UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ PROGRAM

PDEC Program Development & Evaluation Center

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 is now replicated among UF/IFAS Extension and its partners statewide. Learn more in this publication: edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/SS705

2023 Impacts

1,965

participants switched to at least **50% slow-release N fertilizer**, preventing **1,910 lbs of N** from leaching into groundwater and surface waters.

$954,990

annual value

in savings from behaviors changed.

10,817

participants began following the local fertilizer ordinance, preventing **21,385 lbs of N** from leaching into groundwater.

$10,692,605

annual value

in savings from behaviors changed.

Source: 2023 UF/IFAS Workload

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