

Practical Information For Environmental Professionals

Single Copy Price: \$5

August 2015

Volume 37, Number 8

PRP site access 8

DEP is now responsible for obtaining site access agreements from property owners on sites that are part of its Petroleum Restoration Program, shifting that responsibility from cleanup contractors.

Springs restoration 9

Springs restoration projects were funded to the tune of \$45 million during the 2015-2016 Florida budget process. That's a lot of money. But are these funds being spent wisely? Dr. Robert Palmer thinks we can do better.

MATS rule 10

The Supreme Court recently found that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency acted unreasonably when it formulated the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards rule for power plants in 2011.

Greener pastures 14

The SRWMD, FDACS and DEP have joined forces to initiate contracts with dairies for the management of wastewater and groundwater usage. The projects will improve springs and associated waterbodies within the Suwannee and Santa Fe river basins.

Tri-state update 15

U.S. Supreme Court Special Master Ralph Lancaster denied a motion by the state of Georgia to dismiss Florida's October 2013 water rights lawsuit currently before the Supreme Court.

Departments

Calendar	11
Federal File	2
Florida Notes	3
Water Watch	4

Got a story lead?

Got an idea for a story? Like to submit a column for consideration? Fire when ready. And don't forget to fill us in on your organization's new people and programs, projects and technologies—anything of interest to environmental professionals in Florida. Send to P.O. Box 2175, Goldenrod, FL 32733. Call us at (407) 671-7777; fax us at (407) 671-7757, or email mreast@enviro-net.com.

Address label changes?

If your mailing label is inaccurate or incomplete, please contact us with your current information at P.O. Box 2175, Goldenrod, FL 32733; call us at (407) 671-7777; fax us at (407) 671-7757; or e-mail us at mreast@enviro-net.com. We appreciate your help.

DRI process neutered by 2015 Florida LegislatureBy **BLANCHE HARDY, PG**

In 1972, the Florida Environmental Land and Water Management Act initiated the Development of Regional Impact comprehensive planning process—a process that has withstood complaints and challenges from developers since its inception.

But things changed earlier this year when Gov. Rick Scott signed Senate Bill 1216, removing the teeth from the DRI process and minimizing the process' effectiveness.

DRI's required proposed developments with potential impacts large or intense enough, or located in a manner that might impact citizens in more than one county, to enter into a review process.

The process allowed state agencies, counties and local governments to negotiate reductions in local impacts.

Eleven regional planning councils were created across the state to assist both developers and governing entities in identifying impacts and crafting frameworks to mitigate impacts.

In some cases, the governing jurisdictions were so small they had no planner or staff experienced in addressing the magnitude of the impact of proposed development on infrastructure or the natural systems under their purview.

The regional planning councils afforded them the required technical support.

DRI

Continued on Page 13

State of the business report:**Market conditions improve for environmental laboratories but future remains uncertain**By **ROY LAUGHLIN**

The market is better now than at any time in the past five years, with steady improvement that's tracking closely with the state economy.

That's how Chuck Ged, president of Advanced Environmental Laboratories Inc., characterized the current state of affairs for Florida's environmental laboratories.

But in spite improving market conditions since the recession, Florida's environmental laboratories still face a choppy economic future.

That future includes downward pricing pressures, increasing costs for certification and auditing, an inability to get paid for some required work and a state petroleum cleanup program still in flux.

Price competition

Ged cited the inability to increase prices to reflect increasing costs as the primary challenge today for Florida's environmental lab practitioners. This occurs for two primary reasons, according to lab executives interviewed for this story.

The first is that Florida's tightly knit laboratory fraternity has few secrets. The Internet makes it easier than ever to submit requests for bids and for the bid results to be broadly disseminated.

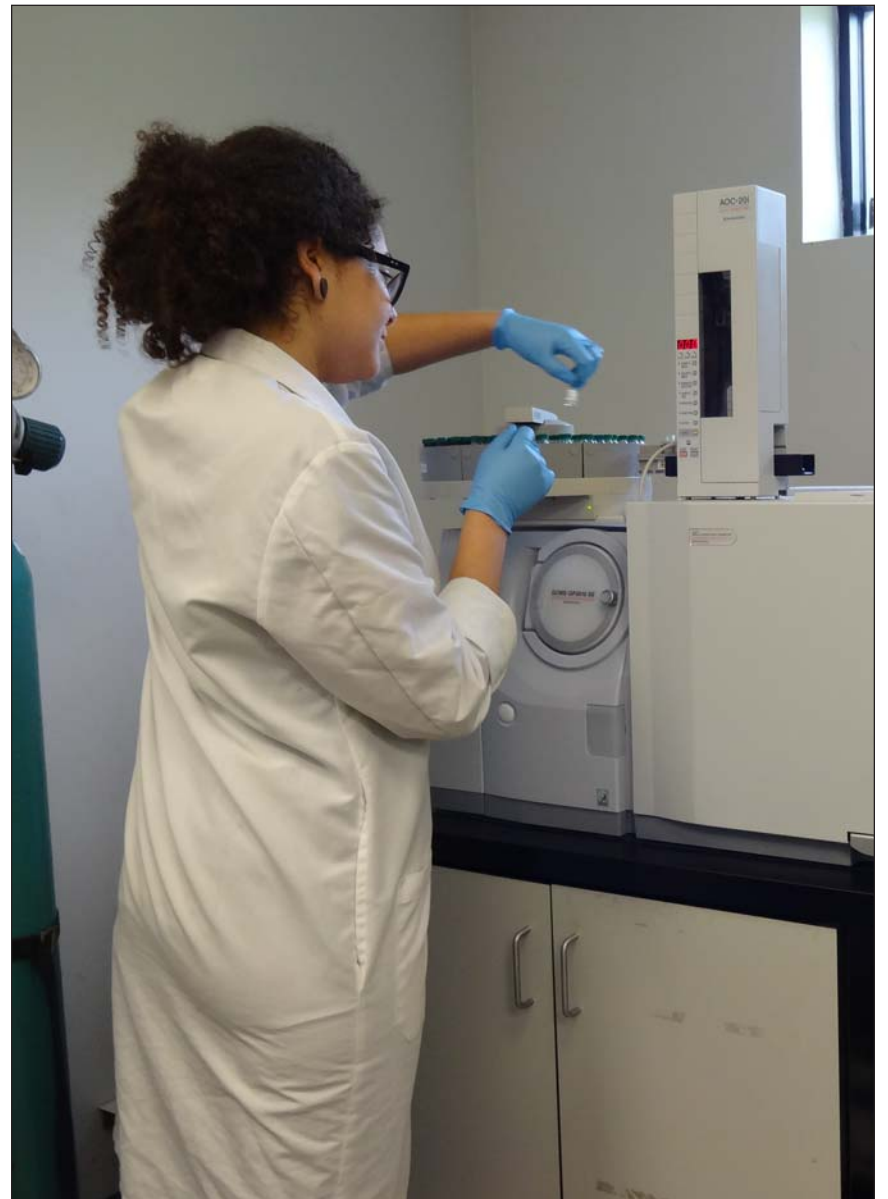


Photo courtesy of Advanced Environmental Laboratories Inc.

In this issue, we focus attention on the environmental laboratory business in Florida. Above, Christiana Patterson, an analyst with Advanced Environmental Laboratories Inc. in Jacksonville, loads samples on a GC/MS for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon analysis.

State agencies, especially the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and its Petroleum Restoration Program, increasingly rely on the state eQuote system to track bids and pricing.

In addition, the Internet quickly provides a far more extensive picture of pricing and services statewide, which levels prices across environmental laboratories of all sizes and locations.

Frank Risk, president and lab director at Diversified Environmental Laboratories in Jacksonville, said that pricing pressures are tougher obstacles for smaller labs to overcome.

"We're a small lab competing with large labs that tend to have lower prices.

LABS

Continued on Page 6

Groups file suit to challenge Legislature's Amendment 1 interpretationBy **PRAKASH GANDHI**

Four environmental groups initiated legal action against the state of Florida over the state Legislature's decision to spend money earmarked for land conservation on ongoing state operations and projects.

The suit was filed by the Florida Wildlife Federation, Earthjustice, St. Johns Riverkeeper and the Environmental Confederation of Southwest Florida.

More than 74 percent of Florida voters approved Amendment 1 last year, calling for at least one-third of the revenues from real estate transaction taxes to be spent on buying and conserving land, refurbishing springs, beaches and

rivers, and improving water quality.

For the 2015-16 fiscal year, that meant more than \$740 million for conservation projects.

But environmental groups said that the budget adopted by the state would spend more than \$300 million of the money on agency salaries, vehicles and other expenses not allowed by the amendment.

Only \$88.7 million would go towards land acquisition.

"I don't believe the Legislature followed the intent of the voters regarding Amendment 1," said Eric Draper, executive director of Audubon Florida,

AMENDMENT

Continued on Page 13

Presorted Standard
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ORLANDO, FL
PERMIT 1556

1508

Florida
Specifier
P.O. Box 2175
Goldenrod, FL 32733
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



YOUR INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY TOOLBOX...



ETEC is your experienced partner for remediation processes, including:

- **Bioamendments** for Pit Applications, AS/SVE, & MPE systems
- **Groundwater Recirculation** Systems for Petroleum & Chlorinated Solvent sites
- **Surfactant-Enhanced LNAPL** Remediation Injection Services
- **Chemical Oxidation** Injection Services

ETEC also offers **Performance-Based Cleanup** terms for guaranteed remediation results – call us today!

FDEP Accepted Products for In Situ Application

www.ETECLLC.com

971-222-3616

Brian Timmins
brian@etecllc.com

Eric Bueltel
eric@etecllc.com

David Laughlin
david@etecllc.com

States, business groups challenge new Clean Water Act rule

Staff report

Since late May when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued its “Waters of the U.S.” rule, lawsuit challenges have come fast and furious.

Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi were among the first to file suit in Houston’s federal court to declare the new rule unconstitutional. The plaintiffs claim that although the EPA has the authority to regulate water quality, it does not have the authority to regulate land and water use. They said the rule’s language is overly broad and “tramples” on property rights, according to attorney’s representing the states.

But a suit filed by North Dakota and joined by 12 other states in North Dakota federal court is the most significant so far. Florida’s Attorney General joined that suit.

These plaintiffs claim that the new rule attempts to expand federal regulatory control over wetlands and waterways that are

under the purview of states, especially for regulatory actions such as setting standards for water quality.

Then in late July, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Federation of Independent Businesses and three other business groups joined the feeding frenzy, filing suit against the EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, claiming that the rule “disrupts the careful balance” between states’ ability to use and develop water and the federal government’s ability to regulate it.

The EPA said that the rule does not significantly expand the amount of land under Clean Water Act protection. The Congressional Research Office said that between 3,000-8,000 acres more could be covered under the new rule’s definitions.

The agency said that its primary intent was to clarify the definition of “Waters of the United States,” and to streamline regulatory procedures so that far fewer individual determinations will be necessary in the future.

Clearly, attorney generals for states joining the lawsuits and the EPA are miles apart. These lawsuits can last two or more years, and sometimes courts suspend rule implementation pending their decision.

The new rule is set to take effect Aug. 28 and as of mid-July, no court has issued a stay.

EPA updates UST requirements. The EPA proposed new rules for underground storage tanks to revise its 1988 UST rule and the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Revisions include adding secondary containment requirements for new and replaced tanks and piping, operator training requirements, and periodic operation and maintenance requirements for UST systems as well as implementing new release prevention and detection technologies.

On the administrative side, codes of practices will be updated and state approval requirements will be updated to incorporate the changes. Existing deferrals for emergency generator tanks, airport hydrant systems and field-constructed tanks will be removed.

The EPA estimated that \$160 million in additional annual compliance costs will accrue as a result of its proposed regulatory update. The agency estimated compliance costs would be approximately \$715 per year for the average facility.

States implement the federal rules. Florida’s petroleum storage and UST programs were updated almost three years ago to include secondary containment, operator training and new reporting requirements.

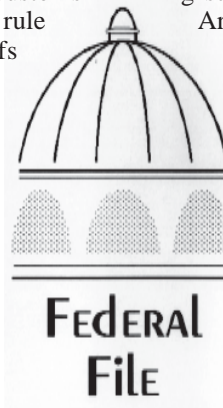
New Resilient Lands and Water Initiative regions. Two new regional sites, the California headwaters, California’s north-central coast and Russian River watersheds; plus Montana-British Columbia’s Crown of the Continent regions are now part of the multi-federal agency Resilient Lands and Waters Initiative.

Both of the new regions are currently under significant stress due to decreased rainfall and increasing temperatures attributed to climate change.

The two new regions join three that have been part of the program since its inception. One of the three sites is in Southwest Florida and includes both Everglades and Gulf Coast estuaries as well as near-shore waters.

The Resilient Lands and Waters Initiative is a multi-agency federal program that focuses on efforts with partners to conserve and restore important lands and waters, and make them more resilient to a changing climate.

The selected regions are already in



5 REASONS TO CALL TERRA SONIC INTERNATIONAL FOR YOUR NEXT SONIC DRILLING PROJECT

1. EXPERIENCE

Our drillers average ten years of experience. We have worked in 38 states, on three continents, and in numerous formations.



2. THE NEWEST, MOST POWERFUL FLEET

The Terra Sonic drilling fleet is less than two years old. Whether we use our TSi 150T Truck-Mounted rig or the “small but mighty” 150CC Compact Crawler, our team will get the job done on budget and on time.

3. ABILITY TO USE MULTIPLE RIGS

If the project requires it, TSi can send multiple rigs to a single location to accommodate your schedule.

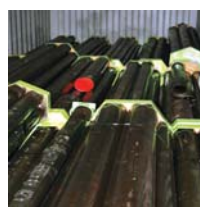


4. SAFETY

TSi Drill Services has never had an OSHA-recordable event. Safety is our top priority.

5. TERRA SONIC TOOLING

TSi manufactures, sells, and supports Sonic rigs all over the world. That means we have an existing inventory of parts, tooling, and Sonic heads. We can keep our rigs running no matter where they are.



To request a quote or SOQ, visit www.terrasonicinternational.com/FloridaSpecifier

MARIETTA, OHIO • CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA • MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE • AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA • ORLANDO, FLORIDA



27825 STATE ROUTE 7
MARIETTA, OHIO 45750 USA
866.365.3483 / 740.374.6608

FEDFILE
Continued on Page 14

Contributing writers and columnists

PRAKASH GANDHI
Senior Environmental Correspondent
Orlando, FL

BLANCHE HARDY, PG
Environmental Correspondent
Sanford, FL

ROY LAUGHLIN
Environmental Correspondent
Rockledge, FL

ROBERT PALMER, PHD
Founding Member
Florida Springs Council
Gainesville, FL

SUSAN TELFORD
Principal
EnvironMend
Jupiter, FL

The *Florida Specifier* makes every effort to ensure the accuracy and validity of all editorial and advertising content. The newspaper is independent in its views and does not support, endorse or guarantee any data, statements or opinions that appear under any reference or are attributed to or quoted from any known source. The views expressed by authors do not necessarily reflect the views of NTCC Inc. or the *Florida Specifier*.

The *Florida Specifier* (ISSN 0740-1973), founded in 1979, is published each month for \$24.95 per year (\$49.95 for three years) by National Technical Communications Co., Inc., P.O. Box 2175, Goldenrod, FL 32733. Subscription refunds are not provided.

Standard postage paid at Orlando, FL 32862.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the FLORIDA SPECIFIER, P.O. Box 2175, Goldenrod, FL 32733.

© Copyright 2015 by National Technical Communications Co. Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form without the publisher's prior written permission.

ENVIRO-NET
www.enviro-net.com

NTCC National Technical
Communications
Company, Inc.

P.O. Box 2175 • Goldenrod, FL 32733
(407) 671-7777 • Fax (407) 671-7757
info@enviro-net.com

Manatee County, partners receive federal brownfield assessment grant

Staff report

Manatee County—in partnership with the cities of Bradenton and Palmetto, and the Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization—received a \$500,000 brownfields grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The U.S. 41 corridor will be the focus of the Manatee County coalition assessment grant from the Tamiami Trail brownfields rehabilitation project.

Officials said that with the grant, they will be able to complete between eight and ten environmental site assessments that will most likely be split between the cities and the county.

The potential sites have not been selected along the U.S. 41 corridor yet and the assessment of potential sites will be done in two categories: hazardous materials and petroleum materials.

An initial assessment will be completed and, if there is contamination found, a second assessment will be done to identify potential remediation alternatives.

If the county doesn't own a property, it cannot force the property owner to perform an assessment. But most of the time, private property owners agree to having the assessment completed.

The county is focusing on redeveloping its southern portions and is in the process of rewriting its land development code to address the lack of redevelopment along its urban corridors.

Superfund site redevelopment. The billionaire Soffer and LeFrak families have broken ground on one of the largest development projects in South Florida, the \$4 billion Sole Mia in North Miami.

They aim to transform the former 183-acre former and Superfund site at 15045 Biscayne Boulevard—formerly known as Biscayne Landing—into a community with residential towers, and retail and commercial space.

The project is expected to be completed in 2018. The property will require extensive environmental cleanup.

New WTE plant. The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County unveiled its new Palm Beach Renewable Energy Facility 2 in June, the first waste-to-energy power plant built in the country in more than 15 years.

The facility uses state-of-the-art air pollution control technologies, making it one of the most advanced waste-to-energy power plants in North America.

The plant will process more than one million tons of post-recycled municipal solid waste annually, at capacity, and provide enough power for an estimated 44,000 homes and businesses.

On the green side, the facility will recycle an estimated 27,000 tons of steel, aluminum, copper and other metals annually after the trash is burned and will reduce reliance on the Palm Beach County landfill by up to 90 percent.

Company news. Jacksonville-based BCR Environmental Corp. has launched NuTerra Management LLC, a financial and risk analysis firm for organics and biosolids recycling and management.

NuTerra will provide solutions to address capital and operating expense constraints, regulatory compliance, public sentiment and environmental issues.

BCR has delivered more than 20 sustainable biosolids treatment and handling facilities for municipalities with an average reduction in operating costs of more than 40 percent and more than a 90 percent drop in energy consumption.

BCR will now focus exclusively on developing new environmental technologies.

Elsewhere, Liza Grudin, PE, announced the formation of NovelEolutions Inc., a woman-owned Certified Business Enterprise with sustainability at its core.

The Tampa area firm will provide a full range of turnkey environmental engineering and consulting cleanup services utilizing innovative technologies, while main-

taining a high level of client care. Their website is at www.novelEolutions.com.

BIOX Services LLC is now Innovative Remediation Technologies. The name change reflects an expanding list of services including in-situ chemical oxidation, along with implementing activated carbon, pressure pulse injection, soil mixing and more.

TECO honored.

The Edison Electric Institute, an electric industry trade association, honored Tampa Electric for an innovative partnership to create reclaimed water projects at its Polk Power Station.

The projects will allow the utility to collect reclaimed water from the city of Lakeland, treat it and use it for cooling water at the Polk Power station, providing significant environmental benefits.

A panel of former electric utility company chief executives selected the winner from among the domestic finalists.

People news. Janet Dougherty has been hired as Hillsborough County's new Environmental Protection Commission di-

rector. She replaces retiring EPC Director Rick Garrity who has been in charge of the agency for 14 years.

Dougherty has been a board member of the Southwest Florida Water Management District, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning County and the county Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee, among others.

Charles Pattison, a former Monroe County planning director and executive director of the Monroe County Land Authority, has been named conservationist of the year by the Florida Wildlife Federation.

Pattison was cited for 30 years of "superior stewardship of the state's natural resources."

In 1988, he was named president and chief executive of the 1000 Friends of Florida growth management advisory group. He served 16 years in their top job before stepping down a year ago to serve as the 1000 Friends policy director.

In another honor at the federation's ceremony, environmental attorney/biologist David J. White was inducted into the organization's Conservation Hall of Fame.

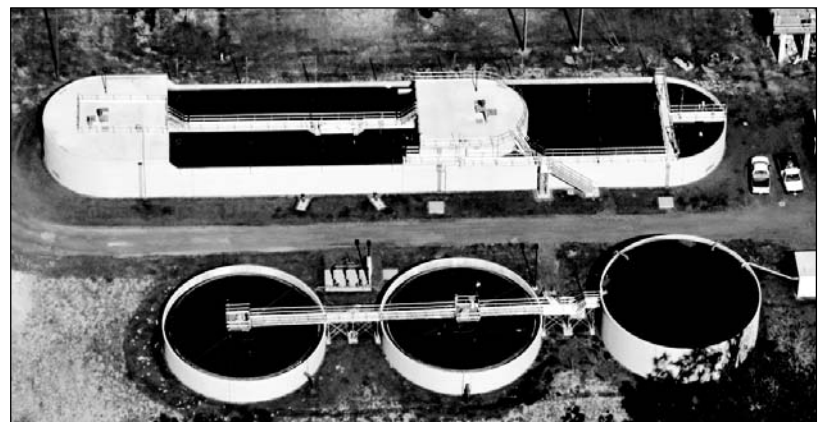
Florida Notes



Prestressed Concrete Tanks



**EMERALD COAST UTILITIES AUTHORITY -
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA
3.0 MG POTABLE WATER STORAGE TANK
CONSULTING ENGINEERS:
BASKERVILLE-DONOVAN, INC.**



**CITY OF MONTICELLO, FLORIDA
0.25 MG AEROBIC DIGESTER; TWO 0.25 MG CLARIFIERS
& ONE 0.94 MG ELONGATED OXIDATION TANK
CONSULTING ENGINEERS:
MITTAUER & ASSOCIATES, INC.**

**High Quality • Long Life
Virtually Maintenance Free**

Builders of Water and Wastewater Tanks
250 S.W. 36TH TERRACE • GAINESVILLE, FL 32607
PHONE: (352) 372-3436 • FAX: (352) 372-6209 • www.cromcorp.com

Palmetto flips the switch on new aquifer storage and recovery system

Staff report

The city of Palmetto formally cut the ribbon on its new aquifer storage and recovery system in June. During the wet season, up to 1.2 million gallons a day of ultraviolet-treated wastewater can be pumped through the well to the aquifer below for storage, and then withdrawn during the dry season for landscape irrigation.

The aquifer's storage capacity is estimated to be 144 million gallons.

Besides providing a source of landscape irrigation water, the ASR system

ends the regular need to release wastewater treatment plant effluent to the Terra Celia Bay.

The city has been building out its reuse water system for about a decade, but during the wet season, cannot reuse all of its treated wastewater due to storage capacity limitations.

With this project's completion, it will reuse more than 84 percent of its WWTP effluent, at least 9 percent more than the SWFWMD's district-wide target of 75 percent reuse.

The ASR well underwent testing for much of the past year, but was a couple of

months ahead of schedule, so full implementation began a bit earlier than expected.

About half of Palmetto's residents receive reuse water for irrigation, as much as 1.2 million gallons a day.

Total cost of the ASR project was \$4.2 million. The Southwest Florida Water Management District paid \$2.1 million, with the city of Palmetto and the state's Water Protection Sustainability Trust Fund picking up the remainder.

SRWMD watershed restoration planning. The Suwannee River Water Management District announced plans to consolidate multiple Surface Water Improvement and Management plans for waterbodies throughout the district into just two in Florida's Big Bend region.

One of the proposed new plans covers the Suwannee River watershed including the Santa Fe, Alapaha and Withlacoochee river basins. The second includes coastal rivers, among them the Wacissa, Ecofina, Fenholloway, Steinhatchee and Waccasassa rivers.

Planning meetings to obtain citizen input will be held throughout the district. The resulting identified projects will be proposed for funding as opportunities arise in the future.

The district is currently selecting a contractor to manage public outreach for the planning process. The process itself is expected to last two years, with announcements for public meetings and other activities made regularly by the district.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, through the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, is providing funding for the updated SWIM plans. The ultimate source of funding is Deepwater Horizon oil spill payments made by BP.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission established four planning units statewide for restoration projects eligible for Deepwater Horizon funds. The Big Bend Region is one of them.

WaterSmart partnership. If public drinking water system customers receive regular updates detailing their water use along with recommendations for conservation measures, will water consumption decrease?

A partnership between the St. Johns River Water Management District and the city of Ocala is betting that it will.

The district recently inked a \$75,000 contract with WaterSmart for a pilot project

to determine if an awareness campaign will lower water use.

Initially, 5,000 Ocala residential water customers will participate in the project. They will receive mobile, email and print reports providing details about their water consumption.

They will also receive targeted water-saving recommendations.

In a press release, SJRWMD said that WaterSmart has partnerships with more than 40 water utilities nationally, and has verified a savings of two million gallons of water through its awareness efforts. The

partnership is hoping to achieve a five percent reduction in water use in Ocala.

The primary benefit of water conservation will

be the restoration and protection of Marion County's Silver Springs and other springs in the region.

Traders Hill rainwater recovery. Traders Hill Farms in Nassau County initiated a rainwater harvesting procedure to capture water for its closed loop aquaponics system.

Traders Hill operates a two-part system—one part aquaculture to grow tilapia and one part hydroponics to grow salad greens.

The water recirculates between the fish tanks and hydroponic containers where lettuce is growing. Fish wastes feed the plants and the plants cleanse the water as they remove nutrients for growth.

Although Trader Hill's aquaponics system is closed loop, evaporation losses are significant. The system is housed in two former chicken coops with a roof area of almost 10,000 square feet.

A quarter inch of rain fall collected from the roof can yield 5,800 gallons of water to supplement the aquaponics system. Just a dozen one-inch rain events annually could provide enough water, if stored until needed, to completely replace groundwater currently being used.

Traders Hill Farms is about three years old. It started out with four 800-gallon tanks for the tilapia and operated very much in an R&D mode.

In early 2014, additional 4,000 gallon fish tanks were installed and the flow-through troughs holding plants were expanded.

The venture is partnering with SJRWMD's North Florida Water Initiative and its Agricultural Cost Share Program. The district budgeted \$31,206 with a \$5,200 cost share from Trader Hill Farms, according to an email from Suzanne Archer, technical program manager on the Agricultural Assistance Team at the district.

Specific details of the partnership are still under negotiation.

The benefit for the district is that these closed-loop cultivation systems release no nutrients to surface waters, and greatly help to meet basin management action plans goals.

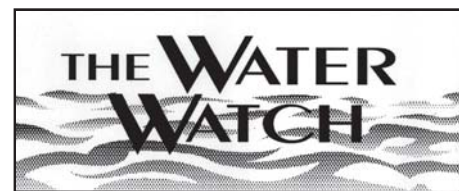
The use of rainwater to supplement aquaponics at this facility substantially reduces its demand on groundwater.

Columbia County water conservation. Columbia County initiated a county-wide water conservation project to subsidize replacement of existing water fixtures with high-efficiency fixtures.

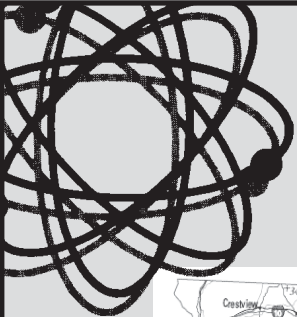
Primary targets are toilets and faucet aerators. High-efficiency toilets use 20 percent less water per flush, between 1.6 and 3 gallons of water. Faucet aerators can reduce water flow from 2.2 gallons per minute to 1.5 gallons per minute.

In both residences and commercial buildings, the total savings add up quickly.

The conservation program is intended to benefit the Lower Santa Fe River and its associated springs.



WATCH
Continued on Page 12



Flowers Chemical Laboratories

What's Sampled in Florida ... Stays in Florida

- ADaPT Reporting
- Environmental, Waste and Drinking Water Analysis
- PhD Chemist on Staff
- Field and Courier Services

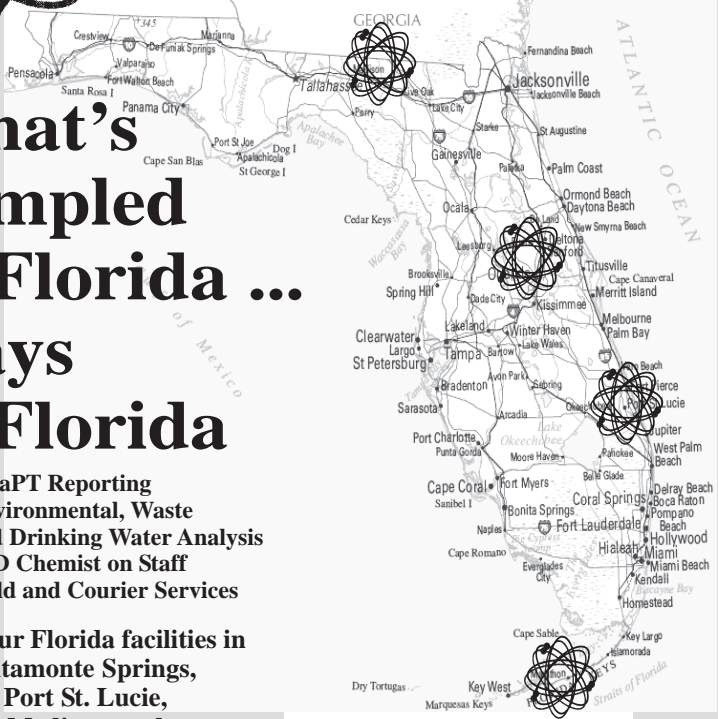
Visit our Florida facilities in
Altamonte Springs,
Port St. Lucie,
Madison, and
Marathon in the Keys

For all your testing needs,
call John W. Lindsey, Jr.
Cell: 863-412-3950
Office: 407-339-5984, ext. 217

For testing in North Florida,
call Lew Denny
Cell: 407-702-9049

58 years of service to the environmental industry

407-339-5984
www.flowerslabs.com



FLOWERS
CHEMICAL
LABORATORIES
INCORPORATED



JAEE

Environmental Service, Inc.

A Full Service Water Well Contracting Company

Specializing in Geoprobe® soil and groundwater sampling, bioremediation injections, monitoring well construction and abandonment.

Fleet of 15 Geoprobe® Machines Serving All of Florida
(5400 Truck Mounted, 54LT Track Mounted, 6600 Track/Truck Mounted, 6610/6620 Track Mounted, 7822 Truck Mounted Probes)

Call or email for services today!
Phone: (954) 476-8333 Fax: (954) 476-8347
E-mail jae@bellsouth.net or visit us on the web at www.JAEEenv.com



Environmental Laboratories Serving Florida - 2015

Lab name and contact information	1) Capabilities/specialties, 2) Sample types, 3) Personnel info, 4) State of incorporation	1) Certs., 2) Add. capabilities, 3) Years in bus., 4) Other locations
Accutest Laboratories SE Inc. 4405 Vineland Rd., Suite C-15 Orlando, FL 32811 (407) 425-6700 • Fax: (407) 425-0707 Rick Watkins, Laboratory Director www.accutest.com	1) Full service laboratory specializing in organics and inorganics by SW-846 Methodology (VOCs, SVOCs, pesticides, herbicides, PCBs, metals, nutrients, etc.) in addition to incremental sample processing (ISM), explosives, perchlorate and PFOAs. 2) Water, soil, air, oil, sediments and wipes 3) Total: 80 Engineers/Scientists: NA Technicians: NA 4) NJ	1) NELAC, DoD/ISO 17025 and multiple state certifications 2) Electronic data deliverables including ADaPT, EQUIS, ERPIMS, and state forms. LC-QQQ and reduced sample volume via LVI 3) 20 years 4) South Florida service center in Hollywood
Advanced Environmental Laboratories Inc. 6681 Southpoint Parkway Jacksonville, FL 32216 (904) 363-9350 • Fax: (904) 363-9354 Walter Kronz, Vice President wkronz@aellab.com www.aellab.com	1) Six labs providing a full range of inorganic and organic testing, EQUIS and ADaPT EDDs, and courier services throughout Florida 2) Drinking water, groundwater, wastewater, surface water, soil, sediment, industrial waste, hazardous waste and air 3) Total: 100 Engineers/Scientists: 56 Technicians: 30 4) FL	1) NELAP, GA, DoD ELAP 2) SELECT AEL software enabling you to compare lab results to FDEP 62-777 limits, generates FDEP analytical summary forms and benzo(a)pyrene conversion tables 3) 21 years 4) Altamonte Springs, Gainesville, Miramar, Tallahassee, Tampa
ALS Environmental 9143 Philips Hwy., Suite 200 Jacksonville, FL 32256 (904) 739-2277 • Fax: (904) 739-2011 Scott Martin, BD Mgr., (904) 562-9962 scott.martin@alsglobal.com www.alsglobal.com	1) Environmental testing, NPDES, RCRA, CERCLA, process control, product certification, field sampling, customized electronic data deliverables, CLP like deliverables 2) All matrixes 3) Total: 31 (Jax) Engineers/Scientists: 14 Technicians: 17 4) TX	1) NELAC, DoD ELAP, most SE states 2) Project review and validation, data reviews, method development, information (data) management consulting 3) 28 years 4) NA
AMEC Foster Wheeler Biology-Toxicology Laboratory 404 S.W. 140th Terrace Newberry, FL 32669 (352) 332-3318 • Fax: (352) 333-6622 Jennifer Sagan, Laboratory Project Manager jennifer.sagan@amec.com www.amec.com	1) NPDES effluent toxicity testing (chronic and acute); hazardous site sample testing; dredged materials testing; bioaccumulation studies; long term biological oxygen demand (LTBOD) tests; TIEs/TREs; nutrient limitation; macroinvertebrate, ichthyoplankton and algal taxonomy; statistical analyses 2) Salt and fresh water, sediments, soils, biota, polymers 3) Total: 90 Engineers/Scientists: 80 Technicians: 10 (Laboratory technicians, taxonomists, lab QA officer, scientists/engineers) 4) GA	1) NELAC, SC DHEC for taxonomy 2) Ecological and lake management studies, stream condition index assessment, wetlands (restoration, delineation, mitigation) and T&E studies 3) 50 years 4) NA
Benchmark EnviroAnalytical Inc. 1711 12th St. East Palmetto, FL 34221 (941) 723-9986 • Fax: (941) 723-6061 Dr. Dale Dixon, Laboratory Director dale.dixon@benchmarkea.net www.benchmarkea.com	1) Full analytical and sampling services are provided for government agencies, industrial operations and engineering firms 2) Surface water, marine water, groundwater, drinking water, wastewater, sediment and soil 3) Total: 31 Engineers/Scientists: 8 Technicians: 14 4) FL	1) NELAP, MBE, DBE, SBE 2) Courier, field sampling, DIEL studies, project management, custom spreadsheet reporting, ADaPT and STORET reporting 3) 23 years 4) Northport
COLUMBIA Technologies 6821 SW Archer Rd. Gainesville, FL 32608 (888) 344-2704 • Fax (410) 536-0222 John Sohl, CEO www.columbiatechnologies.com	1) Certified mobile laboratories specializing in GC/MS 8260 volatiles, 8021 volatiles, BTEX, gas and diesel screening, FLPRO, UVF TPH, XFR, field screening 2) Soil, water, soil gas 3) Total: 12 Engineers/Scientists: 9 Technicians: 1 4) MD	1) NELAP certified, DoD ELAP certification, VOSB plus NC, SC, LA, VA 2) Membrane interface probe (MIP), cone penetrometer (CPT), hydraulic profiling tool (HPT), MiHPT, LIF-UVOST® 3) 16 years 4) Raleigh, NC and Columbia, MD
Diversified Environmental Laboratories, Inc. 3653 Regent Blvd. Suite 509 Jacksonville, FL 32224 (904) 807-9625 • Fax (904) 907-9627 Frank Risk, President/Laboratory Director frank.risk@delilab.com www.delilab.com	1) Inorganics, metals, microbiology, petroleum 2) Air, soil, petroleum, bulk, potable water, non-potable water, paint, ice 3) Total: 4 Engineers/Scientists: NA Technicians: 3 4) FL	1) NELAC, TNI 2) Field sampling services for permits, routine sampling or special project sampling 3) 19 years
ESC Lab Sciences 12065 Lebanon Road Mt. Juliet, TN 37122 (941) 525-8577 • Fax (615) 758-5859 Rick Pickett, Florida Sales Representative rpickett@esclabsciences.com www.esclabsciences.com	1) 100,000 sq. ft. facility. On-line web reporting and custom reporting tool allowing one to compare results to regulatory levels. Only Florida lab approved for 3511 (reduced volume sampling) 2) GW, SS, DW, RCRA, UST, air, micro, IH 3) Total: 250 Engineers/Scientists: 130 Technicians: 75 4) TN	1) DoD-ELAP, NELAP, ISO 2) ESC will reprint COCs and labels, and deliver the kits to your office or site 3) 44 years 4) Miami, Lake Worth, Orlando, Tampa, Jacksonville, Tallahassee, Fort Walton Beach and Pensacola
Florida-Spectrum Env. Services Inc. 1460 W. McNab Rd. Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309 (954) 978-6400 • Fax: (954) 978-2233 Katherine Kutil, Director of Sales & Marketing kkutil@flenviro.com www.flenviro.com	1) Chemical and biological analyses of a variety of matrices 2) Groundwater, surface water, drinking water, wastewater, saltwater, solid and hazardous wastes, soils, air and petroleum products 3) Total: 54 Engineers/Scientists: NA Technicians: NA 4) FL	1) NELAP certified, SFWMD SBE certificate 2) Field services, sampling supplies delivery, certified field technicians 3) 42 years 4) Ft. Lauderdale, Okeechobee, Ft. Meade and Lakeland
Flowers Chemical Laboratories Inc. PO Box 150597 Altamonte Springs, FL 32701-0597 (407) 339-5984 • Fax (407) 260-6110 John W. Lindsey, Jr., water/ww analytical June Flowers, environmental analytical Lew Denny, North Florida and Georgia www.flowerslabs.com	1) Full service laboratory analyzing environmental and drinking water parameters. Providing defendable data in organics, inorganics, metals, microbiology and nutrients. ADaPT reporting, field and courier services. PhD chemist on staff. 2) All water matrices, soil, sediment, waste, oil and SPLP/TCLP 3) Total: 49 Engineers/Scientists: 24 Technicians: 25 4) FL	1) Florida DOH NELAC in drinking water, non-potable water, solid and chemical materials categories. 2) EDDs, microbiologicals for routine water and wastewater at four labs in Florida 3) 58 years 4) Port St. Lucie, Madison, Marathon in the Florida Keys
Jupiter Environmental Laboratories Inc. 150 Old Dixie Highway Jupiter, FL 33458 (561) 575-0030 • Fax (561) 575-4118 Kacia Baldwin, Client Services www.jupiterlabs.com	1) Full-service lab specializing in fast TAT for organics, trace PAHs by SIM, low level pesticides, metals and trace mercury (method 1631), pharmaceuticals in water and sediment, and explosives. ADaPT and custom EDD specialists, lab audits and QC reviews, specialized method development. Forensic analysis, fuel fingerprinting, melamine, food and flavor analysis 2) Drinking water, wastewater, soil and sediment, marina dredge, hazardous waste, food products 3) Total: 25 Engineers/Scientists: 19 Technicians: 4 4) FL	1) NELAP, DoD, W/MBE, State of Florida, SFWMD, Palm Beach County, SFWMD 2) Full field capabilities SW, GW, marina and lake sampling, 3-day TAT on most sampling, field training for MW & soil sampling per DEP protocols, custom EDDs 3) 20 years 4) NA

LABS
From Page 1

The larger labs are doing some of their work at or below cost, but they have so much volume they can stay afloat.”

Increasing costs

The costs of running a laboratory operation have increased dramatically since 2008, primarily due to increases in costs for reagents and expendables, but more recently due to the increasing cost of audits and certification.

The required laboratory accreditation process—with audits now completed by third party contractors rather than state auditors—is a special category of increasing costs that all interviewed for this story criticized.

Accredited Florida labs must have National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program credentials. An accredited laboratory must conduct proficiency analysis twice each year for each analyte for which it is certified, as well as for each matrix.

Jefferson Flowers, PhD, president of Flowers Chemical Laboratories Inc., said proficiency testing is a significant component of a laboratory’s activities during the year. The testing is usually done over two or three days, often taking priority over the analysis of customers’ samples.

Flowers said that the base cost for NELAP sampling has not increased but samples for each test to be certified must be purchased, and as the number of certifications increases, so does the bottom-line costs.

“My certification documentation is 30 pages long,” said Flowers. “It is an extensive list and you have to do proficiency testing twice each year.”

The consensus of opinion among lab execs is that reducing testing to once a year events would be more than adequate for ensuring continued lab competency.

In addition to NELAP proficiency test-

ing, the philosophy of “trust but verify” is implemented through audits every two years. This practice began several years ago when the Florida Department of Health switched from doing audits with its own staff to requiring environmental labs to contract for their audits using one of six certified auditing firms.

Flowers said that, overall, the auditors

only six companies. It’s a completely new expense.”

Risk, whose opinions represent the circumstances for Florida’s smaller lab contingent, said that since the early 1990s, FDOH had provided certification and auditing for one reasonable annual fee.

He is particularly frustrated that FDOH still charges the same fee for annual certi-

and audits for one fixed price.

Economic benefits of a return to the former procedures would be greater for small labs than for larger ones and would help ensure their survival as economic conditions continue to slowly improve.

PRP’s influence

DEP’s Petroleum Restoration Program reform with its two-year-old “competitive pricing initiative” is holding the line on all agency term contractor pricing, including that for lab work.

The state petroleum cleanup program used to be one of the largest sample generators for environmental labs in Florida. With PRP funding down, it is not as dominant as it once was, but it is large enough to influence the lab market by establishing and maintaining low prices.

But PRP’s indirect impact on environmental laboratories includes more than its effect on prices. Many labs work for PRP ATCs that must be paid first before they can pay subcontracted environmental labs.

The recent PRP reorganization and new program requirements have caused significant delays in contractor payments. The delay is felt by analytical laboratories, drillers, equipment vendors and other subcontractors for their support services.

Analytical laboratories are used to waiting 60 days for payment, according to those interviewed, but can wait as long as six months now. That’s simply too long to have to carry receivables. Few laboratories have contingencies in their contracts to be paid to wait.

“Being compensated in a reasonable time frame has always been a challenge regardless of whether it’s state or private contract work,” said Ged. But, he said, a delay in state program payments is a recent experience.

Some environmental labs were caught

DEP lab bureau provides unique analytical capabilities

By ROY LAUGHLIN

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Bureau of Laboratories, a unique member of the state’s environmental laboratory array, provides services to DEP and other state agencies. The bureau is comprised of a chemical section, a biological section and a lab support section.

DEP’s environmental lab programs are largely driven by inquiry to support DEP technical programs or developing

policy issues, though it also maintains collaborative agreements with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Capabilities of the lab include analysis for several algal toxins commonly found in algal blooms in Florida. The department also has algal taxonomists on staff that quickly identify algae present in blooms to determine the need for chemical analysis when potential toxin-

LAB BUREAU
Continued on Page 15

are competent. But sometimes they may fail to recognize that “a problem in Arizona with matrix effects is not germane to Florida,” and matrix effects that Florida labs deal with routinely are not among those that the national auditors sufficiently appreciate.

Ged said that his audit fees have increased 30 percent more than state fees in the last two years and, along with NELAP certification fees, his costs for auditing have doubled in the last two years to about \$100,000.

“You have the chance to shop around for reagents, but certification has a fixed rate,” said Ged. “You can negotiate rates for certification contracting but there are

certification fees but no longer does the audits.

“The way the state is passing along the cost of audits, it’s putting smaller labs out of business,” said Risk. “The state doesn’t understand how this causes small labs to shut down or to be sold.”

Risk and others said that FDOH certification and auditing were processes that worked well for 20 years and do not understand why the change was made.

Interviewees were all of the same mind that a change in the certification and auditing process that reduces cost directly—or reduces the frequency of testing—is necessary.

Most welcomed a return of the old system where FDOH provided certification

LABS
Continued on Page 7



Environmental Laboratories Serving Florida - 2015

Lab name and contact information	1) Capabilities/specialties, 2) Sample types, 3) Personnel info, 4) State of incorporation	1) Certs., 2) Add. capabilities, 3) Years in bus., 4) Other locations
Marinco Bioassay Laboratory Inc. 4569 Samuel St. Sarasota, FL 34233 1-800-889-0384 • Fax (941) 922-3874 Jason Weeks, President weeks@biologylab.com www.toxtest.com	1) Acute and chronic NPDES toxicity testing, toxicity identification and reduction evaluations, ion imbalance toxicity studies (MSIIT) 2) Domestic and industrial treated effluents, remediation site discharges, storm-water discharges, reverse osmosis reject, product testing 3) Total: 11 Engineers/Scientists: 5 Technicians: 6	1) NELAP accredited 2) Toxicity consulting, supply high quality bioassay organisms for testing 3) 25 years 4) NA
Microbial Insights 10515 Research Drive Knoxville, TN 37932 (865) 573-8188 • Fax (865) 573-8133 Dora Ogles, Director dogles@microbe.com www.microbe.com	1) Environmental microbiology/biotechnology laboratory specializing in molecular biological tools (DNA & PLFA) such as qPCR quantification of <i>Dehalococcoides</i> 2) Almost any matrix (soil, groundwater, sediment, biofilms, bio-trap samplers, filters) 3) Total: 19 Engineers/Scientists: 6 Technicians: 8 4) TN	1) NA 2) Innovative bio-trap samplers, consulting services and molecular biological analyses 3) 23 years 4) NA
Pace Analytical Services Inc. 8 East Tower Circle Ormond Beach, FL 32174 (386) 672-5668 • Fax (386) 673-4001 David Chaffman, Sales Manager david.chaffman@pacelabs.com www.pacelabs.com	1) Full drinking water and environmental testing services. Monitoring for CERCLA, RCRA, NPDES, SDWA, UCMR3, RCRA/UST and CWA 2) Drinking water, environmental water, groundwater, surface water, soil, sediment, air, biota 3) Total: 115 Engineers/Scientists: NA Technicians: NA 4) MN	1) NELAC, NAICS 541380 2) Field sampling, courier services 3) 40 years (five years under same ownership) 4) Service center in Tampa, Jacksonville, Pompano Beach, Miami Lakes
Palm Beach Environmental Laboratories Inc. 1550 Latham Rd., Suite 2 West Palm Beach, FL 33409 (561) 689-6701 • Fax (561) 689-6702 Diana Magierowski, Marketing/Owner dianam@palmbeachlabs.net	1) Volatiles, fuel oxygenates, semi-volatiles, pesticides, FL PRO, metals and TCLP/SPLP on both water and soil samples, incremental sampling (ISM) 2) Water, soil and air 3) Total: 8 Engineers/Scientists: 4 Tech/Admin: 4 4) FL	1) NELAC certified, CSHA certified, W/MBE for SFWMD, small business for Palm Beach County, WPB, school boards and the state of Florida Office of Supplier Diversity 2) Field sampling 3) 10 years 4) NA
Sanders Laboratories Inc. 1050 Endeavor Ct. Nokomis, FL 34275 (941) 234-1000 • Fax (941) 484-6774 Henry Mason, President henry@sanderslabs.net www.sanderslabs.net	1) Surface water and groundwater monitoring, facility compliance and process control monitoring, ASR, injection well analysis and food microbiology 2) Drinking water, wastewater, groundwater, surface waters, soils and sediments; meat, juice/beverages, seafood, citrus, produce; materials testing; textiles 3) Total: 21 Engineers/Scientists: NA Technicians: NA 4) FL	1) NELAP: Drinking water, non-potable water, solid and chemical, ISO 17025 for food and mold testing 2) Full field sampling capabilities. Sanders Labs is the only lab in Florida with A2LA/FSMO sampling certification: Certification #3544.02 3) 24 years 4) Two locations: Sarasota and Fort Myers
FTS Analytical Services dba XENCO Laboratories 5675 New Tampa Hwy Lakeland, FL 33815 (863) 646-8526 Eduardo Builes, PhD, CEO eb1@xenco.com www.xenco.com	1) All environmental analysis for water, drinking water, soil, hazardous waste and air 2) Water, soil, drinking water, waste and air 3) Total: 30 Engineers/Scientists: NA Technicians: NA 4) FL	1) NELAP, FL DOH, ELAP, MWBE, DOT, MWBE, DoD 2) Mobile on-site lab services 3) 24 years 4) Tampa, Orlando, Jacksonville, Lakeland and Tallahassee

Note: All information in this directory was provided by the labs
 NA: No answer

LABS

From Page 6

off guard by delayed payments to state contractors during the past couple of years. Anecdotal comments indicate that slow PRP payments to contractors may be a factor in recent laboratory closures and consolidations.

Last fall, frustration with PRP payment protocols seemed to peak. The frustration among some interviewed has changed to resignation with the new status of the PRP program in particular, mindful that this program will continue to influence laboratory prices regardless of the amount of work done for PRP contractors by individual labs.

For its part, PRP officials are aware of the effects of slow pay on its contractors and have worked to reduce the waiting period from final report submission to payment approval within 21 days. Payment delays are diminishing, according to lab executives.

The impact of ADaPT

The required use of ADaPT, a proprietary database program for submitting analytical data to DEP, has been a subject of criticism that ratcheted up a level or two last year when PRP started requiring its contractors to submit laboratory analysis data in that format.

Though the brunt of that new requirement fell squarely on the shoulders of laboratories, it is not an activity that labs are allowed to charge separately for. There is no line item entry on an eQuote form allowing state contractors to charge for the ADaPT service.

Flowers said that ADaPT was first introduced years ago to submit analytical results to DEP's landfill monitoring program.

"Converting to ADaPT was a big change, but we have it under control," he said. "But it's complicated—you cannot use an administrative assistant level individual for the work. You have to have a high level person to run the program."

As an example, Flowers said that \$1,000 worth of analytical work would require about a half hour of a manager's time, in the simplest case, to enter ADaPT data. The cost would be about \$35-\$40.

In a single case, that additional cost is not significant. But multiply it across hundreds or a few thousand clients and it adds up fast.

In simple terms, businessmen expect to be paid for services rendered, in this case a service required by the state.

One of the interviewees said he understood that PRP is considering authorizing ADaPT entry payments. Luke Strickland,

Lab notes:

Spectrum Analytical enters into bankruptcy protection

Staff report

Spectrum Analytical Inc., with headquarters in Agawam, MA, and regional labs in New York, Rhode Island and Tampa, entered into bankruptcy protection in April this year when the Bank of Rhode Island took charge of the company.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Springfield, MA, continues an investigation of the company's finances. A primary focus of the investigation is an allegedly fraudulent letter of credit from "a customer in Saudi Arabia" that secured an \$8.9 million loan from the Bank of Rhode Island.

Other financial irregularities are alleged, including a \$90,000 payment to the brother of former Spectrum Analytical owner, Hanibal Tayeh. Tayeh is also the target of a federal criminal grand jury investigation.

The lab's bankruptcy closure affects its ownership, but not its operations. Spectrum Analytical's labs are open and staffed, including the Tampa lab.

According to a notice in the *Daily Bankruptcy Review*, "officials are preparing to sell the Massachusetts-based environmental testing lab's operations at a July 29 bankruptcy auction."

In court papers, Spectrum Analytical

a DEP spokesperson, confirmed the comment in an email response.

"The department is reviewing the ADaPT data entry policy," he wrote. "We anticipate making changes in the near future to allow contractors to include data-entry fees."

However, a line item entry in the contractor's pay section will not do much to offset a lab's costs for compiling data in ADaPT format.

Last year, faulty ADaPT data submission was a significant cause of PRP state contractor payment delay. If contractors are paid promptly, as new PRP protocols hope to accomplish, the labs will see an improvement in their cash flow as well.

Technology trends

The technology base for environmental laboratories progressed with a torrid pace through the 1980s and 90s. Those interviewed said that instrumentation advances have since slowed.

Flowers said that instrumentation automation has penetrated deeply into the environmental analysis laboratory world. He mentioned that high-volume injection techniques are one area that has simplified sample preparation and increased efficiency.

Ged said that he sees information technology continuing to play a vital role in the environmental lab business. He said his lab has become paperless and is current with IT progress.

But in the near future, he expects additional improvements that will help his and other labs maintain efficiency, essential when considering the business' flat pricing levels.

Risk said he plans to upgrade technology in his lab, but for the next few years doesn't see any technology that will change the world for labs in general.

Qualified personnel

Access to qualified personnel is one bright spot for environmental laboratories.

Interviewees said that they have only minor problems finding qualified professionals. Location within the state sometimes shows up in a smaller pool of applicants for some open positions, the only problem mentioned by any of the interviewees.

The numbers

Economic data on the number of environmental laboratories serving Florida, their number of employees and lab earnings are not available through the usual econometric data sources. But we tapped other sources for an estimate of the enterprise in Florida.

The Florida Department of Health lists 195 certified commercial laboratories doing business in Florida as of late July from among a total of 368 labs that include county, utility and other types of govern-

mental operations.

Of those 195 commercial labs, 79 are based in Florida and the balance do business here from across Florida state lines.

A half dozen of those are "big labs" with 50-100 employees and a dozen are mid-sized labs with few dozen employees each.

Florida's laboratory analysis mix includes a couple of larger labs with foreign ownership.

These labs have roughly estimated combined gross revenues of \$40-\$50 million annually.

In aggregate, Florida environmental laboratories directly employ about 450 highly trained professionals statewide.

According to the U.S. Bureau of La-

bor Statistics, the unemployment rate in the sector that includes environmental laboratory jobs was 5.1 percent in May, and lower than the statewide 5.7 percent unemployment rate.

Employment has been increasing about 4.5 percent each month this year, compared with a year ago, across the entire category.

The lab execs interviewed for this story said that most of their clients are Florida-based. A few have federal agency clients, primarily the U.S. Department of Defense, that may provide samples from out of state.

These numbers are estimates, but provide some perspective on the economic activity associated with Florida's environmental laboratories, a typically overlooked part of Florida's high tech portfolio.



Advanced
Environmental Laboratories, Inc.

Florida's Largest Laboratory Network

When all else changes, you can count on AEL

Government rule changes play havoc with your business and staff. The economy has changed both business models and peoples' lives. Many subcontractors have been sold or changed names, and more still will. Regardless of what changes come, AEL will continue to be there for all our clients, tomorrow and beyond.

Count on it ... Count on us.

Six Labs Means More Local Service and Faster TAT



Jacksonville - (904) 363-9350

Jason Gebhardt - jgebhardt@aellab.com
Paul Gunsaulies - pgunsaulies@aellab.com

Gainesville - (352) 377-2349

Todd Romero - tromero@aellab.com
Beth Elton - belton@aellab.com

Miami - (954) 889-2288

Kimberly Kostzer - kkostzer@aellab.com
Wayne Khan - wkhan@aellab.com
Tiffany Mackie - tmackie@aellab.com

Orlando - (407) 937-1594

Brandon O'Hara - bohara@aellab.com
Sheila Wilcox - swilcox@aellab.com

Tallahassee - (850) 219-6274

Tim Preston - tpreston@aellab.com

Tampa - (813) 630-9616

Michael Cammarata - mcammarata@aellab.com
Wes Tyler - wtyler@aellab.com

Carbon Service & Equipment Co.



A Division of Encotech, Inc.

- Quality carbon and multi-media products & equipment
- Sale & rental of remediation & dewatering equipment and systems including installation and system start-up
- Turn-key non-hazardous & hazardous on-site spent carbon and multi-media change out service
- Reactivation of spent carbon and disposal of multi-media

Servicing sites throughout Florida and the U.S.

CSEC Florida Office
Jennifer Lalli Belmore
jbelmore@carbonservice.net
Phone: 407-313-9113

CSEC Corporate Office
Shelly Bazzoli
sbazzoli@carbonservice.net
Phone: 724-222-3334

CSEC Southeastern Office
H.W. Harter III
hwharter@carbonservice.net
Phone: 803-447-0888

www.carbonservice.net

LAB NOTES

Continued on Page 16

ZEBRA

High Resolution Site Characterization



ZEBRA and TriadES Announce a Strategic Partnership

ZEBRA is pleased to announce our strategic partnership with TRIAD Environmental Solutions, Inc. (TriadES). The partnership creates a synergism to benefit you, our clients with a fully coordinated team of professionals. We have you covered from direct sensing to quantitative on-site laboratory analysis with DPT operators experienced in completing High Resolution Sites Characterization (HRSC) projects.

What does the ZEBRA-TriadES Team really mean to you? We offer state-of-the-art direct sensing technology, as well as quantitative on-site, real-time analysis of vapor, soil and GW. Our full fleet of direct push equipment is operated by professionals who truly understand the special demands of projects that require on-site high density data and when real-time field decisions are made based on those data. You have access to our collective 40+ years of experience for the most cost effect use of technology for your project.

For More Information Please Contact:

ZEBRA Technical Services LLC
 Mike Early, Southeast Regional Mgr.
 Phone: (813) 626-1717
 Email: mearly@zebratechservices.com
 Web: www.teamzebra.com

TRIAD Environmental Solutions
 William M. Davis, Ph.D., President
 Phone: (404) 378-3326
 Email: wmdavis@triad-env.com
 Web: www.triad-env.com



DEP revises PRP site access agreement protocol

By ROY LAUGHLIN

When the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Petroleum Restoration Program funds the cleanup of a contaminated site, access to that site must be granted by the property owner or responsible party.

Until recently, PRP agency term contractors were expected to obtain site access agreements. This procedure, a hold-over from protocols used before PRP established its competitive procurement program in July 2013, placed a burden on ATCs, entailing considerable time and effort before any cleanup activities could begin.

That process did not sync well with the current concept of ranking sites by PRP staff for cleanup, then offering bids to ATCs. The old protocols that relied on contractors to get site access significantly delayed PRP issuance of purchase orders and project startup.

In December 2014, shortly after Diane Pickett became PRP program administrator, program staff took a look at the site access agreement process with the intention of taking over the responsibility.

Pickett discussed that decision in April when her group unveiled new protocols for obtaining site access agreements. Lori Elliott, DEP press secretary, said that the new guidelines reflect input from industry stakeholders.

"PRP is now responsible for obtaining access to the site from the owner and the site access agreement, or SAA, is now between the owner and DEP," said Elliott. "A purchase order for a new site will not be offered to a contractor until the SAA has been executed."

During the transition between the old and new site access protocols, remediation work already in progress will continue under existing guidelines to complete the current phase of work.

PRP asks ATCs to notify their staff to obtain a site access agreement from property owners before initiating additional phases of work. In some cases, PRP staff may determine that an existing site access agreement obtained prior to April, 2014, may still be valid. The program could then issue a purchase order to the contractor for the next cleanup phase.

More work for ATCs

Since last fall, PRP has attempted to award ATCs more work. PRP officials would like to increase site closures as a mark of the program's progress under new protocols implemented since the major program reorganization two summers ago.

Some program contractors have criticized parts of the former protocols for being burdensome and counterproductive. Modifying site access agreement procurement is one less effort for ATCs, and allows them to begin site cleanup more quickly after signing a purchase order with the state.

When Pickett became PRP's chief late last year, she prioritized changes in the program's operating procedures to change responsibility for obtaining site access agreements from ATCs to PRP; to educate the contractor community on invoice procedures to ensure prompt payment and to reduce purchase order processing time to an average of 21 days.

The changes have increased the number of PRP contracts. "June had more work contracted out than ever before in the program," noted Elliott.

As the program starts its new fiscal year, initial results of these new changes bode well for more cleanup work, a higher success rate when submitting invoices and quicker payment to contractors.

Project expected to reduce IRL nutrients

Staff report

A major stormwater project is taking shape in the city of Melbourne. The \$1.78 million Sarno stormwater project will widen an existing drainage ditch just south of Sarno Road, near Apollo Boulevard.

Workers will make side slopes of the existing ditch much shallower and more stable to reduce erosion of sediment flowing into Elbow Creek.

"This project will provide nitrogen and phosphorus removal to meet the state nutrient pollutant loading removal requirements," said Tom Baker, engineering supervisor for the city. "Nitrogen is the larger component."

The project uses dry detention to remove the nitrogen, Baker said. "This system has been used successfully around the state," he said. "The project has been permitted by the St. Johns River Water Management District."

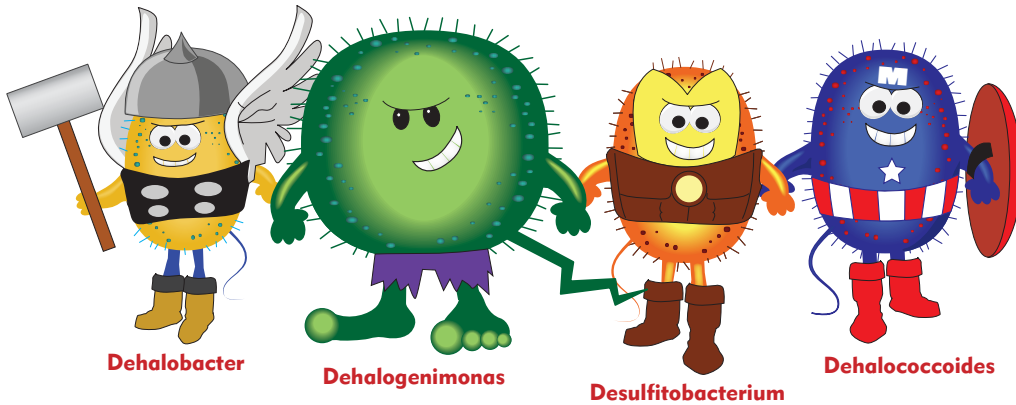
The city is paying for the project with stormwater utility fees. When complete, the refurbished ditch will remove 1,400 pounds of nitrogen per year and 300 pounds of phosphorus per year.

The project, which is expected to be

IRL

Continued on Page 9

THE DECHLORINATORS!



Microbial Insights is proud to offer **CENSUS**, a direct DNA based analysis that can quantify bacteria responsible for the biodegradation of a wide range of chlorinated compounds including:

- Chlorinated Ethenes (PCE, TCE, DCE, VC)
- Chlorinated Ethanes (1,1,1-TCA, 1,1,2-TCA, 1,2-DCA)
- Chlorinated Benzenes
- Chlorinated Propanes
- Chlorinated Phenols

And More!

mi
microbialinsights

www.microbe.com

10515 Research Drive
 Knoxville, TN 37932
 Phone: 865.573.8188

Interested in how
CENSUS can help you evaluate
 bioremediation at your site?
 Visit www.microbe.com.

Springs funding can be spent more wisely using common sense approaches to restoration

By ROBERT PALMER, PHD

Springs restoration projects were funded to the tune of \$25 million in last year's state budget and \$45 million in the just-approved 2015-2016 budget.

These numbers underestimate the total expenditures because of additional state, local and private-sector matching funds.

The state's political leaders are correct in claiming that these are high-water marks for springs restoration funding. But have these funds been spent wisely and—more importantly—will they lead to the actual restoration of any Florida springs?

In the view of the Florida Springs Council, the answer to both of these questions is "no."

FSC is a consortium of 29 organizations whose 100,000+ members share a deep commitment to the health and restoration of Florida's springs. What are our concerns?

First, the selection process for projects should be transparent. Water management districts prioritized projects last year but there was no uniformity between the districts in how projects were selected or public input was solicited.

Further, cost-sharing requirements should be more consistent. For example, the St. Johns River Water Management District had a 50:50 cost share requirement, while the largest springs project in the Suwannee River Water Management District—aimed at reducing water use by PCS Phosphate—had a minuscule company cost share of six percent.

The agricultural cost shares for projects in the Suwannee district averaged only 17 percent. These cost shares are so low that the water users are probably saving money in the long run by installing taxpayer-funded equipment.

In other words, the cost share is effectively zero or negative.

Last year's projects were tilted toward subsidizing the largest contributors to the water depletion and nutrient pollution that is choking our springs. We recognize that, as a practical matter, mitigating damage to springs must involve reducing the footprint of those most responsible for the damage. But the burden for fixing the problems should be more equitably shared.

The state's view is that its projects are scientifically justified by a cost-benefit analysis that calculates dollars spent per gallon-of-water-saved or pound-of-nitrogen-pollution prevented.

But there are problems with this approach. Are the numbers verified in any meaningful way with data showing actual conditions and proposed future conditions? Unsubstantiated estimates do not meet the standard of normal professional practices.

Even more seriously, what guarantee do we have that this cost-benefit approach will actually lead to restoration of any springs?

These sorts of "scientific" analyses are done in a vacuum. If a taxpayer-funded project saves 100 gallons per day, but the

state permits an additional 200 gallons per day, we're not making progress; we're falling further behind.

The state's environmental regulators always publicize taxpayer-funded savings, but rarely, if ever, the overall picture.

Further, projects should not only be compared to each other to determine the best water-per-dollar or nitrogen-per-dollar ratio. They should be compared with other policy options that are likely to be far more effective in restoring springs.

These alternative options include many sensible conservation measures that the state has been loath to consider such as dialing back existing water use permits, charging moderate fees for water use, and mandating fertilizer restrictions in areas with unconfined soils.

In short, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection needs to keep its eye on the ultimate prize—springs restoration—not on a short term, unreliable metric like project cost-benefit analysis.

DEP's current approach—a weak regulatory regime coupled with subsidies to the largest polluters—will not lead to restoration of any spring in the foreseeable future.

FSC recommends that the state break out of its current approach and utilize 2015-2016 springs funding to try new approaches that offer a better path forward.

In 1989, Gov. Bob Martinez's water commission, along with a subsequent analysis by Chase Securities, showed that moderate water fees could be effective in conserving water and funding water protection programs without compromising the viability of Florida's industries or agriculture.

DEP should fund an update of these studies.

On another front, UF researchers have conclusively shown that intensive agriculture is incompatible with springs protection in karstic areas with permeable soils. DEP should begin utilizing springs restoration money to buy out the most polluting farms or pay for conservation easements on these farms, much as they did when they moved polluting dairies out of South Florida.

Paying a farmer to convert from growing tomatoes to long-leaf pine is a far more effective strategy than paying the farmer to pollute just a little bit less.

DEP should reinstate the Florida

Springs Initiative to provide for projects like springs monitoring in all state-owned springs and to benefit both springs knowledge and health.

No degraded spring in Florida is on a realistic timetable for recovery. For this reason, the state should select a specific spring and develop a schedule for restoring it. There would be real value in demonstrating that restoration of an individual spring is actually possible.

Groundwater modeling is vital to sensible regulation and Florida's efforts in the past have been less than state-of-the-art.

DEP should fund alternative groundwater modeling efforts and provide appropriate peer review so that these alternatives may be compared with models developed by the districts—the very agencies that approve water permits.

This approach would minimize costs and delays associated with likely future litigation.

Finally, DEP should fund more water conservation planning, modeled on the St. Johns district's abandoned conservation rule enhancements.

Dr. Robert Palmer is a founding member of the Florida Springs Council, and currently serves on the Executive Committee and chairs the Legislative Committee.



MARINCO BIOASSAY LABORATORY
The Aquatic Toxicology Specialists

4569 Samuel Street
Sarasota, FL 34233
TEL: (941) 925-3594
FAX: (941) 922-3874
www.biologylab.com

NPDES Toxicity Testing
NELAC/P Accredited #E84191
Samples Accepted 7 Days a Week
Dedicated Support Representatives

We are the only toxicity testing laboratory in Florida to exclusively use in-house cultures. That translates into low stress test organisms and more reliable results for our clients.

Call 1-800-889-0384



Clark
ENVIRONMENTAL.COM
Cleaning Earth One Ton at a Time

Landfill Disposal & Thermal Treatment

 Drums	 Vac Trucks
 Totes	 Rolloffs

Solids • Liquids • Sludges

MULBERRY | 800.276.2187 | CLARKENV.COM



AIRVAC VACUUM SEWER SYSTEMS WILL SAVE YOU MONEY

AIRVAC vacuum sewer systems use smaller diameter pipes and shallower trenches which reduces excavation and surface restoration resulting in significant cost savings compared to conventional gravity sewers. The AIRVAC system requires only simple maintenance, is operator friendly and is completely sealed which eliminates any possibility of infiltration and inflow.

BILFINGER WATER TECHNOLOGIES
813.855.6297
airvac.water@bilfinger.com
www.water.bilfinger.com



Supreme Court sends Mercury and Air Toxics Standards rule back to EPA

By ROY LAUGHLIN

During the final week of its 2015 session, the U.S. Supreme Court found that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency acted “unreasonably” when it formulated the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards rule for power plants in 2011, and for a similar rule for new power plants passed in 2012.

The court found that the EPA had not properly considered cost to benefit when it determined the rule was necessary.

The EPA based its defense on language in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 that stipulated that the agency may rule

when “regulation is appropriate and necessary,” a stipulation that does not include any provision to consider costs initially.

Following that determination, the EPA considered cost to benefit to justify specific provisions within the rule.

In fact, when the agency did its cost-to-benefit analysis after making a decision to formulate the provision, it estimated a nationwide benefit of \$37 billion, including the prevention of up to 11,000 premature deaths and 500,000 lost work days annually.

In Florida, the EPA estimated the benefits to be between \$2.4 and \$6 billion in 2016.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit—a coalition of coal and power companies led by Michigan and 23 other states including Florida—said the estimated compliance cost of \$9.6 billion would yield only \$4-\$6 million in benefits.

Five of the Supreme Court justices found the industry estimates more convincing. In her dissenting opinion, Justice Elena Kagan noted that Congress did not stipulate how costs should be factored into a reasonable determination of when regulation is appropriate and necessary, giving the EPA wide latitude in formulating the rule.

The Supreme Court decision in this case, *Michigan et al. v. EPA*, does not fundamentally change the agency’s authority under the Clean Air Act to set standards for mercury and other toxics in power plant smokestack emissions. But the agency will have to consider costs in future determinations of when “regulation is appropriate and necessary.”

An EPA spokesperson said that the

agency will move forward, taking into account this Supreme Court decision to include compliance costs when justifying “appropriate and necessary” rulemaking. Because the agency has already concluded an extensive cost-to-benefit analysis, a proposed new rule could be proposed in a matter of months.

This Supreme Court decision responded to an appeal from the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia by several plaintiffs in the case. The case will now return to the lower court for rehearing.

The U.S. District Court originally found for the EPA. The District Court could stay enforcement of the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards rule, or it may allow the EPA to continue using some or all of it in the interim before the agency finalizes a replacement rule.

Opinions in several reviews of the case seem to split evenly between the court issuing a stay or allowing the EPA to continue rule enforcement in the interim.



WHY CUSTOM DRILLING...

Because our commitment to safety is unparalleled.

We understand that an investment in safety, equates to tangible savings for our clients.

CUSTOM DRILLING SERVICES, INC.

800.532.5008
CUSTOMDRILLING.NET

100 Kid Ellis Road | Mulberry, Florida 33860 | PH: 863.425.9600 | FAX: 863.425.9620

Activists, Gulf Power reach settlement in Apalachicola River coal ash waste case

By PRAKASH GANDHI

Environmental activists have won a major victory against Gulf Power in their efforts to protect North Florida’s Apalachicola River from toxic coal ash waste.

Last year, the Apalachicola Riverkeeper, the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy and the Waterkeeper Alliance filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Tallahassee alleging that hundreds of thousands of tons of coal ash were leaking from the power company’s unlined waste lagoons on a bluff overlooking the river.

Earthjustice, working on behalf of the groups, sued Gulf Power after water samples showed pollutants were leaking from the lagoon into the river, in violation

of the federal Clean Water Act.

The waste is stockpiled at the power company’s 62-year-old Herbert Scholz Generating Plant on the west bank of the Apalachicola near Sneads. The coal-burning power plant recently closed.

Hundreds of thousands of tons of coal ash containing toxic heavy metals, including arsenic and lead, currently sit in leaking, unlined waste lagoons there.

In the 2014 suit, the groups raised concerns that the earthen berms surrounding the coal ash could suddenly give way and cause a massive coal ash spill, seriously impacting the river and its estuary downstream.

ASH
Continued on Page 11



CLEANeARTH®
Kingsland, GA | Moore Haven, FL

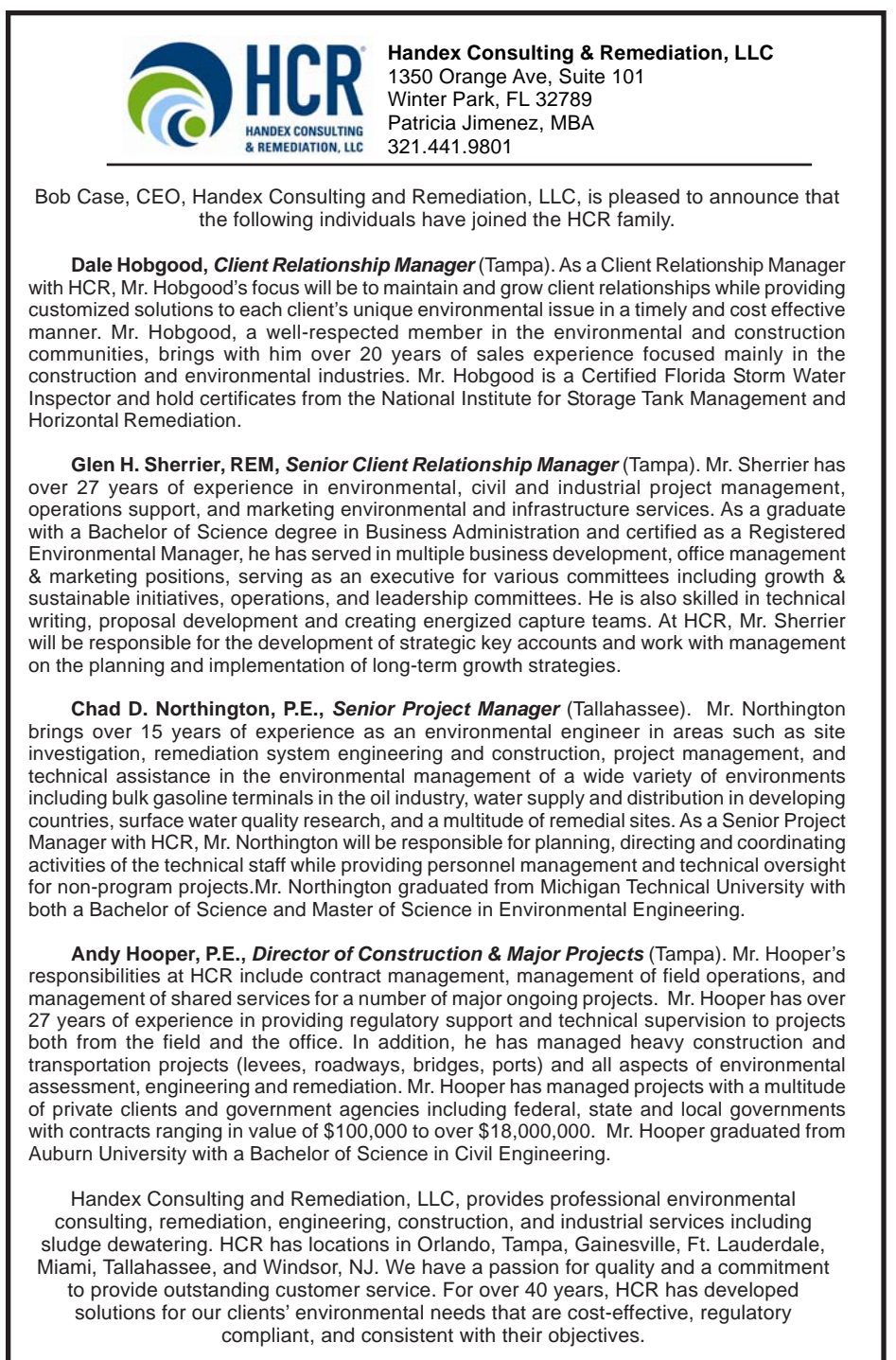
Leaders in Soil Treatment & Recycling

Clean Earth recycled over 3.9 million tons of material in 2014. As one of the largest processors of contaminated soil, dredged sediments, and hazardous waste, Clean Earth is the turnkey, expert solution for your disposal, recycling, and beneficial reuse needs.

Request a Quote Today
855.445.DIRT (3478)
www.cleanearthinc.com

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

GA ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE Jekyll Island, GA AUG. 26-28, 2015 BOOTH 613	FRC Orlando, FL OCT. 8-9, 2015 BOOTH 110
--	--



HCR
HANDEX CONSULTING & REMEDIATION, LLC

Handex Consulting & Remediation, LLC
1350 Orange Ave, Suite 101
Winter Park, FL 32789
Patricia Jimenez, MBA
321.441.9801

Bob Case, CEO, Handex Consulting and Remediation, LLC, is pleased to announce that the following individuals have joined the HCR family.

Dale Hobgood, Client Relationship Manager (Tampa). As a Client Relationship Manager with HCR, Mr. Hobgood’s focus will be to maintain and grow client relationships while providing customized solutions to each client’s unique environmental issue in a timely and cost effective manner. Mr. Hobgood, a well-respected member in the environmental and construction communities, brings with him over 20 years of sales experience focused mainly in the construction and environmental industries. Mr. Hobgood is a Certified Florida Storm Water Inspector and hold certificates from the National Institute for Storage Tank Management and Horizontal Remediation.

Glen H. Sherrier, REM, Senior Client Relationship Manager (Tampa). Mr. Sherrier has over 27 years of experience in environmental, civil and industrial project management, operations support, and marketing environmental and infrastructure services. As a graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and certified as a Registered Environmental Manager, he has served in multiple business development, office management & marketing positions, serving as an executive for various committees including growth & sustainable initiatives, operations, and leadership committees. He is also skilled in technical writing, proposal development and creating energized capture teams. At HCR, Mr. Sherrier will be responsible for the development of strategic key accounts and work with management on the planning and implementation of long-term growth strategies.

Chad D. Northington, P.E., Senior Project Manager (Tallahassee). Mr. Northington brings over 15 years of experience as an environmental engineer in areas such as site investigation, remediation system engineering and construction, project management, and technical assistance in the environmental management of a wide variety of environments including bulk gasoline terminals in the oil industry, water supply and distribution in developing countries, surface water quality research, and a multitude of remedial sites. As a Senior Project Manager with HCR, Mr. Northington will be responsible for planning, directing and coordinating activities of the technical staff while providing personnel management and technical oversight for non-program projects. Mr. Northington graduated from Michigan Technical University with both a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Environmental Engineering.

Andy Hooper, P.E., Director of Construction & Major Projects (Tampa). Mr. Hooper’s responsibilities at HCR include contract management, management of field operations, and management of shared services for a number of major ongoing projects. Mr. Hooper has over 27 years of experience in providing regulatory support and technical supervision to projects both from the field and the office. In addition, he has managed heavy construction and transportation projects (levees, roadways, bridges, ports) and all aspects of environmental assessment, engineering and remediation. Mr. Hooper has managed projects with a multitude of private clients and government agencies including federal, state and local governments with contracts ranging in value of \$100,000 to over \$18,000,000. Mr. Hooper graduated from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering.

Handex Consulting and Remediation, LLC, provides professional environmental consulting, remediation, engineering, construction, and industrial services including sludge dewatering. HCR has locations in Orlando, Tampa, Gainesville, Ft. Lauderdale, Miami, Tallahassee, and Windsor, NJ. We have a passion for quality and a commitment to provide outstanding customer service. For over 40 years, HCR has developed solutions for our clients’ environmental needs that are cost-effective, regulatory compliant, and consistent with their objectives.

Calendar

August

AUG. 4-6 – Symposium: 2015 ISA Water/Wastewater and Automatic Controls Symposium, Orlando, FL. Call (919) 990-9418 or visit www.isawwysymposium.com.

AUG. 5 – Course: Asbestos Refresher: Contractor/Supervisor, Ft. Walton Beach, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 6-7 – Course: Backflow Prevention Recertification, Destin, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 6-7 – Course: Backflow Prevention Recertification, Gainesville, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 7-8 – Course: Backflow Prevention Recertification, Tri County Air Conditioning, Venice, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 8-16 (two consecutive weekends) Course: – Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Training and Certification, Jacksonville, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 10-12 – Meeting: Annual Meeting of the Association of Clean Water Administrators, Minneapolis, MN. Call (202) 756-0605 or visit www.acwa-us.org.

AUG. 10-14 – Course: Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Training and Certification, Destin, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 13-15 – Conference: Florida League of Cities Annual Conference, Orlando, FL. Call (850) 222-9684 or visit www.floridaleagueofcities.com.

AUG. 14 – Course: Lead Refresher: Renovation, Repair & Painting, Gainesville, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 14-22 – Course: Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Training and Certification, Fort Myers, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 15-23 – Course: Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Training and Certification, Tampa, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 18-20 – Course: Initial Training Course for Landfill Operators and C&D Sites-24 Hours, Davie, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570.

ASH From Page 10

Under the settlement agreement, Gulf Power will develop a plan to dry out and remove the coal ash from the unlined ponds, and move it to a new landfill located upland at the Scholz Plant. Steps will be taken to ensure coal ash can't seep out and groundwater can't get in.

Gulf Power agreed to obtain the necessary permits within a year and then try to complete construction within three years.

The closure plan is subject to approval from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection but the parties do not expect objections from regulators.

"We are very happy with the settlement," said Bradley Marshall, an attorney for Earthjustice. "We are glad that Gulf Power has agreed to do the right thing in the right manner. They are moving the coal ash away from the river, and putting it in a dry area to make sure the river will be safe."

Florida Specifier

P.O. Box 2175
Goldenrod, FL 32733

Michael R. Eastman
Publisher/Editor
mreast@enviro-net.com

The Florida Specifier welcomes columns, articles and letters to the editor on any subject or issue pertinent to the environmental, regulatory and technical areas the newspaper covers. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for newspaper style and publish submissions on a space-available basis only. The opinions expressed on this page are those of the authors.

AUG. 18-19 – Course: Initial Training Course for Transfer Station Operators and Materials Recovery Facilities-16 Hours, Davie, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 18 – Course: Initial Training Course for Spotters at Landfills, C&D Sites and Transfer Stations-8 Hours, Davie, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 18-19 – Course: Refresher Training Course for Experienced Solid Waste Operators-16 Hours, Davie, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 18 – Course: Refresher Training Course for Experienced Solid Waste Operators-8 Hours, Davie, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 18 – Course: Refresher Training Course for Experienced Solid Waste Operators-4 Hours, Davie, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 18-20 – Course: Initial Training for Operators of Landfills and Waste Processing Facilities, Davie, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 19-21 – Conference: Southern Section Annual Technical Conference of the Air & Waste Management Association, Pine Mountain, GA. Contact Chris Hurst at cjhurstatl@gmail.com or (404) 992-6475.

AUG. 20-28 (two consecutive Thurs. & Fri.) – Course: Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Training and Certification, West Palm Beach, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 24-28 – Course: Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Training and Certification, Lake Buena Vista, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

AUG. 24-28 – Conference: 24th Annual Caribbean Water and Wastewater Conference and Exhibition, Miami, FL. Presented by the Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association in partnership with the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association. Call (868) 645-8681 or visit www.cwwa.net.

AUG. 24-27 – Conference: 53rd Annual WASTECON, Orlando, FL. Presented by the Solid

Major environmental damage occurred in a coal ash spill last year along the Dan River in North Carolina and in 2008 in Kingston, TN.

"We were concerned about a massive, catastrophic blowout like the one in Kingston and this settlement will ensure that this will not happen," Marshall said.

Waste Association of North America, Call 1-800-467-9262 or visit swana.org.

AUG. 25-26 – Course: Cross-Connection Control: Survey and Inspection, Venice, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

Featured Event

Brownfields 2015: Sustainable Communities Start Here Sept. 2-4 • Chicago, IL

Sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the International City/County Management Association. Contact Tad McGalliard, ICMS, at (202) 962-3563 or visit www.brownfieldsconference.org.

AUG. 26-28 – Conference: 10th Annual Georgia Environmental Conference, Jekyll Island, GA. Call (678) 427-2430 or visit www.georgiaenet.com.

AUG. 28-29 – Course: Backflow Prevention Recertification, Fort Myers, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. Call (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

September

SEPT. 1 – Course: Chlorine First Responder Operations Level, Gainesville, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

SEPT. 1-4 – Course: Wastewater Class B Certification Review, Gainesville, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

SEPT. 10 – Course: 8-Hour OSHA HazWoper Annual Refresher, Gainesville, FL. Presented by the

University of Florida TREEO Center. (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

SEPT. 10 – Expo: Eighth Annual Southwest Florida Water & Wastewater Exposition, Fort Myers, FL. Sponsored by Region V of the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association, Region 8 of the Florida Water Pollution Control Operators Association and the Southwest Chapter of the Florida Water Environmental Association. Contact Cherie Wolter, AECOM, at (239) 278-7996 or cherie.wolter@aecom.com, or visit www.fsawwa.org or www.fwpc.org.

SEPT. 12-13 – Course: Backflow Prevention Recertification, Jacksonville, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

SEPT. 14 – Course: Lead Refresher: Renovation, Repair and Painting, Gainesville, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

SEPT. 14 – Course: Asbestos Refresher: Project Design, Gainesville, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

SEPT. 14 – Course: Water Distribution System Pipes and Valves, Gainesville, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

SEPT. 14-16 – Course: Backflow Prevention Assembly Repair and Maintenance Training and Certification, Altamonte Springs, FL. Presented by the University of Florida TREEO Center. (352) 392-9570 or visit www.treeo.ufl.edu.

Florida Specifier

Help us keep our readers informed

Every month, we publish this calendar of environmental industry events...have been for well over 35 years. It's the most comprehensive calendar available of local events here in Florida and regional/national events of interest to Florida's environmental professional community.

Send notices of conferences, seminars, courses, workshops, meetings, expos and other events of interest to environmental professionals working in Florida at least 45 days in advance of event to Calendar, *Florida Specifier*, P.O. Box 2175, Goldenrod, FL 32733-2175; fax, (407) 671-7757; e-mail mreast@enviro-net.com.

Thank you!

UF Training, Research and Education for Environmental Occupations UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Process Control of Advanced Waste Treatment Plants
September 29-October 1, 2015

Activated Sludge Process Control & Troubleshooting
October 27-29, 2015
Gainesville

Information: Dawn Jenkins | djenkins@treeo.ufl.edu | 352-392-9570 x227
Registration: Taylor Greene | tgreene@treeo.ufl.edu | 352-392-9570 x212

Contact us to have courses brought to your location!

www.treeo.ufl.edu

Excellence in Environmental Training

3900 SW 63 Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32608 | 352-392-9570 | train@treeo.ufl.edu

WATCH
From Page 4

The total cost is \$350,000, with the Suwannee River Water Management District contributing \$30,000 and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection contributing \$250,000. Local contributors are adding \$70,000.

This project is one of nine springs projects in the SRWMD funded through a partnership with Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and is part of the Florida Legislature's springs funding.

Drainage project in downtown Jax.
A drainage project in the Magnolia Gar-

dens area of Jacksonville is the first of what will be many projects to control flooding after heavy rainfall.

Flooding occurs when open drainage ditches overflow during heavy rain events. Streets are flooded, and erosion affects homes and businesses bordering the drainage ditch.

The project will enclose the drainage ditch along Avenue B between Moncrief Road and Edgewood Avenue through construction of a 1,360-foot-long box culvert. A protective barrier between the roadway and the drainage ditch will also be constructed.

Cost is estimated to be more than \$3 million with \$850,000 coming from federal funding and \$2.25 million provided by the city of Jacksonville from stormwater utility fees.

This project is being conducted through the Renew Jacksonville Initiative, a program launched by the Jacksonville City Council to enhance infrastructure in Northwest and East Jacksonville. It is the first construction project started.

Cost agreement for Everglades restoration. The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board approved an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to fast track completion of the C-43 Reservoir by handing off initial work to the district.

Sometimes referred to as the Caloosahatchee River Reservoir, the project will capture up to 55 billion gallons of stormwater runoff from the Caloosahatchee River watershed.

More than half of the Caloosahatchee's drainage to the Gulf of Mexico comes from its own basin. The remaining portion arises from Lake Okeechobee releases, orchestrated by the corps.

Lake O releases are largely viewed by the public as responsible for algal blooms and altered salinity regimes in Southwest Florida coastal estuaries.

The agreement is actually a "credit agreement" between the state and federal entities, a slightly different approach to cost sharing between SFWMD and the corps under the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. Under CERP, the state of Florida pays for half the restoration, while the corps pays the other half. Typically Florida, usually through the SFWMD, provides the land and the corps pays for construction of water conveyance and control structures. This agreement specifies that Florida will receive a cost share credit for its construction expenditures for the reservoir that may cost up to \$600 million to build.

Without the agreement, Florida could begin construction at considerable expense and not have it count towards its 50:50 state-federal cost share. No money will actually change hands. A spokesperson for the district said the money will be accounted for on the balance sheet only.

This is an agreement in principle. Several details remain to be determined before construction can begin.

Appropriations by the recently concluded Special Session of the Florida Legislature need to be scrutinized, and the corps must agree to specifics of the cost share agreement if Florida begins construction work. Those details should be worked out by the end of the summer.

Biosolids firm exits Fort Meade. Fort Meade's City Council and executives of Biosolids Distribution Services LLC reached a negotiated settlement that will avoid a court hearing to settle a lawsuit.

The council approved the agreement unanimously. At issue was BDS' use of the city's wastewater treatment system for disposal of liquid wastes from its biosolids treatment process and payments for that use.

BDS operated from a facility in Fort Meade that it obtained under lease about two years ago when it purchased Environmental Ag Products. BDS treats wastewater biosolids by removing water to make a drier product sold as soil amendment.

The water removed contains dissolved material and resembles oil, according to observers. BDS disposed of that liquid in

Fort Meade's wastewater treatment system.

In lieu of cash payment, Environmental Ag Products began, and BDS continued, to accept and treat the sludge from Ft. Meade's wastewater plant.

But the volume and composition of liquid arising from BDS' sludge treatment were overwhelming the treatment capacity of Fort Meade's plant. In addition, local residents complained of odors from the plant.

City officials wanted BDS to stop adding its process effluent to the city's wastewater treatment system, a demand many in city government expected to cause BDS to seek another location.

Under the terms of the agreement, BDS will vacate the Ft. Meade facility within 18 months. In the interim, they will install a wastewater meter to measure its additions to the wastewater treatment plant until it vacates the facility, and will pay for wastewater treatment.

Fort Meade's wastewater utility stopped taking its sludge to BDS in September, 2014. Absent treatment of its sludge by BDS, the city negotiated cash payment for wastewater treatment since May, 2013.

New IRLC members. The cities of Vero Beach, Sebastian and Fellsmere joined the Indian River Lagoon Council. Each will contribute \$50,000 annually to support the council's operations.

The cities were expected to join quickly after the council's establishment in February of 2015, but when the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners voted not to join, it slowed the cities' decisions.

One of the county commissioners raised concerns about the council's "transparency" and noted that three state regulatory agencies—the St. Johns River Water Management District, the South Florida Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection—were already on the governing board.

State regulatory agency membership, the commissioner complained, was contrary to a goal of more local control over lagoon restoration projects.

The Indian River County BOCC is the only one of all counties bordering the Indian River Lagoon that voted down membership on the council.

The Indian River Lagoon Council's three officers are county commissioners: Chairman, Martin County Commissioner Ed Fielding; Vice Chairman, Brevard County Commissioner Curt Smith; and secretary, St. Lucie County Commissioner Chris Dzadovsky.

The council was established in March, 2015, as a nongovernmental successor to the St. Johns River Water Management District's Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program. The intention was to create a new organization capable of lobbying for more state and federal funding.

The council is currently operating on a annual budget of more than \$1 million, and has substantial assistance from its two water management district members, SJRWMD and SFWMD, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The organization expects to hire an executive director in August.

SRWMD land purchase. The Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board approved \$84,805 for its share of the purchase price of about 2,000 acres adjacent to Camp Blanding in Bradford County from Rayonier Atlantic Timber Company.

The district's primary goal for the land purchase is to implement flood abatement and water resource development projects with regional benefits.

The Army National Guard Bureau, the primary partner in the land acquisition, paid \$3,617,650. The Clay County Development Authority contributed \$360,000. The closing date for the deal is mid-September, 2015.

Concurrently, the SRWMD approved conveyance of a tract of 104 acres that are part of the larger 2,000 acres to the St. Johns River Water Management District.

Environmental Services



ENVIRONMENTAL DRILLING SERVICE inc.

Celebrating 26 Years of Service 1989 - 2015

Auger, Rotary, Sonic, Geoprobe Truck and ATV-Mounted Services Statewide

Phone: (407) 295-3532 • E-mail: Doug@edsenvironmental.com
www.edsenvironmental.com

Offering full-service solutions to our clients

At Amec Foster Wheeler, we can draw on our experienced local managers and geographical reach to support the needs of clients, regardless of project size and complexity. Our divisions work seamlessly together to provide a one-stop consulting environment that is unique in addressing our client's needs.

connected excellence in all we do

amec foster wheeler

amecfw.com Oil & Gas | Clean Energy | Environment & Infrastructure | Mining

ENVIRONMENTAL RISK MANAGEMENT, INC.

Assessment, Remediation, Insurance, Tank and Forensic Services

Stephen F. Hilfiker • steve@ermi.net
1-888-ENV-MGMT • 1-888-368-6468
www.ERML.net

Southeast Soil & Environmental Service inc

727-359-0038
gsawka@juno.com

Gregory J. Sawka, CPSS
Soil Scientist

Hydric soil investigations - Training
Wetland delineation - Expert testimony
Permit facilitation

Clear Solutions for Remediation Professionals

Susan Bostian, P.E.
susan@innoveatech.com
(919) 342-2944
www.innoveatech.com

Laboratory Data Consultants FL, Inc.

"An Independent Environmental Quality Assurance Company"
The Developers and Experts in ADA/PT/ADR

The QA Experts

LDCFL, Inc. is now the choice for generating the ADA/PT reports mandated by FDEP's Solid Waste Program

Certified SBA 8(a)
(561) 753-0483 • LDCFL.com

Providing quality drilling services with quality people and equipment

HD Huss Drilling

Environmental drilling • Exploration
Geotechnical drilling • Wire line coring
All terrain and barge rigs • Sonic

(352) 567-9500 • Toll-free: 1-800-487-9665
www.hussdrilling.com
Offices in Dade City, Bonifay and Tallahassee

AECOM

a Leader in Florida and around the World

Florida Offices	Environmental	Water Resources
Bartow	Assessments	Stormwater
Boca Raton	Mitigation Design	Groundwater
Coral Gables	Remedial Design	Water Quality
Jacksonville	Brownfields	TMDLs
Lake City	Permitting	Potable Water
Miami	Industrial Hygiene	Wastewater
Naples	Health & Safety	Reclaimed Water
Orlando		NPDES
Tallahassee		
Tampa		

www.aecom.com

UNIVERSAL ENGINEERING SCIENCES, INC.

Providing Solutions in:

Site Assessment • Site/Brownfields
Remediation Industrial Hygiene • Hazardous
Materials • Permitting • Property Conditions
Water & Wastewater Studies/Plans
Wetlands • T&E Species

Call Us Toll Free (888) 824-7424
www.universalengineering.com • Committed to Service!

Florida Specifier Business Card Ads

Ad size	Dimensions	Rate
Single card	2 1/4" x 1 1/8"	\$425
Double card	2 1/4" x 2 1/4" or 4 3/4" x 1 1/8"	\$725
Triple card	2 1/4" x 3 1/2"	\$1,025
Quadruple card	2 1/4" x 4 1/2" or 4 3/4" x 2 1/4"	\$1,225

All prices are for one year—12 monthly issues.
Keep your firm in front of thousands of environmental professionals every month at cost-competitive rates. Call (407) 671-7777.

Technical references on vapor intrusion into structures now available from EPA

Staff report

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently released two technical guides addressing vapor intrusion into buildings and other structures.

The first, Technical Guide for Assessing and Managing the Vapor Intrusion Pathway from Subsurface Vapor Sources to Indoor Air, addresses chemical vapors from all sources and describes actions un-

DRI

From Page 1

The DRI process created wildlife corridors and roadways to manage traffic as it increased, built schools and affordable housing, managed water supply and installed centralized wastewater collection systems to avoid a sea of septic tanks.

Essentially, the process kept the cart behind the horse by requiring the infrastructure needed to support development and to sustain the environment to be in place before, or at the same time, that the development was taking place. The process required a pay-as-you-go commitment.

It also required the development to be scaled down, if necessary, to meet the capacity of the smallest impacted geopolitical entity, rather than allowing the cost of dealing with potentially impacts to be disproportionately distributed.

DRI was the granddaddy of Florida's comprehensive planning legislation, preceding and becoming part of the Local Government Comprehensive Planning Act that required local governments to adopt a comprehensive plan to address land use.

The "comp plan" laid out goals, objectives and policies assuring that land use management within a governing area meet the state's objectives and provide adequate infrastructure and services to meet the needs of residents.

Protests against the DRI process and attempts to gut or eliminate it started at its inception and have been sustained for decades. Developers hate the DRI process.

AMENDMENT

From Page 1

which is not one of the groups involved in the lawsuit. "I think they went out of their way to misread the amendment."

Senate President Andy Gardiner, R-Orlando, House Speaker Steve Crisafulli, R-Merritt Island, and the Florida Legislature were named as defendants in the suit.

The complaint, filed in Circuit Court in Leon Court, said the voters made it clear when they went to the polls last year that the money was to go into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund.

The groups said the trust fund has long had specific uses and that after paying out \$190 million in debt service on bonds for other land purchases, lawmakers had \$550 million available to buy more land.

But the legislators ignored the wishes of voters and followed their own political objectives, said the groups.

The lawsuit claims that instead of complying with the mandate of Amendment 1, the Legislature misappropriated more than \$300 million.

"A clear reading of Amendment 1 would have been to use the money for land acquisition," Draper said. "The Legislature stepped away from that and seemed to ignore most of the language on the ballot. They put a lot of the money towards agency expenses that have nothing to do with Amendment 1."

Those named in the complaint denied the claims. And state environmental officials defended the Legislature.

Dee Ann Miller, a spokesperson for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, referred to Gov. Rick Scott's "Keep Florida Working" budget that she said fully complies with Amendment 1 by including over \$740 million for Florida's Land Acquisition Trust Fund to support land and water programs.

The budget included \$71.5 million for increased land management and Florida Forever, and more than \$500 million for projects to improve the quality and quantity of water, including \$106 million for

der CERCLA and RCRA.

The document defines vapor intrusion and its historical context, and provides a reference to a vapor intrusion screening level calculator, mitigation and remediation options, and guidelines for developing a community involvement or public participation plan.

The second technical guide, Technical Guide for Addressing Petroleum Vapor Intrusion at Leaking Underground Storage

It takes time and money, adding to the cost of projects.

This, in turn, sparked exemptions to the process for certain entities. They were specific at first—airports, marinas, seaports, mines, power plants and the like—but grew over time to include counties and cities considered so densely urbanized that adding more density really didn't matter. Their impacts were already beyond manageable by traditional planning means.

Claims were also made that the DRI process encouraged cheating. Developers provided scenarios under which one might build slightly less than the DRI threshold just to avoid the DRI review process.

Bemoaned by some throughout its evolution, comprehensive planning in Florida and the DRI process—though diluted—remained in place. Cities, counties and environmental advocates sustained it through positive support for its existence.

On Feb. 24, 2015, Senate Bill 1216 was filed and was subsequently passed to include this language: "(N)ew proposed developments are subject to the state coordinated review process and not the development of regional impact review process."

DRI's aren't completely eliminated, as they are physical entities that already exist. However, the processes that managed regionally impacting developments appear no longer applicable.

No word has been issued as of yet on how to address development situations that get complicated along geopolitical boundaries.

Everglades restoration and a record \$45 million for springs protection, she said.

But Manley Fuller, president of the Florida Wildlife Federation, said the Legislature did not accomplish what the amendment requires.

"75 percent of Florida voters approved this amendment last November and they were clear that they want the state to buy conservation land," he said. "Instead, the Legislature took the money and used it for things it should not be spent on. This is a slap in the face of Florida voters and it should not stand."

"The thrust of our case is to get the court to provide definition to future (legislative sessions) on what is appropriate and what is not appropriate to fund with Amendment 1 dollars. We want to try to point them in the right direction," he said.

The total budget signed by Gov. Rick Scott is about \$78 billion and includes \$500 million in tax cuts. Some critics said the Amendment 1 money is simply being shifted to make those tax cuts a reality.

David Guest, managing attorney for Earthjustice's Florida regional office, said the constitutional amendment was clearly worded.

"A third of the tax on real estate deals is to be used to prevent every last inch of Florida land from getting chewed up by development," he said. "But most lawmakers are simply not listening. That's why we have to go to court."

He attacked lawmakers for being "stingy" and not properly funding the conservation land buying.

"Voters want the state to purchase lands to preserve Florida's beauty before it is rendered unrecognizable by more strip malls, condos and golf courses," he said. "The truth is that Floridians want land purchased for conservation and protected for future generations. We want a green infrastructure that preserves the very assets that make this a great place to live."

Crissafulli did not return calls for comment, but said in a release that he's confident the court will side with lawmakers.

Tanks, specifically addresses sites where the vapor intrusion source is petroleum contamination from underground storage tanks. It addresses both residential and nonresidential buildings.

The document describes petroleum vapor intrusion and its typical scenarios, site characterization, the influence of light nonaqueous phase liquids, groundwater flow and dissolved contaminant plumes, soil gas profiles, the role of fuel additives,

seasonal and weather effects, vapor intrusion attenuation and computer modeling of petroleum vapor intrusion.

Cleaning solvents and petroleum vapors are the primary sources of vapor intrusion into Florida buildings. Florida may not have more sites than other states where vapor intrusion is a concern, but on those sites where it occurs, its influence can be a vexing problem particularly during remediation efforts.

Environmental Services



www.groundwaterprotection.com
2300 Silver Star Rd.
Orlando, FL 32804

Serving Florida
and the
Southeastern U.S.
Since 1986

Environmental Services

✓ Sonic Drilling: Truck Mounted (2) • Track Mounted (3)
Angled wells and low clearance (14')

✓ Geoprobe Direct Push Technology
• 66 series (3) • 77 series (1) • 78 series (2) • 420M Indoor Rig

✓ Auger/Mud Rotary
• Diedrich D-120 (2) • Diedrich D-50 (2)

✓ Multiple Injection Applications
✓ Well Abandonment and Pad & Vault Removal
✓ Angle and Horizontal Well Installation
✓ Remediation System Piping and Vault Installation

Charles@drillprollc.com • (407) 426-7885 • Brian@drillprollc.com



www.CobbCole.com

Full Service Law Firm, Including the Areas of
Land Development Law, Environmental Law,
and Local Government Law

Michael.Woods@CobbCole.com
386.736.7700

OFFICES IN DAYTONA BEACH & DELAND

149 S. Ridgewood Ave., Ste. 700, Daytona Beach, FL 32114
351 E. New York Ave. Ste. 200, DeLand, FL 32724

For additional information or questions regarding this message, please contact Michael Woods, Partner, Cobb Cole

561.575.0030 888.287.3218
NELAC DoD ELAP ISO 17025



Specializing in Rush Turnaround
for Over 17 years
clientservices@jupiterlabs.com

- Environmental Water and Soil Testing
- Drinking Water and Wastewater Analysis
- Ultra Trace Mercury by Method 1631
- Personal Care Products (PPCP & EPOC)
- Custom Method Development
- ADaPT Reporting and Custom EDDs
- Experienced Field Sampling Team
- Certified W/MBE, WOSB and SBE

www.jupiterlabs.com



We have truck- and track-mounted sonic rigs for any size and type of project.
Now offering DPT!

www.terrasonicinternational.com

Orlando, FL • Aiken, SC • Concord, NC • Memphis, TN • Marietta, OH

SPOTLIGHT

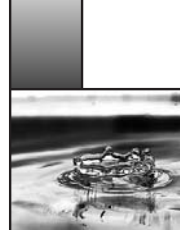
GEOPHYSICAL SERVICES

Providing subsurface imaging with
land and shallow marine geophysical tools
Experienced and licensed geophysicists
based in Miami, Florida
www.spotlightgeo.com

HAZEN AND SAWYER
Environmental Engineers & Scientists
Providing customized solutions
to environmental challenges

Offices in Florida & nationwide
Boca Raton • Coral Gables
Hollywood • Jacksonville
Orlando • Sarasota • Tampa

www.hazenandsawyer.com



FLORIDA REMEDIATION CONFERENCE

Oct. 8-9, 2015
Rosen Centre Hotel • Orlando

For a complimentary exhibit-only pass to FRC
2015, contact one of our exhibitors listed on
Page 15 of this issue of the Specifier.

Hudson

PUMP & EQUIPMENT

A Division of Tencarva Machinery Company

PUMPS • PUMP STATIONS CONTROLS • REPAIRS

GOULDS PUMPS MILTON ROY
GORMAN-RUPP NASH VACUUM
ITT A-C PUMP SHEPEX PUMPS
JOHN CRANE THERMOFISHER
LIGHTNIN MIXERS WILDEN PUMPS

3524 Craftsman Blvd., Lakeland, FL 33803
Phone: (863) 665-7867 Fax: (863) 667-2951

E-mail: NGeiger@tencarva.com
Web address: www.HudsonPump.com

SRWMD, FDACS, DEP partner to reduce nutrient levels, water use at dairy farms

By **BLANCHE HARDY, PG**

The Suwannee River Water Management District is combining funds with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to initiate contracts with dairy producers for advanced storage and handling of dairy wastewater for springs nutrient reduction projects within the Suwannee and Santa Fe river basins.

The \$1,428,679 program includes district agricultural cost share funds.

"All dairies throughout the district are eligible for cost share assistance," said Abby Johnson, governmental affairs & communications coordinator with the Suwannee River district.

The district initially accepted \$920,000 from DEP to provide cost share funding for dairy wastewater management improvements in January 2015. The original concept anticipated funding projects at four dairies.

Invitations were sent to all the dairies within the district. Seven applied requesting roughly twice the allocated budget dollars available at that time.

In addition to a funding shortage, some of the proposed projects were outside the intended scope, but staff considered them sufficiently beneficial to warrant support. FDACS stepped in with the additional funding that allowed all seven dairies to participate.

The dairies are required to cover 10 percent of their project's total cost.

The dairies receiving project funding include larger operations such as Alliance Dairies' Piedmont Dairy and American Dairyco in Gilchrist County; as well as smaller dairies such as Lonesome Meadows Farm and Barrington Dairy Inc. in Suwannee County, among others.

All of the projects are in close proximity to rivers or springs.

The district's governing board approved the projects on June 9, 2015.

The proposed improvements include

measures such as installing liners to prevent ponds from leaking nutrients from the wastewater directly into groundwater, improving fertilizer spray application systems to increase efficiency and reduce application volumes, and providing additional storage capacity allowing the wastewater to be discharged as sprayed fertilizer less frequently.

"The projects are designed to increase wastewater lagoon size to provide greater flexibility and efficient management of wastewater irrigation use for non-edible crops," said Johnson. "The larger lagoons will increase storage time to 21-30 days. This enables a dairy operation to use the wastewater optimally for effective nutrient plant uptake."

The district and agency partners cre-

ated the program to provide an incentive to dairy farmers to implement practices to improve water quality beyond what is required by law and beyond what might be affordable without assistance.

"The intent of the program is to engage dairy operations in a collaborative, voluntarily partnership to reduce nutrient loadings and to save water," Johnson said. "These operations are not required (by permit) to undertake these next generation of best management practices."

Estimations made by the district indicate the projects have the potential to achieve a reduction of greater than 100,000 pounds of nutrient loading.

In addition, there is an anticipated groundwater savings of approximately 0.247 million gallons per day.

Environmental Services

In 2015 S&ME joined forces with Littlejohn to provide a broader range of services including:
Engineering | Environmental Services | Planning | Geotechnical Services
Landscape Architecture | Surveying and Mapping | Construction Services



Tampa 813-623-6646 Orlando 407-975-1273



Contact us to see how we make your (analytical) world easier.

We offer:

- Reduced Volume (RV) for PAH, SVOC, Pesticides, PCBs
- Online Custom Reporting
- Local pick-up/drop-off service
- EDDs
- 2500 Summa Cans for Vapor Intrusion (VI)

For more information, please contact Rick Pickett
941-525-8577 or
rpickett@esclabsciences.com

Quality work with a 3-day TAT



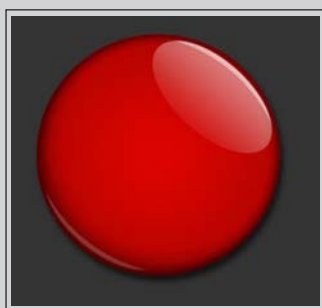
NELAC Certified, ADaPT
W/MBE, SBE, SFWMD, OSD
PBC, WPB, School boards

Palm Beach Environmental Laboratories, Inc.
(561) 689-6701

Environmental Remediation Services, Inc.
760 Talleyrand Ave.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(800) 718-5598 • (904) 791-9992
www.ersfl.com

- 24/7 Emergency Spill Response
- Site Remediation Contractor
- Industrial Cleaning
- Vacuum Truck/Tanker Transportation
- Hazardous/Nonhaz Waste
- Drum Disposal
- Roll-Off Transportation
- Licensed UST Contractor
PCC 048415

You asked for it.
You got it.



Digital Access

to monthly issues of the
Florida Specifier on-line
for paid subscribers and clients.

www.enviro-net.com

FEDFILE

From Page 2

partnerships with at least one of the initiative's federal agency partners to manage habitat or natural resources on a regional scale.

Environmental justice tool. The EPA released its Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool, EJSCREEN—a mapping tool with demographic and environmental database overlay that identifies locations with potentially elevated contamination and vulnerable populations based on demographics.

EJSCREEN "enables users to better understand areas in need of increased environmental protection, health care access, housing, infrastructure improvement, community revitalization and climate resilience," according to the agency.

It is available to state environmental agencies and has been refined with their involvement.

Expected users include state and local governments, academic institutions and others. It will help them identify risks of exposure to pollution based on eight pollution and environmental indicators, including traffic proximity, particulate matter and proximity to Superfund sites.

Demographic data comes from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey's five-year summary.

The new tool identifies areas with minority or low income populations who also face pollution issues. Data provided by EJSCREEN could be useful in community awareness programs, educational programs and grant writing.

The EPA provides access to the tool but does not require state governments or other entities to use it for any of its programs. They also noted that the tool does not direct EPA decisions or provide a basis for identifying areas as environmental justice communities, and is intended to be used in conjunction with other tools for making risk assessments.

The tool is available at <http://www2.epa.gov/ejscreen>.

No significant impacts from dike repairs. In May, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued its final environmental assessment and a finding of no significant impact for a proposal to extend embankment repairs between Lake Harbor and Belle Glade, a six-mile section of the Herbert Hoover dike on the south side of Lake Okeechobee.

The finding allows the corps to complete repair work on an area known as the Common Inundation Zone A. In a news release, the corps said the finding of no significant impact paves the way for construction to begin in 2017 and be completed within three years.

The Hoover Dike repair has been ongoing since 2007. Repairs and renovation along the southern dike include installation of a partially penetrating cutoff wall. In addition, 26 water control structures around the dike have been or will be replaced.

Currently 16 of those structures are under contract for construction and the remaining 10 are expected to start at various times over the next three years.

Port Everglades expansion. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Civil Works Review Board for the Port Everglades Harbor Feasibility Study unanimously recommended that the corps proceed to the final state agency review of the report.

In doing so, the board put its stamp of approval on the benefits of the project that include transportation cost savings and increased economic efficiency of the port.

The approved plan is for the port's main channels to be deepened from 42 to 48 feet, and to widen and deepen part of the Intra-coastal Waterway to allow access to larger cargo ships.

The project could generate up to 4,700 temporary construction jobs and nearly 1,500 permanent jobs. The estimated \$374 million price would be paid for through Port Everglades user fees, federal dollars and state funding.

Several more steps remain before dredging can begin. The next step is a final state and agency review expected to be complete in March, 2016.

In May next year, the project could be included in the Chief of Engineers Report. At that point, the project would be ready for funding, which would then open the door to pre-construction, engineering and design planning.

Construction could take up to five years or more depending on the funding and phasing of the work.

NOAA predicts average Gulf "dead zone." The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Geological Survey predict that in 2015 approximately 5,483 square miles will affect the annual phenomenon known as the "dead zone."

The dead zone occurs when the Mississippi River's nutrient-rich, low salinity water promotes anoxic conditions over large and annually variable areas of the northern Gulf of Mexico, resulting in extensive fish and invertebrate kills. The anoxia affects both water column and near bottom communities.

The dead zone occurs annually, but increasing nutrient loads in Mississippi River runoff has drastically increased its area and duration over the past several decades.

This year, the two agencies combined the results of four different models to improve forecasting accuracy.

Federal agencies have been improving their forecasts in recent years by refining individual models and by combining the results of the different models, termed "ensemble forecasts," similar to those used to predict hurricane paths and intensities.

The hypoxia forecast is based on nutrient runoff, and river and stream data from the USGS, whose data comes from more than 3,000 real-time stream gauges, 50 real-time nitrate sensors and long-term water quality monitoring stations throughout the Mississippi River basin.

Based on this data, USGS estimates that 104,000 metric tons of nitrate and 19,300 metric tons of phosphorus flowed into the Gulf of Mexico via the Mississippi and Atchafalaya rivers during May 2015.

This is about 21 percent below the 1980-2014 average for nitrogen and 16 percent below that for phosphorus.

Special master sides with Florida, dismisses Georgia motion in water lawsuit

By **BLANCHE HARDY, PG**

In June, U.S. Supreme Court Special Master Ralph Lancaster denied a motion by the state of Georgia to dismiss Florida's October 2013 water rights lawsuit currently before the Supreme Court. Georgia's motion was based on Florida's failure to include the federal government as a "required" party in the suit.

Florida claims that Georgia's excessive consumption of water from the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers results in inadequate fresh water supply to Apalachicola Bay and associated waterbodies.

Without sufficient fresh water supply, salinity in the bay increases to the detriment of the oyster industry and ecosystems supported by the bay.

Georgia's dismissal claim was centered on the premise that the amount of water flowing into the Apalachicola River, and subsequently the bay, is controlled by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The corps operates Woodruff Dam and the system of dams and reservoirs on the upstream Chattahoochee River.

Georgia officials believe that the corps' control of the water makes them a party to the resulting volume of water reaching the bay and, as such, must be included in

LAB BUREAU

From Page 7

producing algae occur.

Trace mercury analysis using method 1631-E is an important capability that the lab has had for many years, but is not widely present among commercial laboratories.

Tim Fitzpatrick, the bureau's chemistry section program administrator, said that the focus of mercury analysis is on soil and tissue samples. The department is now using a mercury analyzer, a combustion technique.

The department has an ongoing program for currently used pesticides monitored in Florida waterbodies. "We probably have some of the best trace level analysis capability relevant to trace levels of these pesticides," said Fitzpatrick.

The chemistry section also has a program to analyze chemical wastewater markers such as Sucralose®, acetaminophen and the anticonvulsant carbamazepine—all man-made chemicals that pass through wastewater treatment plants with almost no retention or modification and serve as chemical fingerprints for wastewater inputs.

On the biological side, David Whiting, program administrator for the biology section, said his lab's program to extract DNA from water samples as markers of fecal pollution is active right now. The hope is that this effort will distinguish between bacteria in water arising from human sources, bird sources, other wildlife or agricultural sources.

Whiting explained that in nutrient-impaired waters, fecal indicator impairment is often similar to that indicated for nutrients. "We're trying to prioritize responses to where we have true issues and not false positives—those truly impaired by (human) fecal pollution," he said.

Whiting said that the lab has one of the largest assemblages of taxonomic expertise in the state. Taxonomists focus on algae, including microalgae, and on micro invertebrates. Assemblages of those organisms are used as an index of community health, and are useful in periodic water sampling to identify impaired waters.

DEP's Tallahassee-based lab employs almost 100 scientists and support staff. Florida legislators last session designated the lab as the Jerry Edward Brooks Laboratory to recognize the former laboratory director's service to the lab. Brooks recently passed away.

DEP's environmental lab is an important asset and a resource for outside experts to consult with state's experts. On a day-to-day basis, the lab staff works to preserve water quality and makes decisions regarding where to focus efforts to improve impaired waters.

Florida's suit which seeks to prevent harm to the bay.

Georgia claimed that the corps' operation of control structures within the associated basins ties them to that harm. If the U.S. cannot be feasibly joined, Georgia argued that Florida cannot then seek relief from the remaining parties.

"The problem then is that the United States is not a party to the case," said Craig Primis, an attorney with Kirkland & Ellis LLP and counsel representing Georgia. "It can't be enjoined against its will. And it has declared that it will not waive its sovereign immunity."

Florida's argument is based on Georgia's over-consumption of water from the onset, not whether or not flows in the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers are controlled, maintained or otherwise managed by the corps.

From Florida's point of view, the water isn't getting to the rivers to begin with. It is being consumed in metropolitan At-

lanta before it has a chance to enter the system.

Gregory Garre, an attorney for Latham & Watkins LLP and counsel for Florida, countered that argument.

"Florida is not seeking a minimum flow regime at the Woodruff Dam at the border," said Garre. "It's not seeking any relief asking the corps to control the dams or pull the levers in any specific way. Florida is seeking a reduction in Georgia's consumption of water. And that is critical because any water that Georgia has consumed is water that is never going to reach Florida."

"And the premise of Georgia's case ... is that the only way that Florida can secure relief is through relief with respect to the operations of the dams. And that's just flat wrong."

Special Master Lancaster agreed with Florida's point of view. "Absent evidence to the contrary, I must draw the (reasonable) converse inference in favor of

Florida: any decrease in Georgia's consumption will increase flows into the ACF river (basin), allowing the corps to release more water downstream," he wrote in his June 19, 2015, decision.

Georgia based its motion for dismissal in a large part on water rights cases within the Colorado River Basin. One of the cases highlighted by the Special Master in his decision, *Arizona v. California*, 298 U.S. 558 (1936), found the rights of Arizona to be subordinate to the U.S. when seeking a portion of the unappropriated water in the Colorado River.

Because the federal government constructed a dam and specifically created the resulting reservoir to store and deliver water, the waters involved were federal waters specifically appropriated for federal uses. The U.S. had to be a party.

In the case of Florida and Georgia, the waters are not federal waters, so Florida does not have to include the U.S. in its lawsuit.

FLORIDA REMEDiation CONFERENCE

Oct. 8-9, 2015 • Orlando

Current List of Our 2015 Exhibitors

A&D Environmental Services
Accutest Laboratories
Adler Tank Rentals
Advanced Environmental Laboratories
Alpha-Omega Training & Compliance
BakerCorp
Carbonair Environmental Systems
Cascade Drilling
CL Solutions
Clark Environmental
Clean Earth
Cliff Berry Inc.
Columbia Technologies
Custom Drilling Services Inc.
DeepEarth Technologies
Elemental AG
Enviro-Equipment
Environmental Remediation Services
EnviroTek, part of Action Environmental
EOS Remediation
EQ-The Environmental Quality Co.
ESC Lab Sciences
ExoTech Inc.
FECC Inc.
Flowers Chemical Laboratories
Fruits & Associates Inc.
FRx Inc.
Geoprobe Systems
GeoSearch
Geotech Environmental Equipment
Golder Associates
Groundwater Protection
HaloSource Inc.
Heritage Environmental Services
Innovative Remediation Technologies
Innova Technologies
JRW Bioremediation
Jupiter Environmental Laboratories
LogitEasy
Microbial Insights
Pace Analytical Services
Palm Beach Environmental Labs
Performance Technologies
PeroxyChem
Petroleum Resources & Development
Petrotech Southeast
ProAct Services Corp.
Progressive Waste Solutions
Provectus Environmental Products
Regenesis
Republic Services
Rusmar Inc.
Snap Sampler
SWS Environmental Services
Terra Sonic International
Terra Systems
U.S. Environmental Rental
U.S. Peroxide LLC
URETEK Holdings Inc.
Vironex Technical Services LLC
Waste Management
XENCO Laboratories
ZEBRA Technical Services

The Southeast's Premiere Soil and Groundwater Cleanup Event is Back

This fall, the Southeast's top soil and groundwater cleanup conference and trade show returns to Orlando for its 21st year. The Rosen Centre Hotel will host FRC 2015.

The Florida Remediation Conference offers two days of top-shelf technical presentations, the region's largest annual trade show for remediation practitioners, excellent networking opportunities throughout, and continuing education credit for Florida professional engineers and geologists working in the Southeast.

In addition to the two-day conference and trade show on Oct. 8-9, we will conduct our FRC Charity Golf Tournament the day before the conference, Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015, at the nearby Rosen Shingle Creek Golf Club, one of Orlando's finest courses. All proceeds from this charity event will go to the Yellow Brick Road Foundation, www.ybrf.org.

There are a number of ways to get involved this year:

- **Attend the technical sessions:** Stay current with the latest cleanup techniques and technologies while earning continuing education credits
- **Exhibit:** We still have several booth spaces available to present your products and services to conference participants
- **Visit the exhibit hall:** Make contacts and add tools to your toolbox that will be valuable on future projects
- **Play in our charity golf tournament:** Support a worthwhile cause on a great golf course. Don't play? Then think about sponsoring a hole in support of our 2015 charity.

For more information about FRC 2015, contact Mike Eastman, publisher of the *Florida Specifier* and FRC conference manager, at (407) 671-7777 or mreast@enviro-net.com.

Updated information about the conference, expo and charity golf tournament is available under the FRC logo at www.enviro-net.com.

If you've attended FRC in the past, we hope to see you once again this fall. If you have never joined us, come see why many participants think FRC is THE conference of the year to attend.

Register today!

Our 2015 technical session agenda, registration materials, charity golf tournament information and more are available on our website at www.enviro-net.com

Jax riverfront redevelopment planning awaits results of site remediation negotiations

By ROY LAUGHLIN

Plans for an extensive redevelopment project at The Shipyards, a 43-acre riverfront property in the heart of downtown Jacksonville, are temporarily hung up while negotiations continue over paying for the environmental cleanup necessary before construction can begin.

Soil on the site contains concentrations of arsenic and lead above health standards.

The city placed a clean soil cap over the contaminated soil in 2007. But a re-

cent site assessment found unacceptably elevated concentrations of arsenic and lead in the cap.

Jacksonville officials had an original budget of \$750,000 intended to assess any additional remediation needed on the site and develop a plan to spend up to \$13 million for the cleanup effort.

To date, Jacksonville has spent \$445,000 under contract to Mechling Engineering & Consulting of Jacksonville for the site assessment, but the remediation

plan awaits formulation.

Shad Khan, owner of the Jacksonville Jaguars and the third developer in the past decade to propose a project for the site, envisions a development including practice fields and other facilities for his football team.

Khan's design includes three multilevel fields for the team, housing, shops and offices. But first, he wants Jacksonville to commit up to \$35 million for site cleanup, with the option to terminate the redevelopment agreement if cleanup costs exceed that amount.

Presumably, Jacksonville officials

Florida leadership critical climate change agreement

Staff report

Florida is poised to play a major role in U.S. progress to address climate change, according to a new report. In the next decade, the state will cut the seventh highest level of global warming pollution of any state in the country.

The Environment Florida Research & Policy Center report comes as pressure mounts on the U.S. to play a major role in negotiations for an international climate agreement in Paris.

The report, Path to the Paris Climate Conference: American Progress in Cutting Carbon Pollution Could Pave the Way for Global Action, documents expected carbon pollution reductions from existing state-level and federal policies by 2025, including fuel efficiency standards for cars and trucks, regional and state-based carbon caps, and renewable energy standards.

The report shows that state and federal policies underway across the country can reduce carbon pollution 27 percent below 2005 levels.

The biggest portion of the reductions will come from the Clean Power Plan, the proposed federal limits on carbon pollution from power plants expected to be finalized this summer. The plan requires a 38 percent cut in greenhouse gas emissions from power plants in Florida, and compels state leaders to accelerate the transition to clean energy sources such as wind and solar.

To avoid the impacts of climate change, scientists estimate that an 80 percent cut in global warming pollution will be necessary by mid-century. And a more rapid transition to clean energy sources will be required to achieve these levels.

would like a firmer commitment from Kahn before paying for any cleanup tailored to Khan's redevelopment plans.

The site was a working shipyard until 1992. Subsequent to that, several developers stepped forward with redevelopment proposals, similar to the one Kahn proposes now.

In 2005, a redevelopment plan by Tri-Legacy, expected to be complete by Superbowl 2005, failed. Tri-Legacy went bankrupt and was investigated by a grand jury over allegations it misspent incentive funds from the city. The grand jury did not return indictments but the city lost \$36 million in the process.

Then in 2005, Landmark LLC, another property developer proposed a lavish park, river walk, condos and office buildings at a cost of \$450,000. Landmark also went belly up, but this time Jacksonville recovered \$13.4 million from Landmark.

Jacksonville officials have made few statements to the press about the prospects for a development deal with Khan, other than to say negotiations continue. They did not return calls for comment.

The city would seem to have a strong incentive to get this project off the ground. For his part, Khan has already shown a strong commitment to the city through his ownership of the Jags. Maybe this time, the redevelopment plan for land downtown will score enough points to move forward.

LAB NOTES

From Page 7

officials asked a judge to set a July 24 bid deadline for buyers who want to challenge a \$5 million offer in hand from Eurofins Scientific Inc., a Brussels-based life science company.

Kevin Dunham, vice president of the lab and now managing Spectrum Analytical from its Tampa office, confirmed that Eurofins has a binding offer and will own Spectrum Analytical unless another bidder offers at least \$200,000 more than Eurofins.

Elsewhere, PC&B Laboratories in Oviedo, FL, notified the Florida Department of Health in June that it would not be renewing its NELAP accreditation, and gates at the lab were recently closed and locked.

No additional information about the closure is available. PC&B had been in operation for about a quarter of a century.

Eliminate Excessive Time and End-Point Uncertainty Associated with Groundwater Remediation

PlumeStop™ COLLOIDAL BIOMATRIX

An innovative, highly dispersible, fast-acting, sorption-based technology which captures and biodegrades dissolved-phase contaminants within its biomatrix-based structure.

- Rapidly treats dissolved-phase contaminants (in days)
- Eliminates contaminant rebound and migration
- Achieves stringent cleanup standards such as GCTL
- Treats back-diffusing contaminants
- Widely distributes using low injection pressures



www.plumestop.com



REGENESIS

Technology-Based Solutions for the Environment

For a free consultation, site design and cost estimate, call (949) 366-8000.

www.regenesis.com



Are you experiencing algae problems?

Floating Treatment Wetlands...

Call for pricing.

(386) 428-8578

3637 State Road 44, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168 • www.beemats.com • beemats@gmail.com

Index to Display Advertisers

Advertiser (Florida Representative)	Telephone	Facsimile/E-mail	Page
ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL LABS	(904) 363-9350	(904) 363-9354	7
www.aellab.com			
BEE MATS	(386) 428-8578	(386) 428-8879	16
www.beemats.com			
BILFINGER WATER TECHNOLOGIES	(813) 855-6297		9
www.water.bilfinger.com			
CARBON SERVICE & EQUIPMENT	(407) 313-9113	(407) 313-9114	7
www.carbonservice.net			
CLARK ENVIRONMENTAL	1-800-276-2187	(863) 425-2854	9
www.thermaltreatment.com			
CLEAN EARTH	(941) 723-2700		10
www.cleaneearthinc.com			
CROM CORPORATION	(352) 372-3436	(352) 372-6209	3
www.cromcorp.com			
CUSTOM DRILLING SERVICES	1-800-532-5008	(863) 425-9620	10
www.customdrilling.net			
ETEC LLC	(971) 222-3616		2
www.etccllc.com			
FLOWERS CHEMICAL LABS	(407) 339-5984	(407) 260-6110	4
www.flowerslabs.com			
HANDEX CONSULTING & REMEDIATION	(321) 441-9801		10
www.hcr-llc.com			
JAEE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	(954) 476-8333	(954) 476-8347	4
www.jaeeenvironmental.com			
MARINCO BIOASSAY LAB	1-800-889-0384	(941) 922-3874	9
www.toxtest.com			
MICROBIAL INSIGHTS	(865) 573-8188	(865) 573-8133	8
www.microbe.com			
REGENESIS	(972) 377-7288	(972) 377-7298	16
www.regenesis.com			
TERRA SONIC INTERNATIONAL	1-866-365-3483		2
www.terrasonicinternational.com			
UNIV OF FLORIDA TREEO CENTER	(352) 392-9570	(352) 392-6910	11
www.doce.ufl.edu/treeo			
ZEBRA TECHNICAL SERVICES	(813) 655-1717	(813) 626-1718	8
www.teamzebra.com			