



Watershed Education Practicum

Natural Resource Leadership

Class IV

By

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What Is a Watershed ?

Central Florida Watershed Issues

Natural Resource Issues,
Stormwater Pollution Prevention,
Point Source and Non-Point Source
Impaired Waters NPDES & TMDL Process,
Water Supply Understanding and Conservation Issues

Situation Assessment:

A Watershed Case Study-

Challenge- Educate public about watershed issues and change behavior

Stakeholders- St. Johns River Water Management District Staff, Seminole County Road Operations and Stormwater Division Staff, Seminole County Public School Teachers and students, Community Groups-Boy and Girl Scouts, Volunteer Groups-Volunteer UCF Members, Church Groups, Seminole County Citizens

How can we better educate the public about Watershed and Water Supply Issues?

Can we live with the adverse impacts?

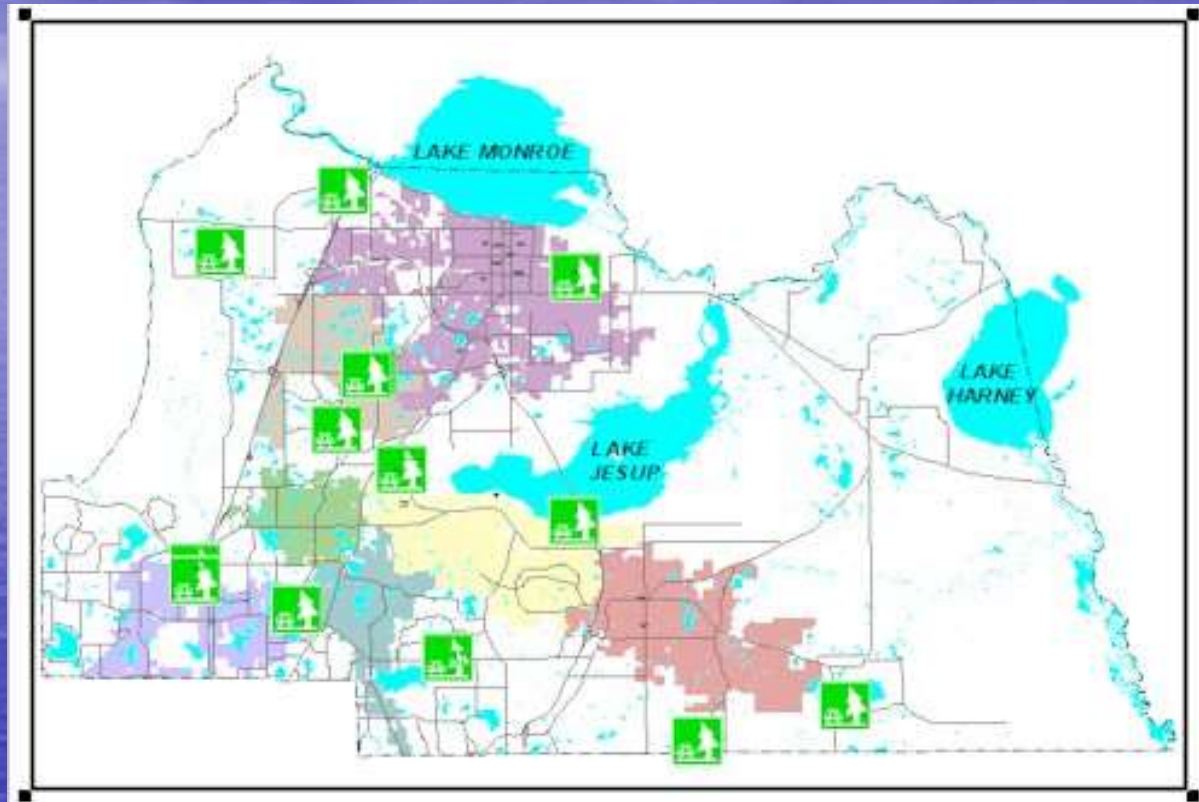
Solving Problems through education and volunteerism

Leadership is.....

- Challenges
- Strategies
- Results
- Lessons Learned
- Courage
- Management
- Cooperation
- Coordination



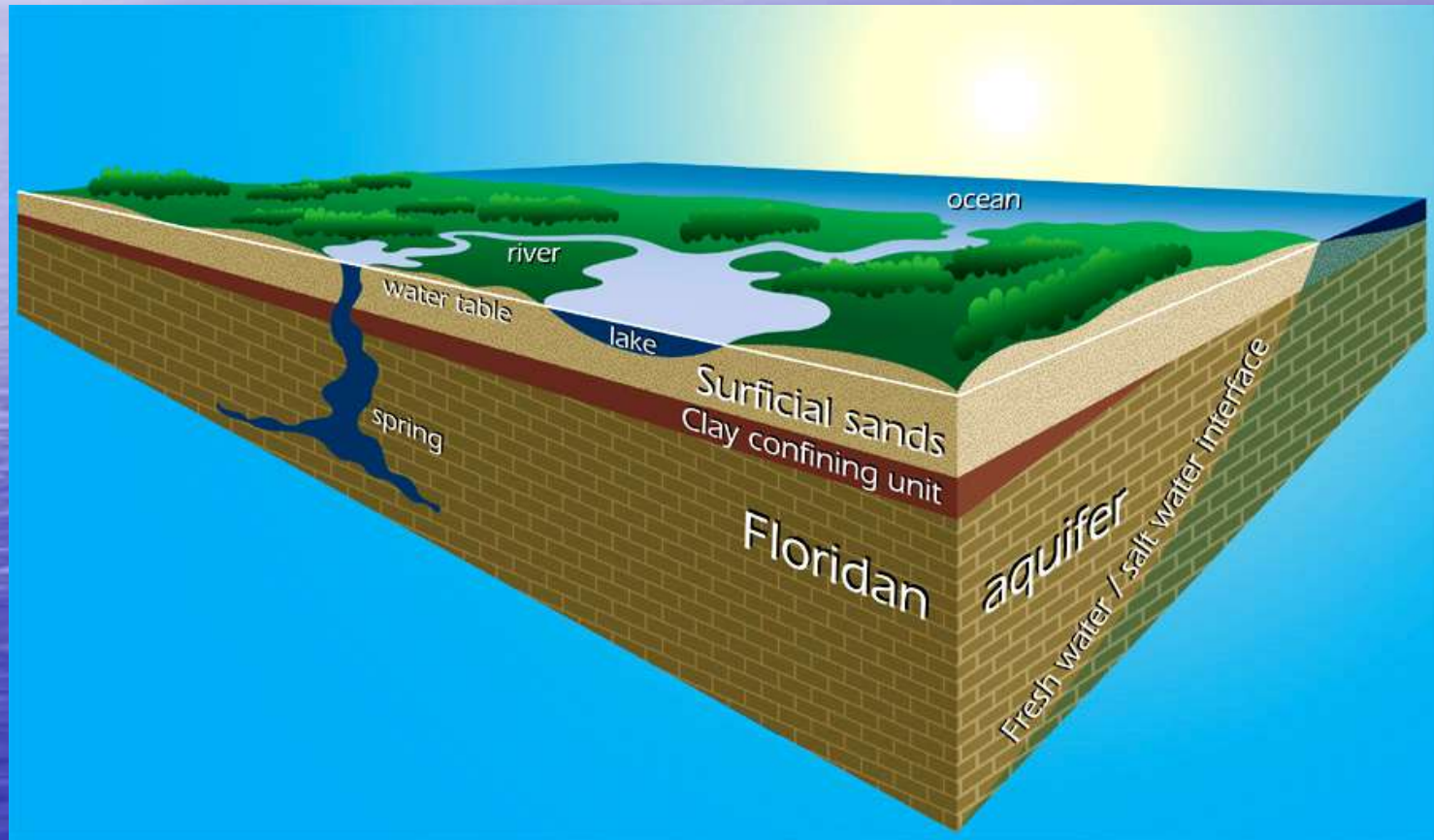
Seminole County



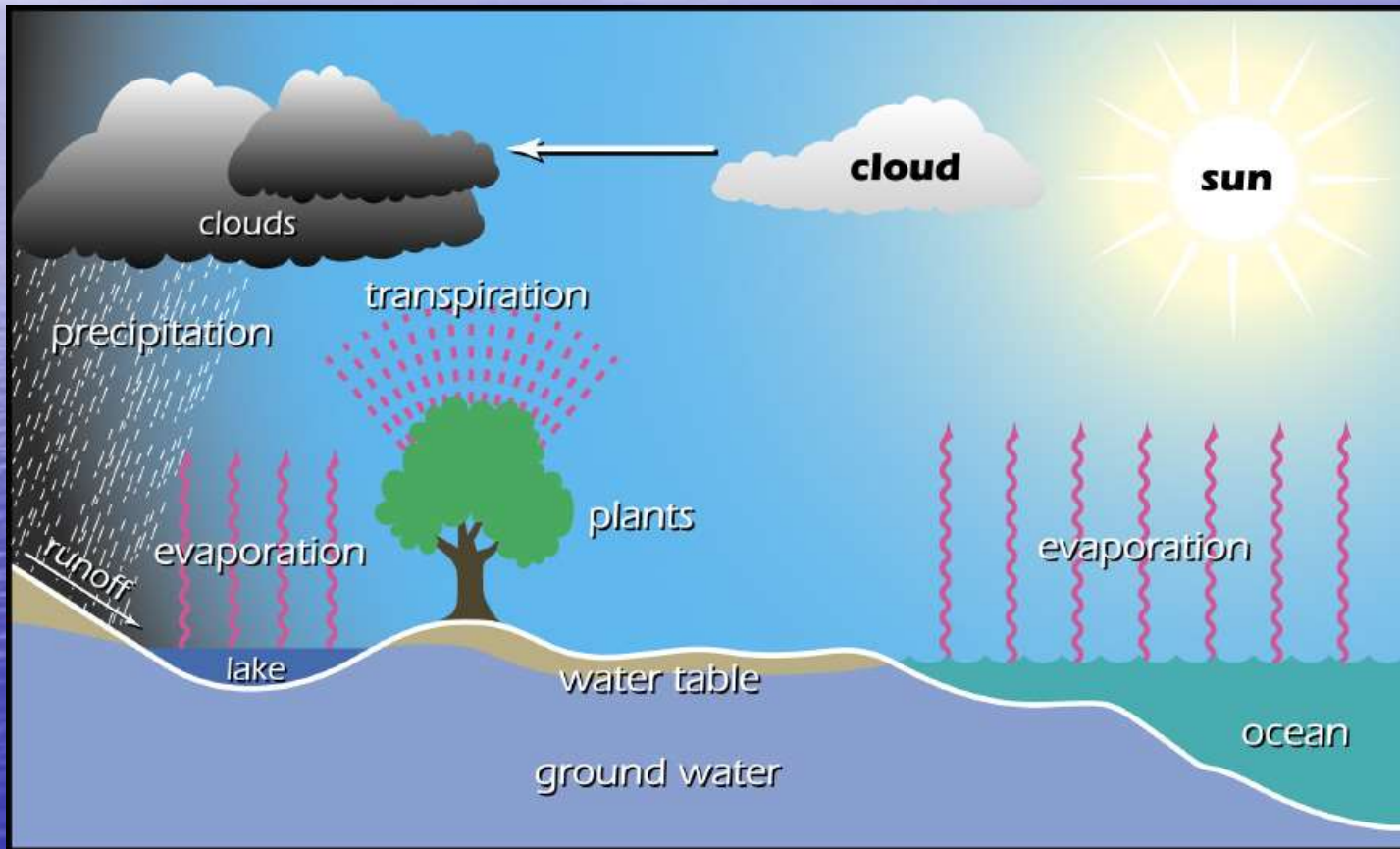
Facts About Seminole County, Florida

- **Population 387,626 people (2002);**
- **approximately 350 sq. miles in size;**
- **7 Cities,**
- **Median Household Income \$46,559 (highest in state);**
- **16 Watersheds (Drainage Basins);**
- **Wekiva River, Lake Monroe, Econlockhatchee River,**
- **St. Johns River Middle Basin;**
- **Seminole Water Atlas (www.seminolewateratlas.org)**
- **Over 1000 permitted wells**
- **Over 180 Lakes, 37 streams**
- **1/4 of County is a Water Supply Caution Area - potential harm to water resources**
- **18 Listed Impaired Waterbodies (St. Johns Middle Basin)**
- **Flooding**

Water Supply



Watershed



Water Problems and Solutions



Community Education and Volunteer Participation

- Waterwise Landscape Seminars
- Waterways Cleanups and Invasive Plant Removal and Replanting
- Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring
- Community and School Presentations
- Stormdrain Marking



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Leadership Skills
Process Planning
Implementation
Outcomes
Communication

- Outcomes of Practicum
 - Over 35 Watershed Educational Presentations
 - Seminole County Schools and Community Groups
 - 5 Community Watershed Cleanups
 - Adopt-A-River Concept Meetings
 - Focus Little Wekiva River
 - Watershed Education Training
 - Stormdrain Marking Programs
 - 6 Events
 - Water Wise Landscape Presentations
 - 3 Groups
 - Water Quality Monitoring and QA Training
 - 10 Volunteers



WATERSHED ACTION VOLUNTEERS
St. Johns River Water Management District



Lessons Learned



Practicum Challenges

- Why did my initial idea not work?
- How did I adapt to the final project?
- Why did advocacy not work?
- Should I continue on with the project?
- Will better planning and creating the “right team” work better next time?

The End.....



Or Just The Beginning?

Mission Statement:
SEMINOLE COUNTY
ROAD OPERATIONS AND STORMWATER

Stormwater Educational / Volunteer Opportunities

- **Education and volunteerism are integral parts of the mission of the Division. Public education and outreach activities play a vital role in protecting and maintaining our water resources, and therefore, the quality of life we have in Seminole County. Volunteers provide vital information about water quality, work on special projects, and assist in the education of our children and residents. Volunteers, in most instances, act as an extension of County staff, helping to achieve much more than staff could do alone. Within the Division, we sponsor two major programs that provide both educational outreach and volunteer opportunities to our residents: Watershed Action Volunteers (WAV) and Lakewatch.**

and people of the District and the State of Florida.

Core missions:

Water Supply

To implement a regional strategy to provide sufficient water for users and the environment

Surface water resource protection

To protect surface water resources of the District and improve those resources within SWIM basins and the Upper St. Johns River Basin within established deadlines

Flood protection

To prevent increases in flooding and operate and maintain the District's regional flood control projects

Organizational effectiveness

To provide for organizational structure and tools that result in and reward continuous improvement and enhanced service delivery

