

FRIENDS OF ST. SEBASTIAN RIVER  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING AGENDA  
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023 – 4pm, Ryall house/South Prong Preserve

CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

CALL FOR ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S) – p. 2

TREASURER'S REPORT – pp. 3-9

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Graves Bros. annexation/PIAS lawsuit

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

    Adopt-a-Road – awaiting response

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

    Advocacy – Herrmann

        SJRWMD permits – none

        ACOE permits – none

        New City maint. building at Sebastian airport – visit update – Bob

        FL Conservation Voter – FL legislation bill tracker/status - <https://fcvoters.org/2023-bills-all>

        SB 540 Local Comprehensive Plans, FL Wildlife Federation Take action -  
        <https://action.floridawildlifefederation.org/a/veto-sprawl-bill-540>

        FNPS fertilizer ordinance alert – p. 10

        Sierra Club fertilizer veto sign-on letter – pp.11-16

        FL Springs Council fertilizer ordinance take action alert – pp. 17-19

        FL Right to Clean Water request to support - [www.floridarighttocleanwater.org/supportingorgs](http://www.floridarighttocleanwater.org/supportingorgs) -  
        pp. 20-21

    Education/Outreach – Bolton/Stephen

        May meeting refreshments

        Paddle Fest photo contest entries

    Financial – Greene

    Governance – Herrmann

    Information – Glover, website stats,

    Membership – Herrmann – new members since Feb. – Richard & Lisa Beneduce, Margaret Combs, Geri Ford, Gary & Judy Greenberg, Elizabeth Hale, Regina Hall, David & Sandra Hinck, Mark Ivkovich, Elle King, Ryan Matias, Amy Morgan-Yrjola, Cindy Roberts, Kimberly & John Simons

    Publicity – Penny Phillips – Facebook stats

    Volunteer – vacant – planned activities/dates

Adjournment

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1) Next BOD meeting – June 13, 3pm, Ryall house

2) Ryall property/South Prong Preserve Open House, TBD

3) ORCA Data Jam Showcase, Riverhouse, Vero Beach, May 11, 4-6pm

4) St. Johns River WMD, Southern Rec Lands Mgmt update, May 16, 6-8pm – p. 22

5) IR Lagoon Day festival, Front Street Park, Melbourne, Nov. 18, 2023

**FRIENDS OF ST. SEBASTIAN RIVER  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 11, 2023, 3pm, RYALL HOUSE, SOUTH PRONG PRESERVE**

CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE--Pres. Glover called the meeting to order at 3:05pm. Present were Herrmann(vice-pres.), Greene(treasurer), Peterson(secretary), directors Bolton, Stephen, and Zingman. Advisory director Hinck was also in attendance.

CALL FOR ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA--Glover has one addition.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)(AP, p.2)--Herrmann requested that if a Board member is unable to attend a meeting that he/she contact pres. Glover first in order for the absence to be excused. Greene made a motion, seconded by Herrmann, that the Minutes from the March 14th meeting be approved and accepted; all voted in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT(AP, pp.3-10)--Greene noted that we have a credit for \$167 from FPL. Bolton made a motion, seconded by Greene, that the report be accepted for audit; all voted in favor.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Ryall House Update-Glover reported that the County added a wooden railing to the entire outside deck, which is pressure treated. The wooden deck needs staining. Graves Bros. annexation-Glover reported that we may need to contribute financially to George Glenn's lawsuit by sharing the cost of a stenographer with three other environmental groups.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS--Adopt-a-Road--awaiting response

Bolton noted that we need a new sign at our Ryall house entrance, and a green "South Prong, St. Sebastian River" sign where 510 and 512 cross.

NEW BUSINESS--Bolton made a motion that we purchase three picnic tables from Tractor Supply or similar company; Herrmann seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Tim will investigate.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advocacy-Herrmann

SJRWMD permits-none

ACOE permits-none

New City maint. building at Sebastian Airport-working to schedule visit

Education/Outreach-Bolton/Stephen

St. Sebastian River Paddle Fest--donation of Yeti cooler from Sea & Shoreline--Hinck reviewed the plans for the event-rain date is Sunday, April 30th.

City of Sebastian Earth/Arbor Day festival-need volunteers, Apr. 22, 8am to 4:30pm

Roseland Community Park, letter from FSSR, RWC and RCA to IR County, re park restoration and Adopt-a-Park(AP,pp.11-14)

Financial-Greene reported that we renewed our insurance policy, with a 20% price hike.

Governance-Herrmann-none

Information-Glover, website stats(AP,p.15)-Glover shared news that he has been asked by George Glenn to join a committee of nine to review which properties in IR County are eligible for bond conservation monies; he has not yet agreed.


Membership--Herrmann-new member since Feb.-Dhumanati Jaya

Publicity-Penny Phillips-Facebook stats, 988 followers

Volunteer-vacant-planned activities/dates-Glover is working on creating a schedule of work needed to be done on the property.

Adjournment-Herrmann made a motion, seconded by Peterson, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:05 pm; all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Lynn Peterson  
FSSR Secretary

Next BOD meeting-May 9, 3pm, Ryall House

**Friends of St. Sebastian River**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 April 2023

	<b>Apr 23</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
43400 · Direct Public Support	
43410 · Corporate Contributions	260.00
43450 · Individ, Business Contributions	1,230.56
<b>Total 43400 · Direct Public Support</b>	<b>1,490.56</b>
47200 · Program Income	
47230 · Membership Dues	55.00
<b>Total 47200 · Program Income</b>	<b>55.00</b>
49000 · Sales	
49010 · Puppets	31.79
49020 · Clothing	182.26
49030 · Miscellaneous	25.22
49040 · Sales-Hats	42.06
<b>Total 49000 · Sales</b>	<b>281.33</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,826.89</b>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold	
50010 · Puppets	14.00
50020 · Clothing	7.95
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold - Other	120.44
<b>Total 50000 · Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<b>142.39</b>
<b>Total COGS</b>	<b>142.39</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>1,684.50</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
60100 · Public Relations	
60101 · Awards	500.00
<b>Total 60100 · Public Relations</b>	<b>500.00</b>
60900 · Business Expenses	
60901 · Sales Taxes	42.30
<b>Total 60900 · Business Expenses</b>	<b>42.30</b>
65000 · Operations	
65040 · Supplies	604.38
65050 · Telephone, Telecommunications	9.16
65060 · Merchant Service Fee-PayPal	28.02
<b>Total 65000 · Operations</b>	<b>641.56</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,183.86</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>500.64</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>500.64</b>

**Friends of St. Sebastian River**  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of April 30, 2023

	Apr 30, 23
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
10000 · Checking	
10020 · Without Donor Restrictions	7,828.33
10030 · With Donor Restirctions	
10031 · Geo Schum Memorial Fd	500.00
10033 · Archie Laird Memorial	585.00
10034 · Grants	422.54
<b>Total 10030 · With Donor Restirctions</b>	<b>1,507.54</b>
<b>Total 10000 · Checking</b>	9,335.87
10100 · Petty Cash	45.00
10200 · PayPal	1,627.63
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>11,008.50</b>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
10300 · Gift Card	26.26
12000 · Undeposited Funds	475.00
12100 · Inventory Asset	
12110 · Puppets	284.50
12120 · Clothing	137.05
12130 · Miscellaneous Inventory	4.82
12140 · Hats	116.64
12100 · Inventory Asset - Other	1,131.87
<b>Total 12100 · Inventory Asset</b>	<b>1,674.88</b>
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>2,176.14</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>13,184.64</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>13,184.64</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	
20000 · Accounts Payable	-167.03
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>-167.03</b>
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
25500 · Sales Tax Payable	19.68
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>19.68</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>-147.35</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>-147.35</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	316.73
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	11,674.89
Net Income	1,340.37
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>13,331.99</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>13,184.64</b>

**Friends of St. Sebastian River**  
**Reconciliation Detail**  
**10000 · Checking, Period Ending 04/30/2023**

Type	Date	Num	Name	Clr	Amount	Balance
<b>Beginning Balance</b>						10,099.15
<b>Cleared Transactions</b>						
<b>Checks and Payments - 5 items</b>						
Check	3/24/2023	1038	Roseland Communi...	X	-50.00	-50.00
Check	3/24/2023	1037	Roseland Women's ...	X	-50.00	-100.00
Check	4/2/2023	DC	Google	X	-3.00	-103.00
Check	4/11/2023	DC	Ooma	X	-6.16	-109.16
Check	4/18/2023	DC	Amazon.com	X	-646.68	-755.84
Total Checks and Payments					-755.84	-755.84
<b>Deposits and Credits - 4 items</b>						
Sales Receipt	4/3/2023	928	Charities Aid Found...	X	83.28	83.28
Deposit	4/4/2023			X	45.00	128.28
Sales Receipt	4/4/2023	927	Charities Aid Found...	X	83.28	211.56
Deposit	4/22/2023			X	281.00	492.56
Total Deposits and Credits					492.56	492.56
Total Cleared Transactions					-263.28	-263.28
Cleared Balance					-263.28	9,835.87
<b>Uncleared Transactions</b>						
<b>Checks and Payments - 1 item</b>						
Check	4/17/2023	1039	Genevieve Presti		-500.00	-500.00
Total Checks and Payments					-500.00	-500.00
Total Uncleared Transactions					-500.00	-500.00
Register Balance as of 04/30/2023					-763.28	9,335.87
<b>New Transactions</b>						
<b>Checks and Payments - 1 item</b>						
Check	5/2/2023	DC	Google		-3.00	-3.00
Total Checks and Payments					-3.00	-3.00
<b>Deposits and Credits - 2 items</b>						
Sales Receipt	5/1/2023	966	Charities Aid Found...		83.28	83.28
Sales Receipt	5/5/2023	965	Charities Aid Found...		83.28	166.56
Total Deposits and Credits					166.56	166.56
Total New Transactions					163.56	163.56
<b>Ending Balance</b>					<b>-599.72</b>	<b>9,499.43</b>

# Initiate Business Checking<sup>SM</sup>

April 30, 2023 ■ Page 1 of 4



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

## Your Business and Wells Fargo

Don't fall for an IRS imposter scam. Learn to spot scams and help avoid tax fraud at [www.wellsfargo.com/spottaxscams](http://www.wellsfargo.com/spottaxscams).

## Account options

*A check mark in the box indicates you have these convenient services with your account(s). Go to [wellsfargo.com/biz](http://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"/>

## Statement period activity summary

Beginning balance on 4/1	\$10,099.15
Deposits/Credits	492.56
Withdrawals/Debits	- 755.84
Ending balance on 4/30	<b>\$9,835.87</b>

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
4/3		Recurring Payment authorized on 04/01 Google LLC Gsuite_650-2530000 CA S583091456131130 Card [REDACTED]		3.00	
4/3	1037	Check		50.00	10,046.15
4/4		Cybergrants-Cafa Cybergrant ACH_5539973 Friends of St Sebastia	83.28		
4/4		Deposit Made In A Branch/Store	45.00		10,174.43
4/5		Cybergrants-Cafa Cybergrant ACH_5547647 Friends of St Sebastia	83.28		10,257.71
4/11		Recurring Payment authorized on 04/10 Ooma,Inc 888-711-6662 CA S463100684741915 Card [REDACTED]		6.16	10,251.55
4/19		Purchase authorized on 04/12 Amazon.Com*Hv55C38 Amzn.Com/Bill WA S383103146285807 Card [REDACTED]		646.68	9,604.87
4/20	1038	Check		50.00	9,554.87
4/27		eDeposit IN Branch/Store 04/27/23 10:51:54 Am 1524 US Hwy 1 Sebastian FL	281.00		9,835.87
Ending balance on 4/30					9,835.87
Totals			\$492.56	\$755.84	

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	Number	Date	Amount
1037	4/3	50.00	1038	4/20	50.00

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](https://wellsfargo.com/feefaq) for a link to these documents, and answers to common monthly service fee questions.

Fee period 04/01/2023 - 04/30/2023 Standard monthly service fee \$10.00 You paid \$0.00

The bank has waived the fee for this fee period.

How to avoid the monthly service fee	Minimum required	This fee period
Have any ONE of the following account requirements		
• Average ledger balance	\$1,000.00	\$9,994.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Minimum daily balance	\$500.00	\$9,554.87 <input type="checkbox"/>

The Monthly service fee summary fee period ending date shown above includes a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday which are non-business days. Transactions occurring after the last business day of the month will be included in your next fee period.

C1/C1



Merchant Account ID: [REDACTED]

PayPal ID: info@fssr.org

4/1/23 - 4/30/23

### Statement for April 2023

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

### Balance Summary (4/1/23 - 4/30/23)

	Available beginning	Available ending	Withheld beginning	Withheld ending
USD	683.13	1,453.18	0.00	0.00





Merchant Account ID: [REDACTED]

PayPal ID: info@fssr.org

4/1/23 - 4/30/23

### Activity Summary (4/1/23 - 4/30/23)

	USD
<b>Beginning Available Balance</b>	<b>683.13</b>
Payments received	786.49
Payments sent	0.00
Withdrawals and Debits	0.00
Deposits and Credits	0.00
Fees	-16.44
<b>Ending Available Balance</b>	<b>1,453.18</b>



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Florida Native Plant Society

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## ACTION ALERT

The Florida Legislature made a back-room, midnight-hour deal with TruGreen to rob local governments of the authority to enact ordinances that prevent the misuse of fertilizers on lawns. We have very little time to convince Governor DeSantis he needs to veto this offensive provision so counties and cities will still have the autonomy to prevent pollution in their own backyards.

Ask Governor DeSantis to veto the provision to SB 2502 ("Back of the Bill" provisions, Section 85, Lines 2455-2460) that would preempt local governments from adopting or amending fertilizer ordinances. If the "back of the bill" part of that sounds strange or fishy to you, that's because it is. This provision was added in the closing days of the session, late on Sunday night, without any committee debate, public input, or staff analysis of the potential impact.

Our springs, rivers and estuaries are choking on excessive nutrients. Nutrient pollution imposes large and measurable economic and quality-of-life impacts on our communities. It kills the seagrasses and other submerged aquatic vegetation many wildlife species (e.g., manatees) depend on for food and to meet other habitat needs.

Maybe your city or county is one of the 117 local governments that have already adopted an ordinance to manage fertilizer applications to turf grass. Or maybe your county or city would like to adopt such an ordinance. The legislature is <sup>10</sup>trying to steal that authority



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

## UPDATE on SNEAK ATTACK on local government urban fertilizer ordinances

Cris Costello [REDACTED]  
Bcc: info@fssr.org

Tue, May 2, 2023 at 9:40 AM

Here is the latest:

- Senate President Kathleen Passidomo ignored the public demand to delete the preemption from the [implementing bill](#)
  - INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE. Prohibits a local government from adopting or amending a fertilizer management ordinance pursuant to s. 403.9337, F.S., which provides for a prohibited application period not in existence on June 30, 2023.
- The budget, made available earlier this morning, also includes: *"From the funds in Specific Appropriation 146 (AID TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS GRANTS AND AIDS - IFAS (INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE) FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND), \$250,000 in nonrecurring funds shall be used by the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) to evaluate the effectiveness of the timing of seasonal fertilizer restrictions on urban landscapes toward achieving nutrient target objectives for waterbodies statewide. IFAS must submit a final report, including results and recommendations, by December 31, 2023, to the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee and the chair of the House Appropriations Committee."*
- We know who the culprits are:
  - [TruGreen](#) hired [Steve Crisafulli](#) (former House Speaker from whom we collectively snatched a preemption victory about 10 years ago) to get the job done.
  - [University of Florida](#) and IFAS ([Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences](#)) which, funded by the turf/turf fertilizer industries, has unsuccessfully *promoted preemption* and *opposed rainy season nitrogen fertilizer application bans* for 16 years.
- Read all about it: Tampa Bay Times: [Florida lawmakers eye ban on fertilizer use restrictions](#)

A sneak attack was the only way they were going to get this done.

Stay tuned. More to come. There still may be a way to thwart this.

Regards,  
Cris

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Cris Costello  
Senior Organizing Manager  
Sierra Club  
[2127 S. Tamiami Trail](#)  
[Osprey, FL 34229](#)  
941-914-0421  
[cris.costello@sierraclub.org](mailto:cris.costello@sierraclub.org)



Friends of St. Sebastian River &lt;friendsofstsebastian@gmail.com&gt;

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## URGENT SIGN-ON: LINE ITEM VETO REQUEST to Protect Urban Fertilizer Ordinances

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Cris Costello <cris.costello@sierraclub.org>

Fri, May 5, 2023 at 6:47 AM

Cc: Michael McGrath <michael.mcgrath@sierraclub.org>

Bcc: info@fssr.org

**WE CAN DEFEAT THE SNEAK ATTACK on new and strengthened local urban fertilizer ordinances.** The attached and [linked](#) request letter for a line-item veto is *our next move*.

The letter itself tells much of the story, including the fact that the Governor CAN IN FACT veto *only the part* of the proviso language that allocates \$250,000 to UF/IFAS; he does not have to veto the entire line item 146.

The letter does not spell out that we expect the veto of the \$250,000 in non-recurring fund for the study (the last paragraph in [Budget Line Item 146](#)) to neuter [the year-long preemption of all new or modified strong urban fertilizer ordinances](#) found in the implementing bill. But, if the Governor vetoes the [offending paragraph](#) in line item 146, the preemption to be "implemented" should no longer be effective because the appropriation is not and never was a part of the budget and is not law.

**To sign the letter, organizations and businesses should send [cris.costello@sierraclub.org](mailto:cris.costello@sierraclub.org) the following:**

- **Name of Organization or Business**
- **Name of person signing for the organization or business**
- **Title of person signing for the organization or business**

**We have about a week to get the message to the Governor, so time is of the essence:**

- We will gather signatures for as long as we can.
- The letter will be sent without letterhead, and a simple press release will go out without any header.
- Let me know if you'd like any press inquiries we get to be directed to you
- Once you get the final letter/press release, we encourage you to personalize and distribute to your local press contacts

**BACKGROUND:** In 2007, Sierra Club, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, and many local partners along the gulf coast began fighting IFAS and the turfgrass and fertilizer/agrichemical industries at the state legislative and local government levels. Since 2007, when the first strong county-level ordinance passed in Sarasota County, over [seventeen counties and well over 100 municipalities](#) have adopted "strong" ordinances that include strict (no exemption) rainy season application bans. The effort has brought organizations, businesses, and local governments together from across the state to make it happen. We have been victorious because this is a non-partisan issue – local economies depend on clean water – and strict urban fertilizer

management is a cheap, easy way to stop pollution at its source. Landscape managers across the state have implemented new application schedules, and Florida-based fertilizer manufacturers led the way in providing summer-safe products.

This [Sierra Club Adventure Coast Group letter sent on May 1 to Hernando County](#) in support of a strong updated ordinance includes links to resources that substantiate the effectiveness of strict application bans and the underlying science and rationale.

Local control of water quality protection measures is a must-have in Florida. Tying the hands of county/city governments, prohibiting them from protecting the engines of their local waterfront economies, is madness.

## RECENT PRESS CLIPS

- Miami Herald: [Water quality in Florida to take a hit as lawmakers show their disdain for voters | Opinion](#)
- WINK TV: [SWFL fertilizer ordinances could loosen soon](#)
- The Daytona Beach News Journal: [Florida Legislature proposes blocking fertilizer restrictions. Here's what we know](#)
- WTSP: [Florida lawmakers move to end seasonal fertilizer bans](#)

Let's do this,  
Cris and Michael

--  
Cris Costello  
Senior Organizing Manager  
Sierra Club  
[2127 S. Tamiami Trail](#)  
[Osprey, FL 34229](#)  
941-914-0421  
[cris.costello@sierraclub.org](mailto:cris.costello@sierraclub.org)

Michael McGrath  
Sierra Club Lead Organizer  
Red Tide-Wildlands Campaigns  
386-341-4708  
[michael.mcgrath@sierraclub.org](mailto:michael.mcgrath@sierraclub.org)



**SIGN-ON\_VETO REQUEST\_Line Item 146 last paragraph\_Urban Fertilizer Ordinances\_05 05**

**23.pdf**

54K

May X, 2023

The Honorable Ron DeSantis  
Plaza Level, The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Delivered via email to [GovernorRon.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:GovernorRon.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com)

**Re: Request for Line Item Veto of Proviso for Specific Appropriation 146**

Dear Governor DeSantis,

We, the below-signed [X] organizations and businesses, urge you to veto the proviso following line item 146 in SB 2500 reading in part “...\$250,000 in nonrecurring funds shall be used by the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) to evaluate the effectiveness of the timing of seasonal fertilizer restrictions on urban landscapes toward achieving nutrient target objectives for waterbodies statewide.”

UF/IFAS and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) have been recommending the avoidance of Nitrogen and Phosphorus fertilizer application during the rainy season since they first started publishing Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) Manuals in the early 1990s. Any stepping away from those recommendations has been tied to funding UF/IFAS receives from the turfgrass and agrichemical industries.

Governor, rainy season urban fertilizer management has been a non-partisan, common sense, science-based approach to protecting Florida’s environment and economy since 2007; over seventeen counties and well over 100 municipalities have embraced strict rainy season application bans in the last 16 years.<sup>1</sup> No one, including UF-IFAS, which spent millions of state (FDEP) dollars studying the same between 2005-2011, has ever determined that avoiding fertilizer application before Florida’s heavy summer downpours is anything but the cheapest, easiest, and best way to stop urban stormwater pollution at its source. On the contrary, there is an enormous body of research supporting strict urban fertilizer management and substantiating their need for fertilizer limits more stringent than the FDEP Model Ordinance, present in

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<sup>1</sup>“STRONG County and Municipal Urban Fertilizer Ordinance Coverage as of 02/08/22,” *Sierra Club Florida*, Last Updated February 8, 2022, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1F-HMEY12OKzceMR5t3-2jV9NxX5SyOpq/view>

the public records of each county/city that has gone through the ordinance adoption process. There is no reason to waste taxpayer dollars to restudy established fact.

We already know that “strong” residential fertilizer ordinances improve water quality. Funding the study proposed in the proviso to specific appropriation 146 is unfair to taxpayers. The funds would be better spent on implementing programs that we know lead to improved water quality, which would in turn lead to a healthier and safer Florida for all.

The proposed \$117.03 billion budget is significantly larger than the \$114.8 billion Freedom Budget proposed by your administration. In the coming fiscal year it will be critical to ensure that taxpayer dollars are allocated responsibly, and this \$250,000 program would be ineffective, unnecessary, and fiscally irresponsible.

The Florida Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Firestone* demonstrated that a Governor can veto the smallest identifiable, discrete appropriation for which it is also possible to identify the fund from which the funds are appropriated.<sup>2</sup> Your veto can be limited to the \$250,000 which is funded exclusively from the General Revenue Fund and is explicitly set aside for the UF/IFAS study of the effectiveness of seasonal fertilizer restrictions in the last paragraph of line item 146 of the Budget (SB 2500).

Uphold the commitment to protecting water quality you made in your Executive Order #23-06.

**Veto the proviso following line item 146 in the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2023-24.**

Sincerely,

[list signatories in alphabetical order by name of organization/business]

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<sup>2</sup> *Brown V. Firestone*, 382 So.2d 654 (1980)

**STRONG County and *Municipal* Urban Fertilizer Ordinance Coverage as of 02/08/22**  
**All include strict summer rainy season application bans.**

**Sarasota County (2007)**

*City of Sarasota*  
*Northport*  
*Venice*  
*Longboat Key\**

**Lee County (2008)**

*City of Sanibel*  
*City of Fort Myers*  
*Fort Myers Beach*  
*Bonita Springs*  
*City of Cape Coral*

**Pinellas County (2010)**

*Bellaire*  
*Bellaire Beach*  
*Bellaire Bluffs*  
*Bellaire Shore*  
*Clearwater*  
*Dunedin*  
*Gulfport*  
*Indian Rocks Beach*  
*Indian Shores*  
*Kenneth City*  
*Largo*  
*Madeira Beach*  
*North Redington Beach*  
*Oldsmar*  
*Pinellas Park*  
*Redington Beach*  
*Safety Harbor*  
*St. Pete Beach*  
*St. Petersburg*  
*Seminole*  
*South Pasadena*  
*Tarpon Springs*  
*Treasure Island*

**Manatee County (2011)**

*Bradenton*  
*Bradenton Beach*  
*City of Anna Maria*  
*Palmetto*  
*Holmes Beach*  
*Longboat Key\**

**Charlotte County (2011)**

*Punta Gorda*

**Indian River County (2013)**

*Indian River Shores*  
*Vero Beach*  
*Orchid*  
*Sebastian*

**Martin County (2014)**

*Sewall's Point*  
*Stuart*  
*Ocean Breeze*

**St. Lucie County (2014)**

*Port St. Lucie*  
*St. Lucie Village*  
*Fort Pierce*

**Brevard County (2014)**

*Rockledge*  
*Satellite Beach*  
*Melbourne Village*  
*Titusville*  
*Cocoa Beach*  
*Cocoa*  
*Cape Canaveral*  
*Grant-Valkaria*  
*Indian Harbour Beach*  
*Malabar*  
*Indialantic*  
*Palm Bay*  
*Palm Shores*  
*West Melbourne*  
*Melbourne Beach*  
*Melbourne*

**Volusia County (2014)**

*Daytona Beach*  
*New Smyrna Beach*  
*Ormond Beach*  
*Orange City*  
*Lake Helen*  
*DeLand*  
*Port Orange*  
*Holly Hill*  
*South Daytona*  
*Daytona Beach Shores*  
*Ponce Inlet*  
*Edgewater*  
*Oak Hill*

*Pierson*

**Seminole County (2017)**

*Altamonte Springs*  
*Casselberry*  
*Lake Mary*  
*Longwood*  
*Oviedo*

**Lake County (2017)**

*City of Montverde*

**Alachua County (2019)**

*Gainesville*  
*Hawthorne*  
*Archer*  
*Alachua*  
*Newberry*  
*High Springs*  
*Waldo*  
*Micanopy*  
*Lacrosse*

**Miami-Dade County (2021)**

*City of Miami*  
*City of West Miami*  
*Village of Key Biscayne*  
*City of Miami Beach*

**Monroe County (2021)**

*Isla Morada*

**Hillsborough County (2021)**

*City of Tampa (2011)*

**Orange County (2022)**

*City of Maitland (2020)*

.....  
*City of Marco Island (2016)*  
*Village of No. Palm Beach (2017)*  
*Town of Jupiter (2018)*  
*City of Palm Beach (2019)*  
*City of Naples (2008, 2019)*  
*City of Ft. Lauderdale (2020)*

\*Longboat Key is in both Sarasota and Manatee counties.

(YEAR) = year of adoption at county level; in some cases, municipal ordinances were adopted prior to county adoption.

(YEAR) = year of adoption in municipality where there is no county-wide strong ordinance.



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# FLORIDA SPRINGS COUNCIL

Hello Karen,

**We need your help** to stop the ban on adopting strong urban fertilizer ordinances.

We've made it [easy to send a pre-written email to Governor DeSantis](#).



## WHAT HAPPENED

Late last Sunday evening, budget conferees slipped a surprise provision into the General Appropriations Implementation Act (SB 2502). It prohibits local governments from adopting or amending urban fertilizer ordinances that include a blackout period during the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

As if the policy isn't bad enough, the process that led to it is even more abhorrent. The prohibition was never filed as part of any substantive bill or amendment, which means that

- there was no committee meeting,
- no staff analysis,
- no opportunity for public comment or debate.

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must-pass, appropriations implementation bill on a Sunday night in the last week of Session.

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### **IT'S INFURIATING. NOW WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT IT?**

The prohibition is tied to a \$250,000 appropriation to the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida to study the effectiveness of seasonal fertilizer restrictions. Both the prohibition and the study need to go.

We believe our brilliant colleagues at Sierra Club Florida found a way to do just that. A line-item veto of the proviso language authorizing the IFAS study in the 2023-2024 Budget would eliminate the basis for the ban.

**But we need your help to tell the governor to veto!**

**SEND YOUR EMAIL NOW**

*The email is pre-written, and our form makes it quick and easy.  
Just provide a zip code, name, and email address!*

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### **DIVE DEEPER**

Reducing urban fertilizer pollution is the most cost-effective way to improve water quality in Florida springs. Approximately 12% of local nitrogen pollution to impaired Outstanding Florida Springs is from urban fertilizer. In some basins, urban fertilizer is responsible for more than 50% of nutrient pollution.

Since 2007, over seventeen Florida counties and well over 100 municipalities have adopted “strong” ordinances that include strict (no exemption) rainy season application bans. Local

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Prohibiting local governments from adopting strong fertilizer ordinances is just the latest in a long line of recent Legislative attacks on home rule and Florida's environment. It will delay the restoration of impaired Florida waters.

### **MORE ABOUT THAT IFAS STUDY**

There is no real question to be studied. The fact that strong fertilizer ordinances improve water quality is supported by an enormous body of research which has been the basis for the more than 100 local governments that have adopted strict rainy season bans in Florida.

Even if there were a question to be studied, IFAS should not be the ones to conduct it. As FSC board member Bob Palmer wrote in a [2017 Gainesville Sun Op-Ed](#), "it's now apparent that IFAS' positions are closer to junk science than sound science. And sadly, the upshot of heeding IFAS' advice has been further degradation of already impaired springs, rivers and estuaries."

**SEND YOUR EMAIL NOW**

*The email is pre-written, and our form makes it quick and easy.*

*Just provide a zip code, name, and email address!*

**Stop the urban fertilizer  
ordinances ban**



Friends of St. Sebastian River &lt;friendsofstsebastian@gmail.com&gt;

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## Florida Right to Clean Water and Friends of St. Sebastian River

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**Patty Scott** <psscott17@gmail.com>

Thu, Apr 13, 2023 at 4:51 PM

Reply-To: psscott17@gmail.com

To: info@fssr.org

Dear Tim,

I'm writing to request the support of the Friends of St. Sebastian River in the Right to Clean Water campaign. As you may know, this is a citizen-based initiative to amend the Florida Constitution with the right to clean and healthy waters.

You may have seen the recent article in the Tampa Bay Times:

Let's put Florida's right to clean water in the state constitution | Column

<http://www.tampabay.com/opinion/2023/03/20/lets-put-floridas-right-clean-water-state-constitution-column/>

Right now, we need registered Florida voters to sign petitions. We need 223k signatures to trigger Supreme Court Review of the clean water amendment and 900k by November 30 to get the amendment on the 2024 Florida ballot. The petition is attached to this email and can be downloaded from the FloridaRighttoCleanwater.org web site. <https://www.floridarighttocleanwater.org>

[floridarighttocleanwater.org](https://www.floridarighttocleanwater.org)

So what's my ask? Lend us your voice.

- In your social media, please ask your followers to sign petitions or retweet/like posts from the FloridaRightToCleanWater.org ([Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [TikTok](#))
- If you have a live meeting or event, please promote it as something you support - a verbal callout to FloridaRightToCleanWater.org
  - If there's an opportunity to get signed petitions signed, even better.
- If you have relationships with other environmental groups, encourage them to jump in. This is a shared goal.
- We'd love to list you on the website as a supporter. Having the Friends of the St Sebastian River on board would be a huge boost for the campaign!

You'll be in good company with supporters like The League of Women Voters, Waterkeeper and Riverkeeper organizations, Sierra Club, Florida Springs Council and Florida Wildlife Federation.

I know that you are well aware of the problems facing Florida waters — toxic algal blooms, sea grass die-offs, polluted and depleted aquifers, fish kills and manatee deaths... the list goes on

and on. And these problems will continue to be exacerbated by climate changes.

We really need to work together to accomplish something this big. Can we count on you for any level of support?

I'm a volunteer who strongly believes in this initiative to make clean water a fundamental right. I'm an avid fly fisherwoman and love to paddleboard.

Looking forward to hearing back. Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Regards,

Patty Scott, Ambassador  
Florida Right to Clean Water  
703-975-9839

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**2 attachments**



**FloridaRightToCleanWater\_org\_83d40m\_logo.png**  
125K





# St. Johns River Water Management District

Michael A. Register, P.E., Executive Director

4049 Reid Street • P.O. Box 1429 • Palatka, FL 32178-1429 • 386-329-4500 • [www.sjrwmd.com](http://www.sjrwmd.com)

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** April 17, 2023

**TO:** Interested Parties

**FROM:** Brent Bachelder, Land Resource Specialist  
Bureau of Land Resources

**SUBJECT: Southern Recreational Public Meeting**

The St. Johns River Water Management District’s (District) Southern Recreational Public Meeting is scheduled for **6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023**. The meeting will be held at the St. Johns River Water Management District’s Palm Bay Service Center, Blue Cypress Room, 525 Community College Parkway SE, Palm Bay, FL 32909. See directions below. To protect the health and safety of all attendees, District staff requests meeting participants following applicable COVID-19 public health guidelines.

The primary objective of this meeting is to collect input from stakeholders regarding recreational utilization of District Land. District staff will receive comments from the public during the meeting. Comments may also be emailed to [SouthernRecreationComments@sjrwmd.com](mailto:SouthernRecreationComments@sjrwmd.com).

Topics, as they relate to public recreational utilization of District Lands, will include:

- Upper St. Johns River Basin Project Update
- Upper St. Johns River Basin Land Management Update
- Upper St. Johns River Basin Recreation Management Update
- Upper St. Johns River Basin Water Resources Update
- St. Johns Water Management Area (Stick Marsh) Management Update
- Opportunity for Public Comment

### Directions:

From I-95 north or south, take Exit 173, CR 514/Malabar Road, and travel west to the first traffic light past I-95 (San Filippo Drive). Turn left (south) on San Filippo and turn left (east) at the first traffic light (Community College Parkway). Continue for approximately 1 mile, the office is on your left-hand side (east side of the road).

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Brent Bachelder at 386-643-1973 or [bbachelder@sjrwmd.com](mailto:bbachelder@sjrwmd.com).

### GOVERNING BOARD

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