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Principles of Florida-Friendly Landscaping(TM)

John J. Pipoly III

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Principles of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™

John J. Pipoly III, Ph.D., FLS



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles



1. Right plant, right place
2. Water efficiently
3. Mulch
4. Recycle
5. Fertilize appropriately

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles



6. Manage yard pests
7. Reduce stormwater runoff
8. Attract wildlife
9. Protect the waterfront

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

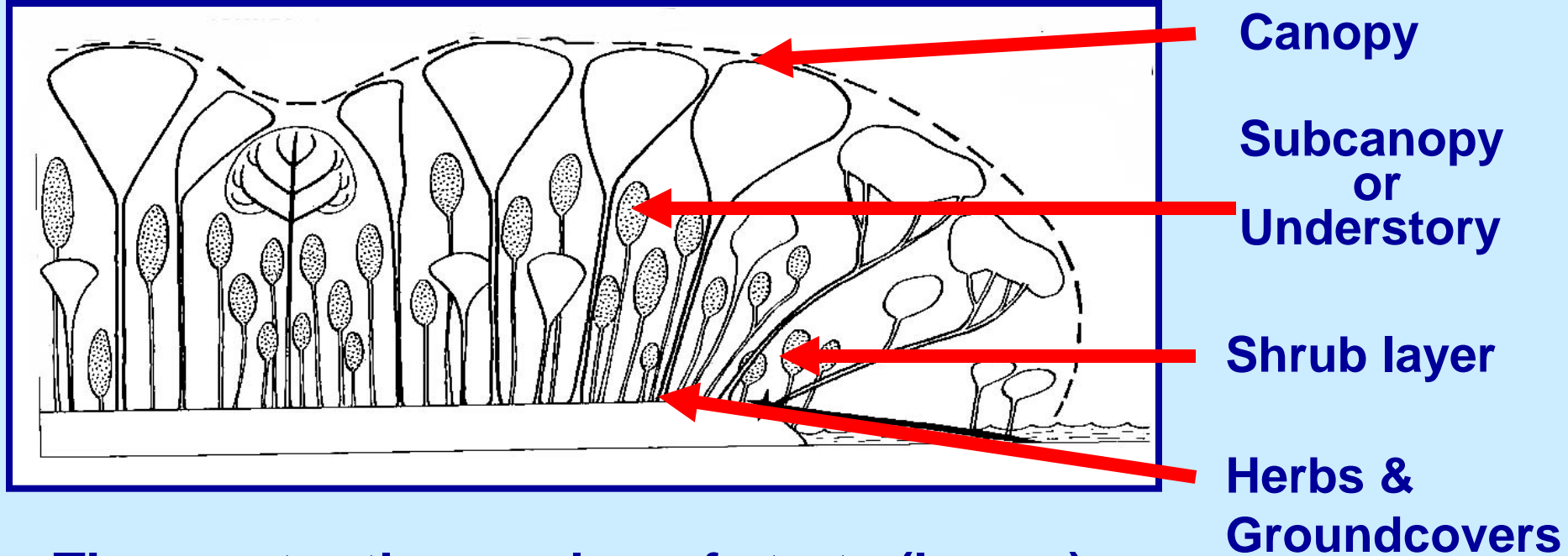
#1: Right Plant, Right Place

- Plants require minimal supplemental water, fertilizer, or pesticide
- Group species according to water, light and soil needs; increase diversity
- Use groundcovers and small shrubs where turf is difficult to maintain
- If turf fails in a location, explore other options



Join scattered plants into one bed.

STRATIFY your design to increase Hurricane Resistance and help Wildlife

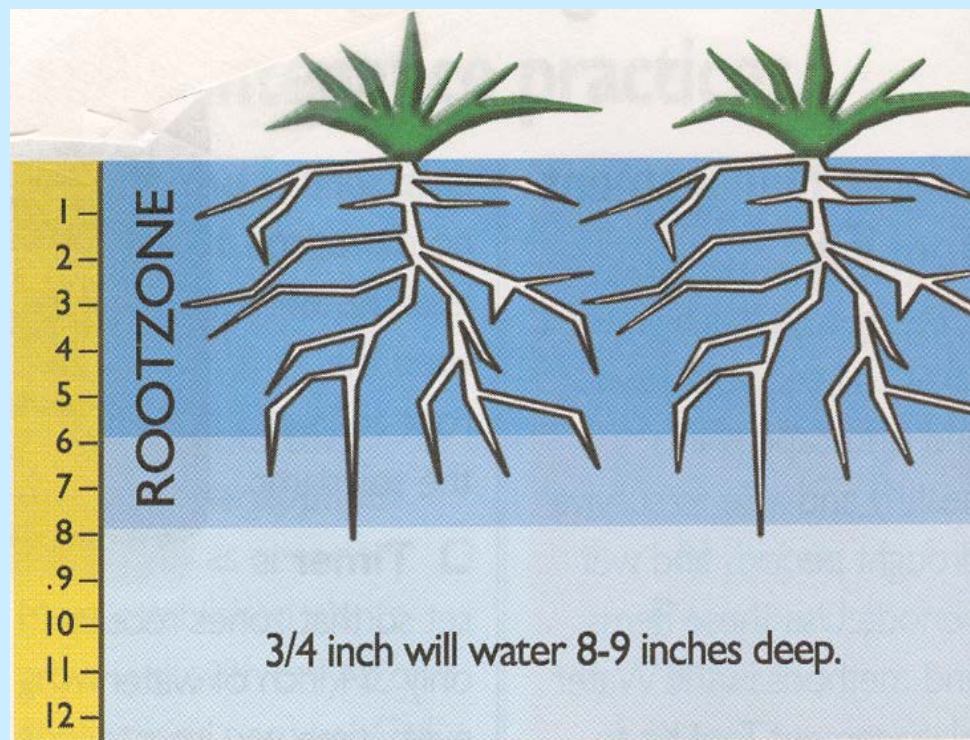


- The greater the number of strata (layers),
- The greater the protection from hurricane damage, and
- The greater the reduction in temperature at ground level.

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

#2: Water Efficiently

- Nonpoint source water pollution from leaching or runoff
- Water only when needed
- Water early in morning or evening to avoid fungi and other disease
- Never more than $\frac{3}{4}$ " water per application



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

Calibrate Irrigation Systems



Determine time to apply up to 3/4 inch water

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

Replace narrow strips of turf or install micro-irrigation



Too much water wasted



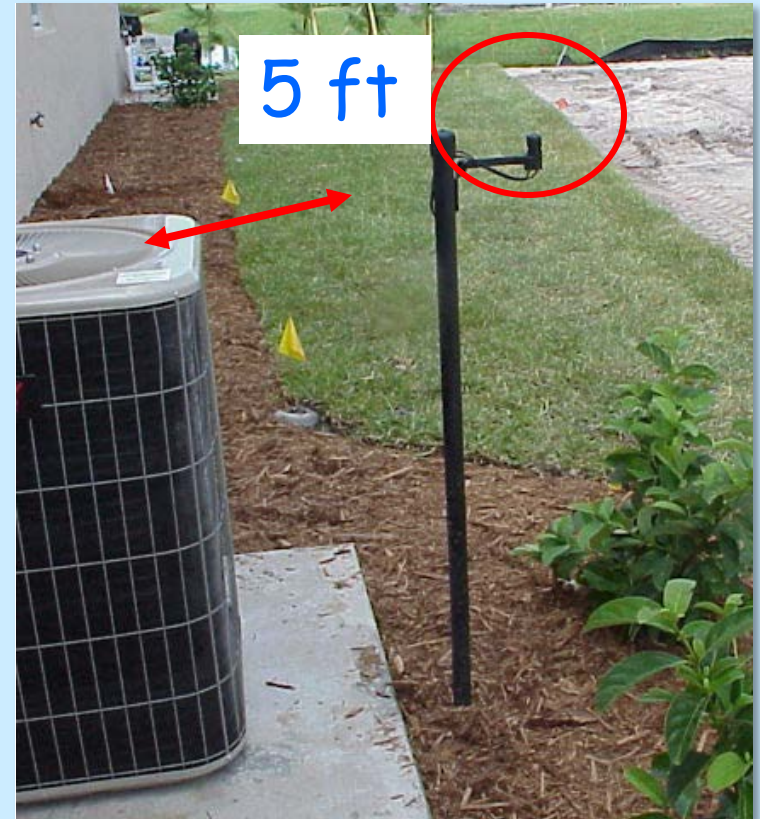
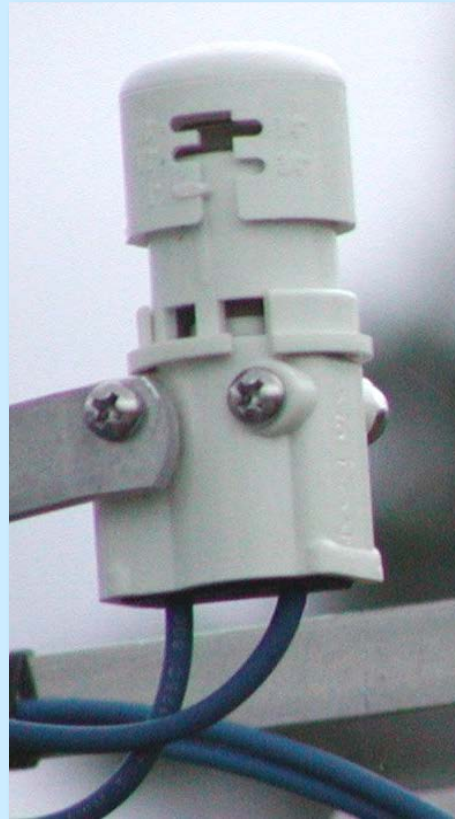
Installing micro-irrigation to avoid waste



Turf replaced with native border planting

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

- Install shut-off with a clear, open view of sky; keep away from AC, pool heaters– costs from \$20 to \$30
- Use a rain gauge and shut-off device, required by Florida state law on all new irrigation systems installed after 1991.



Cork in sensor expands when wet, shutting off system

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Soil Moisture Sensors

Now cost ca. \$99 for first set and \$20 per additional

- Sensor is buried in turf root zone
- Sends signal to control box
- Can be an add-on or integrated with controller system



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

#3: Fertilize Appropriately

- Fertilizer runoff or leaching can endanger waterways
- UF science-based fertilizer application rates; never > 1 lb. nitrogen/1,000 ft²
- Allow turf to go dormant in cooler months
- Use minimal fertilizer at all times; remember systemic pesticides now contain fertilizer





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- **Leave a 10 foot maintenance-free zone around waterways; Florida law requires 3 feet; use deflector shield on spreader**
- **See BMP reference**



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#4: Mulch

- Beautifies and conserves moisture
- Reduces weeds
- Minimizes runoff and erosion
- Enriches soil when it breaks down



ORGANIC Mulch is preferred over inorganic, such as seashells and stones. Do NOT use recycled rubber.

**Use by-product or recycled mulches.
Do not use Cypress. It repels water when dry.**



Pine bark



Eucalyptus



Melaleuca

***Melaleuca* chemicals inhibit seed germination;
Eucalyptus mulch repels many insects**

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

#5: Attract Wildlife

- Provide a “green corridor” for animal travel from one wild space to another
- Beauty and benefits of natural pest control, pollination and dispersal of natives



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

#6: Manage Yard Pests Responsibly

Use least toxic method first-
insecticidal soap and others*

THURICIDE BT

•Organic control of caterpillars

•Control tent caterpillars, cabbage hornworms, tomato loopers, leaf rollers and more---

•One pint covers over 10,000 sq. ft

•Won't harm beneficial including earthworms.



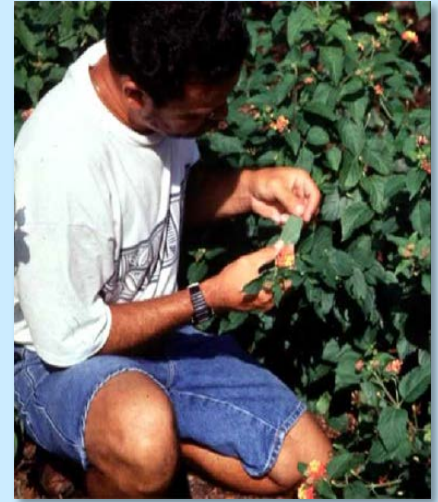
Ladybug larva
and adult



*Product brands shown are representative; no endorsement of particular brands is expressed or implied

Integrated Pest Management

- Focus on prevention:
 - Plant pest-resistant species/cultivars
 - Keep plants healthy
 - Attract beneficial insects
 - Maximize species diversity
- Monitor growth, development, flowering
- Know key plants/key pests
- Spot-treat when necessary
- Use least-toxic controls
- Consider acceptable damage
- Minimize pesticide use to keep beneficial insects



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

#7: Recycle

Leaves and grass clippings can be used as mulch



Remove no more than 1/3 grass leaf blade at a time; leave on lawn



Grasscycling does not result in thatch build-up.
Thatch is caused by over-fertilization and over-watering.

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#8: Reduce Stormwater Runoff

- Runoff carries fertilizer, pesticides, oil, and other materials into surface and groundwater, and contributes to pollution
- Aim downspouts at porous surface



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

Rain gardens are a great alternative.
For more information, visit

http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/professionals/LA_CEU/LA_CEU_Module_3_Rain_Gardens_April_13_2010.ppt



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

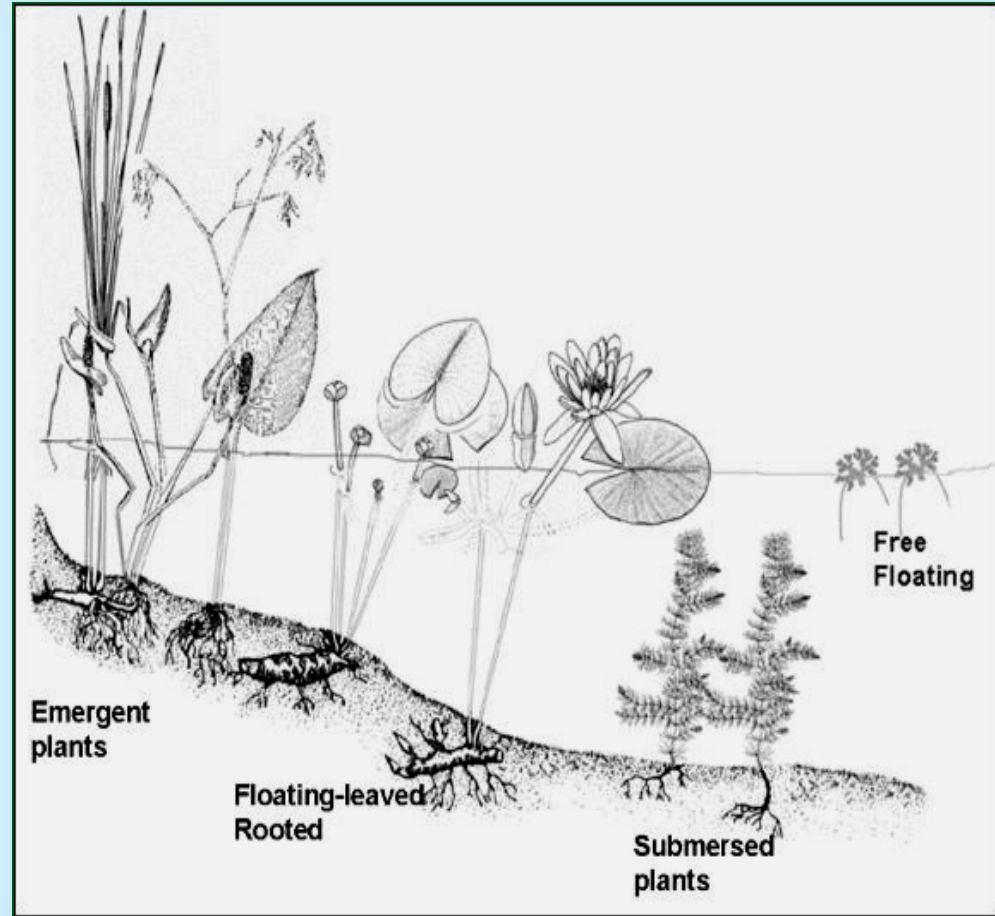
#9: Protect the Waterfront

- Maintenance-free zone of at least 10 feet (3 feet by law)
- Keep grass clippings from washing into storm drains and water bodies



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

- Waterways provide habitat for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife when planted with suitable plant species.
- Plants on a waterway bank or littoral shelf reduce or eliminate maintenance and consequent stormwater runoff, while reducing erosion, balancing oxygen levels in the water and feeding wildlife.



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Resources

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Website

<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ PROGRAM

Home About FFL Contact Us Local Offices Partners FloridaYards.org Search GO

▶ **Homeowners**
9 FFL Principles
Your County
Official Yard Recognitions
Florida-Friendly Living NEW
Publications & Training
Remove Invasives

▶ **Professionals**
GI-BMP Training Schedule
Educational Services
Certification & Awards
Success Stories
Low-Impact Development
UF/IFAS Partnership at Hastings

▶ **Resources**
Plant Database
Tutorial
The Neighborhood Gardener
FYN In The News
FFL Program Calendar
FFL Quarterly Updates
Publications & Links
Glossary of Terms
Related Programs
Government

Florida-Friendly Landscaping: The Smart Way to Grow

Landscaping the Florida-Friendly way means using low maintenance plants and environmentally sustainable practices. Learn how you can have a beautiful landscape that could save you time, energy and money while protecting our future. Find out more from your county's FYN program or from this website and the FloridaYards.org companion website of the FDEP Springs Initiative.

The Neighborhood Gardener
Monthly e-newsletter

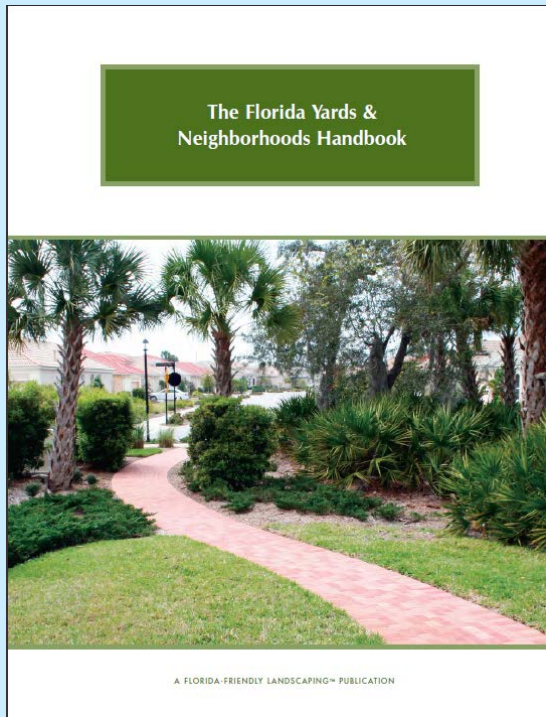
Florida-Friendly FAOs for
FDEP, FDACS, and UF-IFAS on
2009 legislative bills SB494 and SB2080
[Click Here](#)

Mission Statement

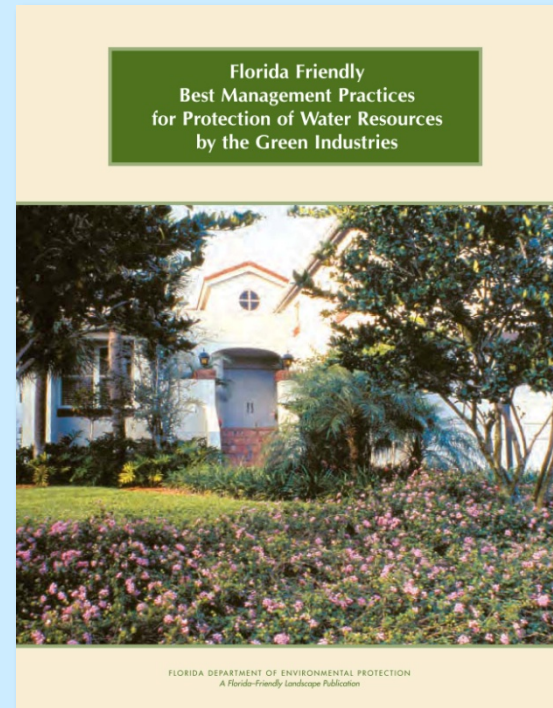
The mission of the Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program is to educate Floridians about science-based, environmentally friendly landscaping practices and to encourage them to conserve and protect our water resources by applying Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles in their landscapes.

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Resources

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Website <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>



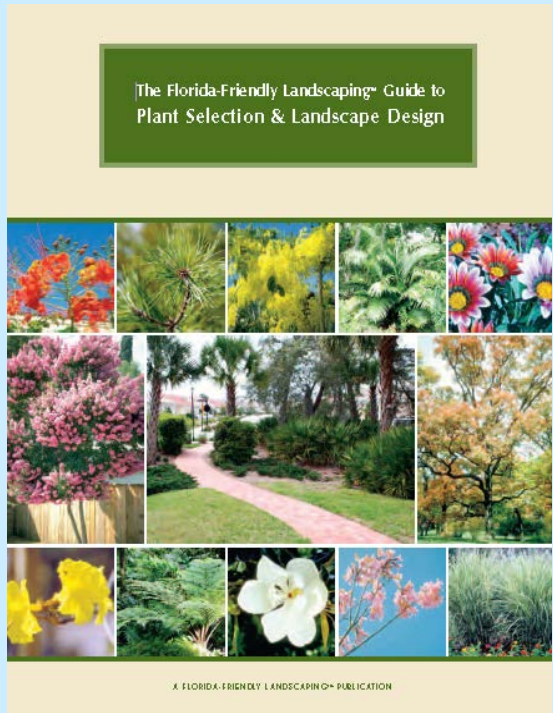
**FYN Handbook
for Homeowners**



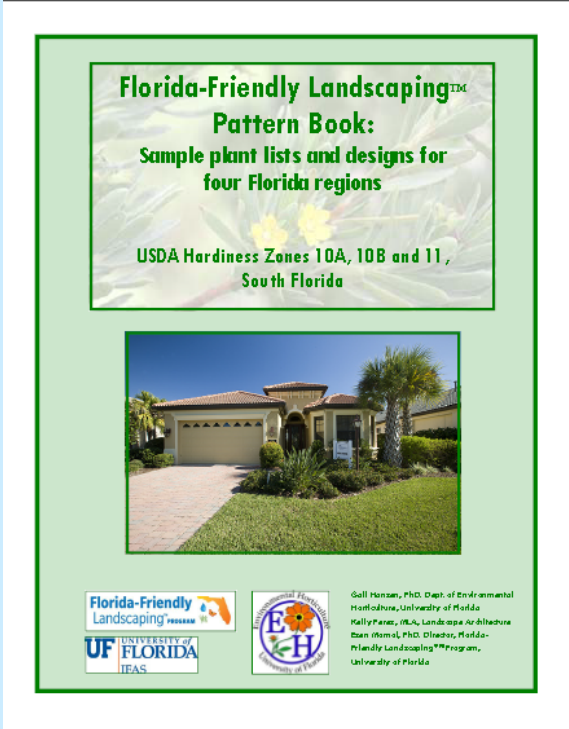
**Green Industries Best
Management Practices Handbook
for Commercial Landscape
Industry, COAs and HOAs**

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Resources

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Website <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>



FFL Plant Selection Guide

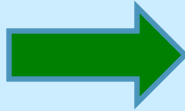


USDA Zone 10-11 Sample Plant Lists and Designs

FloridaYards.org Web site

<http://www.floridayards.org/>

Searchable plant list with color photos



Florida-Friendly Landscaping
THE SMART WAY TO GROW

- SHARE THIS SITE
- ASK AN EXPERT
- GLOSSARY

Florida-friendly Landscaping 101
Environmental protection begins in your yard. Learn about Florida-friendly landscaping, pick up some landscaping tips and see examples of landscape designs.



Interactive Yard
Learn how to transform your yard and lawn into a Florida-friendly landscape design that will be the envy of the neighborhood.



Florida-friendly Plant Database
Find Florida plants for your landscape and Florida garden. Learn about Florida-friendly plants, including Florida native plants, that require little irrigation or fertilizer, are low maintenance and attract wildlife.



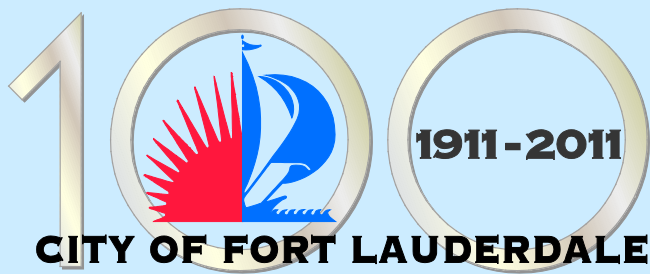
Professional's Corner
If you are a developer or landscaping professional, get the facts about Florida-friendly landscaping and learn how others are responding to consumer demand for low-impact yards.



FloridaYards.org [WHY GO FLORIDA FRIENDLY?](#)



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™: A collaborative effort



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™

Contact Information

Florida-Friendly Landscaping: Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program
Florida Master Gardeners of Broward County
UF-IFAS/ Broward County Extension Education
Parks and Recreation Division
(954) 357-5270
mastergardener@broward.org

NatureScape Broward Program

For Yard Certification, See

<http://www.broward.org/NaturalResources/NatureScape/Pages/HowToGetCertified.aspx>

then contact: naturescape@broward.org

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™

A SERVICE OF THE BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Broward county programs are open to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability or sexual orientation. Disabled individuals are requested to notify program two days prior to program for auxiliary aids if assistance is required. Disabled parking space and wheelchair ramp are available.

”The Foundation for the Gator Nation, An Equal Opportunity Institution.”

This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$126 or \$1.26 cents per copy to inform the public about Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ , NatureScape, and how to conserve water and reduce nonpoint source pollution.