressing these criteria, which will be scored based on a point system [1-10]. The application with the overall highest total score is the winner of that category.
- Materials for Nomination
 - Nomination form (all questions completed)
 - Photo of the Nominee
 - Samples of work
 - Photo documentation, video, publication/writing samples, newspaper articles, etc.
- Promotional Opportunities
 - Local News outlets
 - IRC School Board Virtual Backpack
 - COS social media
 - Post Flyers around town

- Time Frame
 - The application for nominations will be open for 1 month, between February 15th and March 15th. All nominations must be submitted by March 15th to be eligible.
 - The NRB is to judge the nominations. Staff will tabulate the scores and announce the award recipients at the April NRB meeting.
- Recognition Methods and Materials
 - Recognition at a Natural Resources Board Meeting
 - Recognition at City-wide events (i.e. Earth Day & Arbor Day Celebration)
 - Posts on social media
 - The award recipient would receive:
 - A plaque stating the award category, year, the recipient's name, and project title (if applicable)
 - Tangible Prize
 - Prize Options from the ELC
 - Pontoon Ride Tickets
 - Kayak Tours
 - ELC Bucks for their store
 - Etc.
 - A tree from Pelican Island Audubon Society
 - Superlatives – awarded for unique elements of any of the nominations that would be an honorable mention.
 - Determined by those judging the applications.

Development of the program will be in honor of the late Dr. Graham Cox, as long as the board receives permission from his family to do so. The full title would then be:

The Dr. Graham Cox Environmental Stewardship Award

Programs that inspired this framework

- E+E Leader Awards
 - <https://awards.environmentenergyleader.com/entry/entrant/XYVPjjky/blank-pdf>
- Cox Conserves Heroes
 - <https://www.coxenterprises.com/our-impact/cox-conserves-heroes/faq>
- FDACS Agricultural-Environmental Leadership Award
 - <https://forms.fdacs.gov/01795.pdf>



INDIAN RIVER LAGOON NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

2025 Small Grant Application Kit

IRLNEP Small Grants Program at a Glance:

The Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program (IRLNEP) is accepting grant applications from schools, local citizen groups and non-profit organizations for projects that support community engagement/education and restoration projects focused on the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). The guiding objective of the small grants program is to mobilize as many segments of the public as possible to focus on IRL protection and restoration. Projects selected for funding are those that help foster a Lagoon-Friendly ethic and promote community stewardship of the IRL. Projects must engage local communities located within the IRL watershed and may involve engagement/education activities, restoration activities, or both.

Goal:

The IRLNEP Small Grants Program supports action plans of the *IRLNEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) – Looking ahead to 2030* through community-based education and small restoration projects focusing on the Indian River Lagoon. Empowering citizens through programs such as this helps foster an environmental ethic and promotes community stewardship of the IRL. The CCMP is available online [here](#).

Funding available: \$500 - \$5,000 per grant. \$25,000 budgeted for FY 2025.

Deadline for submissions: **March 14, 2025, by 5 p.m.**

Award Date: Funding will be made available on or after **May 9, 2025.** **Eligibility:**

IRLNEP Small Grants are directed toward schools, businesses, community groups and organizations wishing to involve the public in IRL education and restoration programs. An organization's tax identification number is used by the IRLNEP to issue a contract for the awarded grant funds. Individuals are not eligible to receive grants funded under this program and are encouraged to partner with an appropriate organization to submit a proposal for funding consideration. Community groups and organizations from within the IRLNEP watershed planning boundary are eligible to apply for funding. All projects must be implemented within the IRLNEP watershed planning boundary (see map, page 8). Eligible applicants include:

- Teachers, school districts, and student clubs (as sponsored by a school);
- Community clubs and organizations (scouting groups, civic groups, churches, etc.);
- Homeowners and neighborhood associations;
- Non-profit groups;
- Small businesses, business organizations;
- Local governments, agencies and universities **if** a strong volunteer or community involvement component is outlined in the proposal **and** no indirect costs are requested.

Proposal Limitations:

Organizations may submit no more than one (1) proposal per funding cycle. Should an organization have several proposals under consideration, it is advised that an internal competition be held to select the one to be submitted.

Implementation period:

The project must begin within 6 months of the award date and be completed within 1 year of the award date.

INTRODUCTION

The Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program: The health of estuaries is threatened by land use changes, habitat loss, pollution, resource conflicts and other issues. In 1987, Congress established the National Estuary Program (NEP) as a non-regulatory, community-based program to protect and restore the water quality of estuaries. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administers the NEP.

The Indian River Lagoon was nominated as an Estuary of National Significance and joined the NEP in 1990. In 2015, the IRLNEP became sponsored by the IRL Council, an independent special district of Florida. The IRL Council includes representatives of five counties bordering the Lagoon (Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St.

Lucie and Martin counties), the St. Johns River and South Florida Water Management Districts, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The U.S. EPA provides guidance to the Council.

Additional background information about the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program is available online at www.onelagoon.org.

IRLNEP Small Grants Program:

The IRLNEP Small Grants Program is intended as a means of engaging and educating local citizens and involving them in the restoration and recovery of the IRL. The Program seeks applications for projects addressing IRL education or restoration projects in Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin Counties. Projects must address IRL issues and priorities as identified in the Proposal Categories listed below. They should promote public involvement in solutions for Lagoon protection and restoration.

Proposals focused on restoration should:

- Be focused on IRL water or habitat quality.
- Define the restoration area clearly, including size and location. Maps and GPS coordinates are encouraged. All restoration projects must take place on the IRL watershed.
- Describe how volunteers and/or partner organizations will participate.
- Describe how and how often maintenance and monitoring of the project area will be conducted, and who will do it.
- Have letter(s) of support from the landowner of the area to be restored. All IRLNEP Small Grants Program projects must take place on community-owned, public-owned or conservation easement lands. For projects planned on public lands or facilities, applicants must obtain permission for access to or use of those lands or facilities. Projects designed to be implemented on private residential property (i.e.: a single-family home) will not be funded. However, properties such as churches or HOA properties may be considered if a strong community engagement component exists in the envisioned project. Permission for use of private property not controlled by the applicant is also required.

Proposals focused on community engagement/education should:

- Be focused on the IRL (issues, stressors, solutions).
- Clearly define the target audience(s) and include a plan for how the success of the project will be measured.
- Describe what activities will be performed to engage the community and what the expected educational outcomes are.

Proposal Categories:

Any of the CCMP Vital Signs may be addressed. Please refer to the IRLNEP CCMP at onelagoon.org. Some Examples are as follows:

- **Lagoon Awareness and Education:** Examples: Providing programs for schools, YMCA groups, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts or other youth organizations; programs involving youth in finding solutions to Lagoon problems; programs for underrepresented youth, etc.
- **Improving Water Quality/Reducing Nutrient Loading from Urban Landscapes:** Examples: Fertilizer reduction campaign, native plant gardening, rain gardens, rain barrels, citizen science to monitor ponds and outfalls, etc.
- **Habitat Restoration and Protection:** Examples: Restoration of natural shorelines, oyster restoration, enhancement of seawalls, projects addressing seagrasses, mangroves, coastal and freshwater wetlands, and marine debris and microplastics reduction/recycling initiatives.
- **Trash Free Waters and Wildlife Conservation:** Examples: Improving awareness of threats to wildlife from monofilament lines; coastal cleanups, protection of seagrass beds; education about fish and wildlife habitats, etc.
- **Invasive Species:** Examples: Eradication of invasive plants or animals; education about harmful aquatic invasive species and how to prevent their spread; discouraging release of unwanted exotic pets, etc.

Procurement:

The IRLNEP will issue a contract to grant recipients that reimburses expenses awarded under the Small Grants Program. **Funding is reimbursable only.** Recipients may purchase only items listed in the approved budget for the project. The IRLNEP will reimburse only the organization listed on the contract. At the conclusion of the project, recipients will submit a single invoice and receipts for all expenses to be reimbursed. The invoice must be submitted on their organization's stationery (letterhead) and include receipts as documentation for the full amount of the invoice. Only direct expenses are eligible for reimbursement. NO indirect costs are eligible. Any reimbursement of expenses will be in accordance with Florida Statutes. Grant recipients may not begin purchasing items for their projects, print materials to publicize the project, or begin spending money in any way (such as postage, supplies, etc.) until the IRLNEP's contract is fully executed.

Expenses:

Items the IRLNEP may pay for include (but are not limited to):

- tool rentals
- postage
- native landscaping plants
- project-related printing
- meeting room rentals
- portable toilet rentals
- film and photo processing
- project-related signage
- materials (i.e. water quality sampling kits, supplies to produce educational materials)
- volunteer food within reason (i.e. light lunches, refreshments, bottled water)

If the Small Grant project includes printing of materials (brochures, flyers, signage, etc.), an IRLNEP representative must review all printed materials, including signage **prior** to printing. The IRLNEP logo must appear on all print or web materials distributed in association with the funded project.

Unbudgeted expenses:

Purchases for items other than those specified in the line-item budget will require the IRLNEP grants administrator's approval **before** they are incurred.

Changes And Interpretations:

Changes to this Application, if applicable, will be made by written addenda. A written addendum is the only official method whereby interpretation, clarification or additional information can be given. Addenda will be posted on the "Request For Proposals" section of the Council website: www.onelagoon.org.

OTHER INFORMATION:**Public Entity Crimes:**

As provided in the IRL Council Operating Procedures Manual, a person or affiliate who has been placed on the Convicted Proposers list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a proposal on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity; may not submit a proposal on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit proposals on leases of real property to a public entity; may not be successful or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity.

Non-Lobbying:

Pursuant to section 216.347, Fla. Stat., as amended, funds received from the IRL Council under this Agreement shall not be used for the purpose of lobbying the Legislature or any other state agency.

Right to Protest:

Any actual proposer aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of a contract may file a written protest in accordance with the procedures outlined in the IRL Council Operating Procedures Manual.

Right to Accept or Reject:

The IRL Council reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, with or without cause, to waive any irregularities and/or technicalities, and to award the contracts on such coverage and terms it deems will best serve the interests of the Board.

Funding Contingencies and Restrictions:

Project funding from the IRL Council is subject to annual funding received from IRL Council local stakeholder contributions, Congressional appropriation to the U.S. EPA under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act for the National Estuary Program, and projected revenues from the sales of Indian River Lagoon license plates.

Strategic decisions related to IRLNEP work plan funding are determined annually by the IRLNEP Management Conference with final decision for project priorities and budget allocations by the IRL Council Board of Directors (Board).

Funding of proposals selected under this Request for Proposals (RFP) is contingent upon availability of funds. There is no guarantee that sufficient funds will be available to make awards for all qualified projects. The exact amount of funds awarded for each project will be determined in pre-award negotiations between the applicant and IRL Council staff with final award decisions by the IRL Council Board of Directors.

Proposals accepted for funding may have their requested amounts reduced based on Management Conference recommendations or availability of funding. In the event that a proposal is selected for funding but becomes subject to funding reduction, IRLNEP staff will notify applicants in advance of any reductions and will meet

with proposers to provide an opportunity to consider the effect(s) funding reduction will have on the project scope and deliverables.

Projects will only be considered IF the project has secured any and all additional funding in addition to this request to the IRL Council that is needed to complete the project.

The IRL Council is under no obligation to expend all funds allocated within a proposal category.

Proposal Submission Instructions:

Complete an Application Form using the form provided beginning on page 9 of this document. Include a line-item budget form, provided on page 14, that includes:

- a. All estimated expenditures.
- b. All sources and amounts of funding (include if you are applying to other funding agencies for the same project, and if so, who you are applying to and the status of that grant).

Attachment A- Budget Examples provide sample budgets having, and lacking, adequate detail. Please craft the budget for your proposal with enough detail that it can be properly evaluated by the reviewing team.

Save these documents in PDF format and email your complete proposal to:

Erin Bergman, Administrative Coordinator, Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program, bergman@irlcouncil.org with a copy to Daniel Kolodny, kolodny@irlcouncil.org. Questions may be directed to Erin Bergman at bergman@irlcouncil.org until the proposal deadline.

Submission Checklist:

- Proposals are due in IRLNEP offices by **March 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**
- Proposals will be accepted only as PDFs submitted via email.
- Proposals must be completed in their entirety.
- Late proposals and materials received after the deadline will not be accepted.

Reporting Requirements:

IRLNEP Small Grants Program award recipients will be required to submit a written final report upon completion of the project. Final reports must include: (1) digital copy and (1) hard copy of all final products of print and/or web publications (i.e., brochures, videos, manuals, signage, etc.).

If your project is restoration-oriented and does not have a final product, “before and after photos” and/or a video must be submitted with the final report.

If your project is educational in nature and does not have a final product, a copy of all training materials, manuals, information, etc., must be submitted with your report.

Deliverables, including the final report, must be submitted before final payment is made unless authorized by the IRLNEP Small Grants Program administrator.

All projects, concepts, artwork, photos, videos and other products of these grants may be reproduced at the discretion of the IRLNEP for possible use with future educational programs, at no cost to the IRLNEP, and must carry an approved IRLNEP logo and/or credit line acknowledging Program funding of the project.

Selection Criteria:

Proposals submitted to the IRLNEP Small Grants Program will be evaluated according to the following criteria.

- a) ***Strength of Proposal (30%)*** -- Specifically, the strength of the project will be evaluated on how well the project contributes towards restoring or improving the IRL, or advancing education, and the extent to which it addresses a need based on health concern level as identified in the CCMP. Applicant's proposal must meet one or more of the CCMP Vital Signs.
- b) ***Ability of the Applicant (20%)*** -- The project team must demonstrate a reasonable ability to successfully complete the proposed project.
- c) ***Cost Justification (10%)*** -- Cost justification means that the proposal and the budget must give enough detail to show that costs are appropriate to the scope of work.
- d) ***Demonstration of How Project Will Help the IRL (20%)*** -- The project's goals and objectives must explicitly state how the project will target lagoon issues that result in the education of community members, restoration outcomes, or protection of the IRL. Achievable measures of success must clearly be identified.
- e) ***Demonstration of Community Support (15%)*** -- All proposals, regardless of scope, should reflect some measure of community support through either implementation, maintenance and/or monitoring of the project (Example: if a rain garden is funded, how will it be maintained, by whom, and for how long?).
- f) ***Demonstration of Benefits to Priority Populations (5%)*** -- If the project will benefit underserved or overburdened communities, the proposal should outline any benefits and potential outcomes expected in the community.

Selection Process:

The IRLNEP Citizens' Advisory Committee will review each proposal. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Program's Management and Policy Boards for final approval. IRLNEP staff will be assigned to serve as grant administrators. IRLNEP's grant administrator or its representative may request to visit the recipient or the project location during or after the grant is completed.

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FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions)

Q. What is the implementation period?

A. Funding for awarded projects will be made available on or after May 9, 2025, via a contract that authorizes reimbursement of approved expenses for the project. The project must begin within six months of the execution date of the contract and must be completed within one year of the execution date. Upon awarding of the grant, recipients will submit a "Scope of Work." Upon receipt and approval of the scope, applicants will then be issued a contract. Work may begin on the project after the contract has been fully executed.

R. Who can apply? Can a government agency apply?

A. Groups and organizations from within the IRLNEP watershed planning boundary may apply. Both non-profit and for-profit organizations are eligible. Individuals are not eligible but are encouraged to partner with an appropriate organization to develop and implement projects for funding. Projects must take place within the IRL watershed. Local governments and government agencies may apply if there is strong volunteer or community involvement that supports the spirit of the program. The IRLNEP Small Grants Program is not designed as a funding source for government projects.

S. What kind of projects will be funded?

A. Projects must address lagoon issues and problems as identified in the *IRLNEP Comprehensive C Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) – Looking ahead to 2030*. Priority areas include: water quality, habitat restoration, fish and wildlife conservation, lagoon awareness/education, reducing nitrogen loading from urban landscapes, or removing invasive species. The CCMP is available on the IRLNEP [website](#).

Projects involving installation of plants must use plants that are native to Florida or considered "Florida-Friendly" by the University of Florida IFAS Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program. Plants should be installed according to the Nine Principles of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ found at: http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/homeowners/nine_principles.htm

Information about native and Florida-Friendly plants can be found at:

- Florida Yards: <http://floridayards.org/>
- Florida Native Plant Society: <http://fnps.org/plants> and www.floridata.com
- Waterwise Landscaping: <https://www.sjrwmd.com/water-conservation/waterwise-landscaping/>

Plants listed on the noxious weed list: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/noxious?rptType=Federal> or the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council's list <https://www.fleppc.org/> may **not** be installed using funds from IRLNEP Small Grants:

Q. What project types won't be funded?

A. Proposals seeking funds for ongoing administrative support of established programs will not receive consideration. Costs not allowed include but are not limited to: reimbursement for costs outside the grant's scope of work, purchase of commercial software and hardware, indirect costs, contingency funds, depreciation, entertainment, purchase or printing of T-shirts or other clothing, fines and penalties, bad debts, interest and financial costs of borrowing, attendance at conferences and meetings, lobbying expenses. Grant funds will not fund projects on private residential property. Faith-based organizations are eligible to apply for small grants. However, funding may not be used to support religious worship, instruction, or proselytization activities.

Q. Are matching funds required?

A. No; matching funds are not required, but proposals showing matching fund commitment through in-kind services will receive special consideration. An example of in-kind services are volunteer hours.

Q. What if I’m not sure how much it will cost to do the project?

A. Talk to potential suppliers of the items or services you think you will need for the project. Get the best estimates possible to include in the proposal. If the project is approved, the grant award you receive will be based on the budget as outlined in the proposal.

Q. What is the maximum amount an applicant can request?

A. Grant requests may not exceed \$5,000. The IRLNEP may choose to fund a project at less than 100 percent of the requested budget.



Map of IRLNEP watershed. Only projects located in the watershed and northern planning boundary (orange outline) will be considered for funding.

If you have questions about your project location, you may contact Erin Bergman at bergman@irlcouncil.org.