

Quantifying the *Impact* of Fertilizer Workshops on Water Quality

Excess nitrogen (N) and phosphorous (P) are the leading causes of water quality impairments in lakes, rivers, and wetlands across Florida. When surface waters are impaired, significant local, state and/or national funds are needed to “clean them up.” Despite the numerous individuals working towards minimizing residential landscape management effects on water quality, it has been difficult to quantify impacts. However, many years of focused work in Seminole County resulted in a new and promising approach to estimate the water quality and subsequent economic benefits. This approach can be replicated among UF/IFAS Extension and its partners and efforts are under way to expand this approach statewide. Learn more in this publication: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/SS705>

2018-22 Impacts in Seminole County

613

participants switched to at least **50% slow-release N fertilizer**, preventing **596 lbs of N** from leaching into groundwater and surface waters.

\$297,918
annual value

in savings from behaviors changed.

578

participants began following the local fertilizer ordinance, preventing **1143 lbs of N** from leaching into groundwater.

\$571,353
annual value

in savings from behaviors changed.

