

FLORIDA BEACON

From the President's Desk...

Amy Guilfoyle

**Membership, Sponsorship
and Mentorship
and
Florida's
Amendment 1**



**Florida Association of
Environmental Professionals**

Spring 2015



During 2015, the FAEP Board of Directors will be focused on three distinct areas: **Membership, Sponsorship, and Mentorship**.

Debbie Tyson and Stan Stokes will be leading the **Membership** Committee to engage members and understand what is needed to meet the needs of long-term members. Todd Hodgson will focus on increasing **Sponsorship** and Marketing to aid in the increase of membership and help fund the initiatives for the year. I will be heading up the Local Chapter **Mentoring** Program with the assistance of Bruce Hasbrouck. We are working to finalize a program to aid the local chapters in achieving their specific goals for the year and assisting with any questions the chapters may have on how to be more successful.

If you are interested in joining any of these committees or have specific ideas to boost membership or sponsorships, please contact the Committee Chairs. We would welcome the support. In addition, if you are interested in becoming a mentor or are a leader in a local chapter and could use a mentor to bounce ideas off of and work through day to day operations, please contact Bruce or myself.

Debbie Tyson - dtyson@gunster.com
 Stan Stokes - sstokes@ectinc.com
 Todd Hodgson - thodgson@feccorporation.com
 Bruce Hasbrouck - BHasbrouck@fallerdavis.com
 Amy Guilfoyle - amy.guilfoyle@ppmco.com

Sincerely,
 Amy L. Guilfoyle
 FAEP President

Cont'd on the next page

FAEP 2015 Board of Directors

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- John Lesman – Vice President
- Mary Gutierrez – Past President
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- John Lesman – At Large Member
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**Check the last page of this
newsletter to determine if you
qualify for a discount on your
membership!**

Next FAEP Board Meeting!!
The next FAEP Board of Directors Meeting
is April 27th at 12:00 PM.
To join the Board meeting via conference call
dial: 605-475-4000 (code 607028#)

**Find out more about FAEP
Member's Benefits at our website:
WWW.FAEP-FL.ORG**

Florida's Amendment 1

In an effort to keep our members educated on legislative initiatives in the environmental arena, we are happy to present the following information from Julia Espy, Timothy Perry, and Joe Ullo, all TAAEP Board Members.

Legislative Proposals to Implement the Water and Land Conservation Constitutional Amendment (Amendment 1)

The Florida House and Senate have developed similar proposals to implement Amendment 1. Both proposals consist of the structural changes to the Florida Statutes that will enable the Legislature to appropriate funds as directed by Amendment 1. These changes include the redistribution of documentary stamp tax revenues to ensure that 33 percent of the revenues are deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF) within the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the termination of trust funds that will become obsolete once the documentary stamp taxes are redirected to the LATF. There are no specific designations for how funds in the LATF will be used, other than to satisfy debt service requirements. Specific funding proposals are being incorporated into each chamber's proposed budget and will be decided in the budgetary process.

Senate Bill (SB) 584 currently encompasses the Senate's proposal, in concert with **SB 576, SB 578, SB 580, and SB 582**. These four bills create LATFs in the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS), Department of State (DOS) and Department of Transportation (DOT), so that funds for Amendment 1 that are transferred to these agencies can be easily tracked.

House Bill (HB) 1291 encompasses the House's proposal, in concert with **HB 1293 and HB 1295**. These last two bills create LATFs in DACS and DOS, so that funds for Amendment 1 that are transferred to these agencies can be easily tracked.

After deducting the Department of Revenue's cost of collections, both SB 584 and HB 1291 direct 33 percent of all documentary stamp taxes collected into the LATF within DEP. No funds distributed to the LATF for Amendment will be subject to the General Revenue service charge. Those funds are first applied to debt service payments before any other expenditures under Amendment 1. There are no specific designations for how the rest of the funds in the LATF are to be used, other than for the purposes authorized under Amendment 1. The major differences between SB 584 and HB 1291 are how they address the remaining documentary stamp tax revenue distributions:

- SB 584 would result in a reduction in the amount of documentary stamp tax revenue being distributed to transportation, economic development, and General Revenue; and an increase in the amount of documentary stamp tax revenue being distributed to environmental purposes; and a specific allocation of funds for payment in lieu of taxes for counties.
- HB 1291 would result in a reduction in the amount of documentary stamp tax revenue being distributed to General Revenue; and an increase in the amount of documentary stamp tax revenue being distributed to environmental purposes.

Both SB 584 and HB 1291 terminate the Florida Communities Trust Fund, Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, Water Management Lands Trust Fund, Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, and the Preservation 2000 Trust Fund within DEP; the Conservation and Recreation Lands Program Trust Fund within DACS; and the Conservation and Recreation Lands Program Trust Fund within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). Documentary stamp tax revenues currently being deposited into those trust funds are redirected into the LATF within DEP for distribution under Amendment 1. Non-documentary stamp tax revenues currently being deposited in those trust funds are redirected into another appropriate trust fund within the respective agency.

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These bills are still in the legislative process and are likely to change. The above information is current as of March 24, 2015. The House and Senate must pass identical versions of a bill before it can be transmitted to the Governor for consideration. The last day of the current legislative session is May 1, 2015.

Links to bills

SB 584: <http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2015/0584>

HB 1291: <http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=54489>

Author: Julia Espy – TAAEP Board Member

Tallahassee Chapter Update

On February 11, 2015, the Tallahassee Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals held its bimonthly luncheon meeting. At the meeting, two chapter board members, Tim Perry of Oertel, Fernandez, Bryant and Atkinson and Joe Ullo of Lewis, Longman and Walker presented a survey of Florida Environmental Law. The presentation touched on a diverse range of environmental law topics and permitting programs. Mr. Ullo discussed the Clean Air Act, RCRA and CERCLA, and Florida's petroleum, dry cleaning and brownfields programs. Mr. Perry covered consumptive water use permitting and water supply planning, environmental resource permitting, threatened and endangered species management, surface and groundwater water quality programs, beaches and coastal permitting and energy law. In addition, both attorneys touched on the various legal remedies available to address permitting related issues. For more information about this presentation please contact Tim Perry at tperry@ohfc.com or Joe Ullo at jullo@llw-law.com.



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NAEP 40th Annual Conference

April 13 – 17, 2015

Honolulu, Hawaii

**Mauka to Makai: Environmental Stewardship
from the Mountains to the Sea**

Co-sponsored by NAEP and the
Hawaii Chapter



It's no secret that Hawaii is home to some of the most amazing wonders and scenic attractions in the world!

	Environmental Science and Engineering
Amy L. Guilfoyle District Manager	
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Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Event	Date	Place
40 th Annual NAEP Conference	April 12 – 17, 2015	Honolulu, Hawaii
Florida Floodplain Managers Association	April 15 – 17, 2015	Orlando, Florida
Florida Water Resources Conference	May 3 – 6, 2015	Orlando, Florida
Battelle Bioremediation and Sustainable Env. Technologies	May 18-21, 2015	Miami, Florida
Florida Society of Environmental Analysts	May 20 – 22, 2015	Clearwater, Florida
Florida Association for Water Quality Control	June 10 – 12, 2015	Naples, Florida
Florida Water Quality Association	June 11 – 13, 2015	Orlando, Florida
FLERA 2015 Summer Symposium	June 25 – 26, 2015	Gainesville, Florida
29 th Annual Environmental Permitting School	July 7 – 10, 2015	Orlando, Florida
Florida Section American Water Resources Association	July 23 – 24, 2015	Key Largo, Florida
Florida League of Cities	Aug. 13 – 15, 2015	Orlando, Florida
US EPA National Brownfield Conference	Sept. 2 – 4, 2015	Chicago, Illinois
American Planning Association	Sept. 8 – 11, 2015	Hollywood, Florida
Florida Brownfield Association	Oct. 4 – 7, 2015	Tampa, Florida
51 st Annual Florida Section A&WMA Conference	Oct. 28 – 29, 2015	Tallahassee, Florida

FAEP shares information about conferences pertaining to the environmental professions. FAEP does not endorse any of the referenced conferences.



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Quest Ecology is pleased to provide our new and existing clients with prescribed burn services.

Quest Ecology is well known for our work in providing a broad range of ecological services, including wildlife surveys, habitat assessments and management plans; wetland delineations, permitting and mitigation; and impact evaluations and sustainability planning. We are now pleased to announce we have added prescribed burn services to our list of habitat management capabilities. The Quest Team includes an experienced Certified Prescribed Burn Manager, burn crew, engines and equipment to accomplish all your prescribed fire needs, from writing the prescription to performing the burn.



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FDEP Employees Receive Awards for Innovation That Save Taxpayer Dollars

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection employees were recently awarded seven Prudential Productivity Awards. The Florida Tax Watch's Prudential Productivity Awards is a privately initiated program designed to recognize and reward state government employees whose work measurably increases productivity and promotes innovation in ways that improve service delivery and save Florida taxpayers money.

"Every year, DEP employees across the state utilize their talents and skills to find ways to improve processes, streamline procedures, and reduce costs," said DEP Secretary Jon Steverson. "Collectively, these efforts support our duty to protect the environment, while creating opportunities to allow businesses and families to thrive in our state."

Department employees received two cash awards and five plaque awards. The following is a list of awardees and their achievements.

Team Awards

- Team cash award for creating innovative tools to assist in springs restoration. The team facilitated Basin Management Action Plan development by creating the Nitrogen Source Inventory Loading Tool (NSILT). NSILT collects local data, such as the number and location of cows, horses, septic systems, wastewater land application sites, stormwater runoff, and a host of other potential nitrogen sources. The result is a summary of the relative contributions of nitrogen from different sources, which identifies areas where nitrogen source reduction efforts could be focused to achieve the most beneficial effects on water quality. **Team members: Kirstin Eller and Brian Katz.**
- Team plaque award for saving the agency \$204,153 in outsourcing cost by assuming Title V Air permitting duties from Duval County. The Northeast District's Air Permitting Section conducted a Lean Kaizen event in order to reduce the team's permitting processing time. The event resulted in an average increase in efficiency of 65 percent. **Team members: John Philips, Rita Felton-Smith, Leslie Maybin, Yasmin Enriquez, Jerry Woosley, and Brent Steele.**
- Team plaque award for streamlining emissions reporting and payment process. More than 400 businesses in Florida are required to hold a certain type of operation permit based on both federal and state regulations. Until recently, businesses were required to submit two separate annual reports to the department. Each report required separate, complicated fee calculations with different reporting deadlines. The team successfully worked through the process of revising the applicable state of Florida Statutes and Rules to consolidate the two reports into one. The single submission saves both department resources and businesses' time and money. **Team members: Cadedra Hodge, Cindy Phillips, P.E., Jon Holtom, P.E., Kris Lanh, Dianne Spingler, and Luana Fluegge.**
- Team plaque award for internal and external improvements to the Bureau of Design and Construction (BDC). The BDC provides engineering, architectural, contracting, and construction services for the Florida Park Service. Enhanced business practices led to \$717,099.87 in savings, a direct result of 21 instances of negotiated services and process improvements. Savings are reallocated to critical construction and repair needs. **Team members: Matthew M. Mitchell, Michael Foster, Katie Parrish, and David Matson.**

Individual Awards

- **Brian Polk** received an individual cash award for developing a process for renovating fiberglass embedded interpretive panels used to display information about Florida State Park historical events, plant and animal life, natural and architectural features. Some of the photos and text had faded on the park's 15-year-old interpretive kiosk to the degree that several large panels were in poor condition and needed to be replaced. Working with a local sign company, Mr. Polk was able to refurbish the existing panels and saved approximately \$5,700. He then documented the process and shared it with other parks. The new process will improve the overall interpretive experience for visitors to Florida State Parks. With many parks taking advantage of the improved process, the Division of Recreation and Parks will have cumulative savings for years to come.
- **Thomas Kennedy** received an individual plaque award for designing and implementing a department-wide, real-time dashboard tool that merges and studies key permitting process data. This process leverages data analysis to enable each District office to benchmark their data, review/analyze and improve performance related processes, establish expectations by setting competitive targets, better manage and improve their internal permitting review times, and govern their team's resources.
- **Keith Reynolds** received the individual plaque award for creating a new Lake Vegetation Index (LVI) to work with ArcGIS. ArcGIS is a versatile software used for mapping surface areas, predicting probable outcome scenarios, and providing a variety of reports. While working with staff, Mr. Reynolds noticed they were spending a lot of time manually dividing a lake into 12 equal segments for the LVI bioassessment. Using his ArcGIS skills, along with his innovative spirit and commitment to efficient cost savings, he developed a tool that does this process automatically. Approximately 45 Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration staff, statewide, were trained via webinar on how to use the new mapping technique for the LVI. Using this new protocol, the process for making maps for the LVI has gone from 30 minutes per map to less than five minutes.

From FDEP News

Gov. Scott: Tamiami Trail Project Will Help Move Water South

~DEP Issues Permit for Construction of Important Everglades Project~

On March 17 Governor Scott announced that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection recently issued a permit to the Department of Interior's National Park Service, Everglades National Park, for the construction of 2.6 miles of bridging and road raising along the Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41) in Miami-Dade County. The project will deconstruct a section of the Tamiami Trail and replace it with a bridge so that water north of the road may flow into the Everglades, providing needed water to the Everglades National Park. This project will result in enhanced movement of water south from Lake Okeechobee.

Governor Rick Scott said, "Restoring the Florida Everglades and protecting Florida's natural treasures is incredibly important to protect the natural beauty of our state. The Tamiami Trail project will help move more water south from Lake Okeechobee which directly benefits the Everglades, as well as the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Estuaries. On top of completing critical projects, we have proposed a dedicated source of revenue that will provide more than \$5 billion for Everglades restoration over the next 20 years. This funding will ensure that future generations of Floridians can enjoy our state's natural beauty."

The Tamiami Trail currently inhibits water flowing south into Everglades National Park. By constructing bridges, water will be able to flow more naturally to the Park.

DEP Secretary Jon Steverson said, "This is a huge step forward in our efforts to restore the Everglades. Moving water south through the Everglades is critical for wildlife, and keeping it out of the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Estuaries is vital to protecting these important waterbodies."

The total cost of the 2.6 mile Bridge Phase of the project is estimated to be \$144 million. Governor Scott has committed up to \$30 million/year over three years or \$90 million total for this project.

In addition to long term investments, the Department is working with the South Florida Water Management District and local partners to take aggressive action on both coasts to improve the quantity, quality, timing and distribution of water in Florida.

Governor Rick Scott's 2015-2016 "KEEP FLORIDA WORKING" budget provides a total of \$150 million for Everglades restoration, including \$20 million for Kissimmee River restoration. The "KEEP FLORIDA WORKING" budget also creates a dedicated source of revenue for Everglades restoration that provides more than \$670 million for ecosystem restoration over the next four years and more than \$5 billion over the next 20 years. This means that during the Governor's second term alone, South Florida's families will know the state has the ability to fund its share of the restoration of the Kissimmee River and the construction of the C-43 and C-44 reservoirs – projects that will provide almost 100 billion gallons of storage to protect Florida estuaries.

From FDEP News



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2015 FAEP Annual Conference and Training Symposium “Meeting on the Greens”



FAEP Call for Presentation Abstracts

**Co-hosted by FAEP and the Treasure Coast Chapter
September 24 – 25, 2015
PGA National Resort and Spa
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida**

The Florida Association of Environmental Professionals and Treasure Coast Chapter are honored to host the 2015 Annual Conference in Palm Beach Gardens, the **24th and 25th of September 2015**. The Conference will include keynote speakers, technical sessions, expo, networking social, training classes, and field trips. This conference provides an excellent opportunity for professionals and students working in a wide range of environmental specializations to come together and present recent successful projects, lessons learned, and new techniques and/or ideas. This year’s conference will focus on four tracks: Sustainability and Climate Change, The Business of Environmental Consulting, Emerging and Innovative Technologies, and Environmental Restoration. Presentations related to any environmental topic within Florida are encouraged. Topics can include, but are not limited to, sustainability, climate change, sea-level rise, economics, business management, legal considerations, risk assessment, policy/regulation, restoration, and innovative technologies. Presentation abstracts will be reviewed and voted for inclusion in the conference.

Instructions for submitting presentation abstracts

The deadline for submitting abstracts is **May 31, 2015**. Abstract submittals should include full name, address, phone number, email, professional title, affiliation, biography, presentation title, a brief description of your presentation topic, estimated length, and which of the four tracts your presentation is related most to. The presentation description must be 350 words or less and submitted in MS Word using the attached Presentation Abstract Submittal Form. Abstracts should be submitted via e-mail to the Conference Committee Chairs – Kristin Bennett at Kristin.Bennett@tetrattech.com or Leslye Waugh at lwaugh@sfwmd.gov. The 2015 FAEP Annual Conference Committee will review and vote on all abstract submissions. A notification of acceptance will be emailed to the corresponding author no later than July 15, 2015.

Guidelines for presentations

Presentations must be made using PowerPoint software. LCD projectors and laptops will be provided. Please copy your presentation onto a USB flash drive that is labeled with your last name. Before the start of your session, give your presentation to the AV assistant. There will not be time to copy the files once a session has begun. Macintosh users should ensure that their presentations will function properly in a Windows environment. Please **DO NOT** bring presentations on a CD-RW, zip drive, or super disc.

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Presentation Abstract Submittal Form

About the Presenter

Name: _____

Professional Title: _____

Affiliation: _____

Biography (150 words or less): (please attach to form) _____

Contact Information

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

FAEP Conference Presentation

Preferred Track:

- Sustainability and Climate Change
- The Business of Environmental Consulting
- Innovative and Emerging Technologies
- Environmental Restoration

Presentation Topic: _____

Estimated Presentation Length: _____

Are you willing to change the length? (Y?N) _____

Presentation Description (350 words or less): (please attach to form) _____

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2015 FAEP Annual Conference and Training Symposium

Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship opportunities are available for companies and organizations interested in supporting the 2015 FAEP Annual Conference and Training Symposium in Palm Beach Gardens, September 24th and 25th, co-hosted by the FAEP and the Treasure Coast Chapter. We appreciate your generosity and support of this non-profit organization and your interest in engaging with the attendees.

Benefits of Sponsorship:

- Cultivate and strengthen a diversity of industry relationships
- Interact with key decision makers and a variety of stakeholders
- Reinforce your continued commitment to the environmental profession
- Showcase your organization to consultants, governmental, private, non-profit, and contracting organizations
- Increase awareness of your organization within the environmental community
- Enhance your prominence and recognition as an environmental professional

Exclusive Sponsorships are available

If you want to be the exclusive sponsor for the Annual Conference and Training Symposium or for a particular tract, session or event, please contact Courtney Arena (arenacourtney@stanleygroup.com) to discuss options and pricing.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please complete the Sponsorship Commitment Information on our website.

Sponsorships will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis and upon receipt of payment.

Payment must be received prior to recognition in Conference marketing materials.

Graphic Requirements for Sponsor Recognition

In order to properly recognize your contribution and showcase your company or organization to the 2015 FAEP Annual Conference and Training Symposium on the FAEP website and in printed materials, we ask that you email Kristin Bennett (Kristin.Bennett@tetrattech.com) a high resolution version of your organization's logo. We accept JPEG, TIF, and EPS formats and recommend a minimum resolution of 600 dpi for the best representation of your organization.

A Few Words of Thanks to Our Sponsors

On behalf of the FAEP 2015 Annual Conference Planning Committee and the Treasure Coast Chapter, we wish to thank all of the organizations that take the extra step to partner with us by being a sponsor. Your support is needed to make this event a success and is greatly appreciated! Go to our website to see sponsorship package details: www.faep-fl.org

	Hole-In-One Conference Sponsor \$3,000	Albatross \$1,000	Eagle \$750	Birdie \$500	Par \$250
					

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FLERA 2015

SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

June 25th-26th | Gainesville, FL | Prairie Creek Preserve Lodge



**Legislative Update, Presentations, Roundtables, and more!
Regulators, Scientists, Specialists, and Newcomers Welcome!**

Topics:

- Amendment 1: Where Do We Go From Here?
- What Does NFIP Reform Legislation Mean to You and Your Community?
- Are You Maximizing Your Community's Flood Insurance Premium Reductions?
- RESTORE Act Funding – How Much? For What? For Who?
- How Will Reduced Ozone Standards Affect You?
- Is UMAM Working for You?
- Traditional vs Alternative Waste Management

Sponsorship: \$150
*(Includes one registration
and your business logo
on event agenda, posters
and FLERA website)*

Make a weekend out of it!

Check out "A T-Rex. Named Sue" at the Florida Museum, the Carson Springs Wildlife Conservation Foundation, Canopy Climbers, or the tasting room at Swamp Head Brewery. Or get your music fix with Tropical Whiskey Band at Gambler's Saloon, Jim Perkins at Loosey's, or request a song at Rockeys Dueling Piano Bar.

FAEP Group Discount Memberships

Did you know that FAEP provides a discount on our membership to employers who have 5 or more members? If your company or organization qualifies for the Group Membership you save \$5 on each FAEP new member or renewing member, lowering the FAEP membership fee from \$40 to \$35 for everyone from your company or organization. If your company or organization is on this list, you are eligible to join or renew at the discounted Group rate. The FAEP Board would like to extend a thank you to the following employers for supporting their employee's professional development and the FAEP mission:

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Size	One Issue	One Year
Biz Card	\$35	\$100
¼ Page	\$100	\$375
½ Page	\$175	\$650
1 Page	\$250	\$900

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