

Florida Keys Water Watch

FOR THE

#GATORGOOD

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Water Watch Program Goals

- **A:** AWARENESS – Importance of water quality
- **D:** DATA – Collect ambient water quality data
- **A:** ADOPT – BMPs to prevent non-point source pollution
- **P:** PARTNERSHIPS – Citizens, UF extension & agencies
- **T:** TOOLS & TRAINING – To evaluate local waterways



Trained Volunteer Responsibilities

HOW: At least 1 site, at least monthly, legal access

WHO: Individuals, schools, HOA's

WHY: MC-CMMP and
↓ nonpoint source pollution



Timeline

November
2014

- Florida Keys Water Watch funded by EPA South Florida Initiative

2015

- Program development and training workshops

October
2016

- EPA-approved QAPP



Initiated working w/
FDEP QA staff for
approved alternative
methods: Lamotte
Winkler Titration and
Refractometer

2017

Train-the-Trainer
Program w/ Florida
Keys Community
College

University of Florida
In-Service Training –
WW goes statewide



2018

- GOMA funding for University of Florida Water Watch Website

Future

- Establishing Advisory Council
- Side-by-side study with FDEP and Water Watch volunteers

Next steps

- State-wide dedicated funding...



Summary 2015-Present

- **FKWW Training**
 - 61 workshops to 458 participants (180 adults and 278 students)
 - 72 volunteers and teachers* have adopted a FKWW site
- **885 Volunteer hours w/ \$19,926 value to state of Florida**
- **>922 data collection events**
- *students participate under teacher guidance
- **Train-the-Trainer**
 - 8 Florida Sea Grant agents
 - 3 FKCC professors
 - Data collection course OCB2102C
- **General Public**
 - 746+ people at rotary, garden clubs, HOA's, invited seminars



Program Evaluation

- Annual Qualtrics Survey
- 47-87% adopted at least 1 BMP
 - No fish carcasses, leaf litter
 - Rain barrel
 - Florida Friendly Landscaping
- Documented Success Story
 - Coral Key Village Marina HOA
 - “Fish carcasses, pet litter, plant trimmings and all other trash shall be disposed of in receptacles provided by the Association or removed from Coral Key Village Marina (Section 3L)”

Questions	YEAR	Knowledge Gain
Causes of poor water quality in the Florida Keys	2017	19%
	2016	16%
	2015	34%
What is nonpoint source pollution?	2017	6%
	2016	26%
	2015	47%
How excess nutrients (Nitrogen and Phosphorus) stimulate algal growth, and how decomposition lowers dissolved oxygen levels in the water	2017	14%
	2016	20%
	2015	40%
How to find the Monroe County canal restoration demonstration projects and canal rankings	2017	67%
	2016	72%
	2015	92%
Why dissolved oxygen is such an important factor for good water quality	2017	22%
	2016	30%
	2015	46%





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