Toward Environmental Citizenship

This booklet offers some of the basic knowledge and values that an environmental citizen might need in Florida. It touches on some fundamental ecological concepts, discusses the relationship of human society to its environment, and notes some key environmental issues that we face today in Florida. Finally, it suggests some simple, basic, everyday ways each of us can begin to practice environmental citizenship.

. . .

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Toward Environmental Citizenship

Two of the major goals of Florida's ecosystem management program are to instill in Floridians a sense of *shared responsibility* for the environment that surrounds them, and to develop an *environmental ethic* in our population. This booklet is offered by the Department of Environmental Protection as a start toward those goals, and to foster the development of an environmentally literate citizenry.

If you are thinking one year ahead, sow seed.
If you are thinking 10 years ahead, plant a tree.
If you are thinking 100 years ahead, educate the people.
Chinese proverb

Lawton Chiles
Governor

Virginia B. Wetherell
Secretary

FLORIDA

$\mathcal{I}$NTRODUCTION

One of the important challenges we face as we move toward the 21st Century is to steer our societies along paths that lead toward a sustainable future that does not threaten the ecological health of Florida or the planet. This is not easy. Each community—and each generation—will have to address what sustainability means to them at that place and time, and how it can be achieved. Finding a new balance between the welfare of our species and the health of the planet will take determination, environmental understanding, and commitment. In short, it will require *environmental citizenship*.

The idea of environmental citizenship--taken at its simplest level--means that citizenship as we commonly think of it includes an obligation to the environment. On a broader scale, environmental citizenship suggests that we are not only citizens of a particular town, state or country, but also belong to a larger community of living things who make their homes in and on the earth's land, water and air--the *biosphere*. Environmental citizenship means being prepared for membership in this larger community. It means being informed about our place in the biosphere, and acting responsibly on that basis.

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Progress toward a better informed and more involved citizenry will not occur, though, without intensive effort by educators, environmental groups, industry, businesses, community organizations, and others working together in ways that support each other. This is a guide *toward* Environmental Citizenship, and is meant to support such a collective effort.

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions.

This section explains three concepts:
- *citizenship,*
- *environmental citizenship, and*
- *sustainability.*

CITIZENSHIP

What is citizenship?

In a very limited sense, being a citizen means carrying your country's passport, and having the right to work and vote there. Yet there is far more. Being a citizen means having rights and responsibilities, and taking an active part in the life of the community. There is a strong sense of *membership* associated with citizenship. In fact, one dictionary definition of citizenship is *membership in a community.*

Active citizenship can take many forms. We join into the life of our communities in a number of ways, each important to the wellbeing of the communities, the State of Florida, and the country. Floridians, have the responsibility to vote, to obey laws, to respect the rights of others, to care for the wellbeing of the community, and to protect the environment. Many of us belong to organizations (charities, community organizations, or advocacy groups) which aim to improve society in one way or another. In newspapers and other media, we discuss, debate, and inform ourselves about the affairs of our communities.

To take an effective part in the management of public affairs, a citizen should have certain basic skills: Citizens must know how the American political system works, and they must understand the major issues that face the country and Florida today. There is a close link between citizenship and learning; active and effective citizenship requires a literate, informed citizenry.

Is the idea of citizenship limited to membership in one kind of community?

No.

Legally, most of us are, of course, citizens of the United States, and of Florida. Yet we also are members of a far broader community, the human species. As such, we must recognize our responsibilities toward people outside the borders of our state or country. We are, in an important sense, global citizens. More broadly still, we belong to the community of life itself. Citizenship in these broader senses is not about voting or carrying a passport. It *is* about recognizing one's membership in the community of living things, and acknowledging our obligations to this community.

ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENSHIP

The term *environmental citizenship* is a convenient way to describe the ethical obligations that connect us to other members of the biosphere. This section discusses the concept of environmental citizenship and some of the issues related to it.

What *is* environmental citizenship?

Environmental citizenship is an idea . . . that we are an integral part of our environment.

Our environmental responsibilities are rooted in the various communities to which we belong--most immediately, the family. On a larger scale, we are part of local, national, and global communities. Environmental citizenship is about recognizing our memberships in these different communities and acknowledging that our future depends on how we care for our common home, the Earth.

In the broadest sense, being an environmental citizen means acknowledging membership in the biggest-of-all communities, the community of all living things. It means recognizing that we each make decisions every day that reflect our responsibilities toward other members of the biosphere, present and future.

Why does environmental citizenship include learning as well as action?

Active citizenship means being involved. *Effective* citizenship requires that we first become informed. Environmental citizens must understand the interrelationships between *ecosystems*, and the importance of

> *Ecosystem* - A community of organisms, including humans, that interact with one another and with the environment in which they live.
>
> *Biological* (ecological) *integrity* - The ability of an ecosystem to sustain a balanced, natural biological community, even under stress.

biological integrity. They must realize the effects of growing populations on Florida's and the world's environments.

But responsible environmental action requires more than awareness and concern. It requires understanding. Of course, we can't all be experts. But we can learn enough to understand the issues and choices that experts put before us. These choices often involve decisions about who we want to be, and how we want to live--individually and collectively.

These are decisions about what ends we want to pursue, not about how we pursue them. There are no experts for these sorts of questions; in a self-governing country, citizens decide. Making good decisions requires that we understand the options that experts give us.

As basic literacy is important to citizenship, *earth literacy* is important to environmental citizenship.

Why is environmental citizenship necessary?

In four short words: Our long-term *survival*.

One of our most pressing tasks is that of balancing the overall development of our society with the ecological health of our communities, of Florida, and the planet. Determining the precise nature of this balance is the challenge.
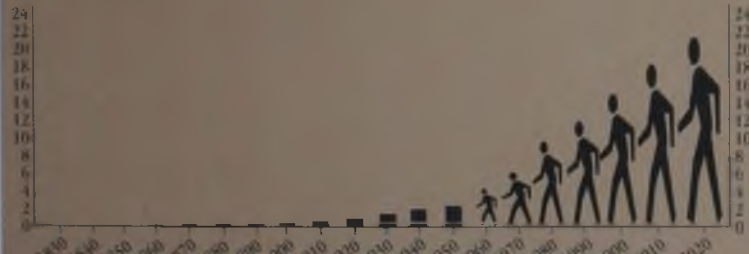
This challenge will be met only through active and informed citizens. Defining a new social and ecological balance requires that we understand our place in the community of life, that we recognize our responsibilities toward this community, and that we be prepared to take action on this basis.

That is environmental citizenship.

FIGURE 1

ꞀLORIDA ꝐOPULATION ꞠROWTH 1830-2020

Population (Millions)

By learning and by taking independent action, environmental citizens help prevent problems that otherwise would require difficult, costly solutions. Environmental citizenship improves the quality of public policy. Informed participation in public debate over issues of environment and development inspires good policymaking. It helps to ensure that policies are in the broad public interest, not just in the interest of a persuasive minority.

Environmental citizenship encourages recognition of common goals and values. While conflict is a natural part of social life, a successful society deals constructively with conflict, and channels the energy spent championing one side or another into finding fair and workable solutions. Environmental citizenship encourages Floridians to recognize the common ground between them; it promotes recognition of shared objectives and fosters action on that basis.

Who can be an environmental citizen?

Anyone, but environmental citizenship is more than buying green and recycling at the office; it involves environmentally responsible decision making in everything we do. This means caring for the environment when we act as members of communities or organizations, as well as when we act as individuals. Individuals, communities, and organizations all are potential environmental citizens. So are you, the reader.

Does environmental citizenship's emphasis upon voluntary action mean that governments have no responsibility for the environment?

No.

Independent action by citizens and organizations can complement collective action taken by governments, but does not replace it. Both are essential.

Government can provide resources to help Floridians exercise environmental citizenship. For example, many federal, state and municipal governments produce books, pamphlets, videos, school curricula, and other materials designed to help citizens improve their understanding of the environment. The primary role of state government in this domain, is to help Floridians help themselves.

What is the connection between environmental citizenship and ecosystem management?

The concept of environmental citizenship is closely related to that of an ecosystem. A system consists of a variety of different elements that function as a unit; each affects, and is affected by, all of the other elements. In a system, you cannot modify one element without affecting the others.

FIGURE 2

FLORIDA: POPULATION DENSITY PER SQUARE MILE

Persons Per Square Mile

250
200
150
100
50
0

1830 1840 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990

The naturalist, John Muir, once said that *When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world.* This is another way of saying what the science of ecology teaches us: That, in the simplest of terms, *everything is connected to everything else.* For example, fertilizers washing off the greens of a golf course nestled beside the headwaters of a stream miles from the coast may contribute to algae blooms in the estuary which finally receives the stormwater.

This way of looking at things runs counter to our every-day perception of reality. Normally, we see the world as composed of many different and distinct things: rocks, trees, water, buildings, people. We deal with these without seeing what connects them. Yet they are all parts of larger systems that relate them to each other, and without which they would not exist. One of these systems (the largest and most complex of them, in fact), is the ecological system in which we live--the biosphere.

There is even more to this idea of connectedness. *Our global ecosystem includes an almost infinite number of subsystems--natural, economic, political, social, cultural, and spiritual--and all of them are interconnected too.*

FIGURE 3

Change in Florida's Major Land Cover Categories

Millions of Acres

	1936	1949	1959	1970	1980	1987
Barren	0.037	0.072	0.089	0.108	0.223	0.150
Urban	0.717	0.997	1.688	2.755	3.384	4.507
Wetland	11.302	9.986	11.017	8.489	8.052	8.092
Forest	18.755	19.112	15.946	13.101	12.175	11.603
Agriculture	3.686	3.421	3.524	3.694	3.797	3.959
Rangeland	0.150	1.060	2.384	6.502	7.015	6.345
Water	2.831	2.831	2.831	2.831	2.831	2.831

We tend to view the world as composed of distinct things rather than as a whole, and each of our individual beliefs and actions as independent of all others. We also tend to think of ourselves-of humanity-as being apart from nature.

We are not.

Despite the technological and economic changes of the past 200 years, we are an intrinsic part of natural ecological systems of great complexity. We are but one part of a broader community of life. Environmental citizenship requires that we understand this fact of life.

People cannot feel an ethical or moral obligation for something to which they have no connection. If we do not see how we as individuals interact with and affect the ecological communities we belong to, we will feel no sense of obligation or responsibility toward them. Without some degree of ecological consciousness, we are unlikely to engage in responsible environmental action.

Environmental citizenship is rooted in an ecosystem perspective. As Aldo Leopold said, years ago, in *A Sand County Almanac: When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.*

In turn, environmental citizenship reinforces the ecosystem approach. The ethical message of environmental citizenship is simply that we all have a responsibility to care for the environment because we are a part and a member of it. Acknowledging the responsibility that flows from this membership reinforces our awareness of interconnectedness, which is the key to the ecosystem concept.

SUSTAINABILITY

Over the last 30 years, we have begun to understand how the health of the planet and the welfare of our species depend upon each other. As a result, we are searching for a new balance between the ecological health of the planet and the development of human society in the broadest sense. The search is being conducted under a concept we call *sustainability*.

What *is* sustainability?

The term was first applied to the use of renewable resources. (Trees, fish, or water are examples of renewable resources.) Literally, an activity is sustainable if it can last indefinitely. If a renewable resource is harvested no faster than it can replenish itself, the resource can, in theory, be harvested indefinitely. This is often referred to as *sustainable use*. Any faster rate of harvest is unsustainable. The resource will eventually be depleted. In many areas of Florida--particularly along the coastline--we are mining water, using it in a manner that cannot be sustained for long.

In the 1970s and 1980s we started to realize how tangled and twisted together the environment and the economy really are. Increasingly, economic prosperity and ecological health were seen to depend upon one another, and not be in conflict. The notion of sustainability now began to cover economic activities in general and human development as a whole.

A new concept is rising above the old division between supporters of economic growth and those of environmental protection. *Sustainable development* offers us the prospect of a new balance between the health of the planet and the present and future needs of humans.

What is *development*?

Development is one of the goals that societies everywhere strive for. Initially development was thought of in purely economic terms--increased production through industrialization. Today, development is being seen more and more as a process that should lead to an improvement in human wellbeing. Economic activity and standards of living are important, but today people are looking at development as more than just growth in Gross National Product. Education, health, cultural integrity, a safe environment, and various other goals also are important.

What is *sustainable* development?

Development is sustainable if it can endure. Development that makes people better off today by impoverishing some future generation is *unsustainable*. In 1987, the World Commission on Environment and Development defined sustainable development as *development that meets*

FIGURE 4

GROSS CHANGE IN FOREST AND WETLAND HABITAT
FLORIDA: 1936-1987

Million Acres

Survey Years

🌲 Forests 🌿 Wetlands

the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The basic idea is that if development comes at the expense of the quality of the air and water, or at the expense of depleted renewable resources like fish stocks or forests, it is hurting the welfare of future generations.

Of course, not everyone totally agrees on the definitions of sustainable development and sustainability. Although the general objective of sustainable development is widely accepted-to achieve a new balance between the health of the planet and the meeting of human needs-we often disagree over exactly what this new balance should be.

How much growth do we need, for example, and where? Is traditional economic growth necessary, or are there other ways to meet human needs? Is it only the needs of humans that count? And, the practical implications of sustainability in particular areas still must be worked out. What does sustainability mean for fisheries in Florida, for example? Or for drinking water for our cities?

These sorts of questions raise ethical, economic, and scientific issues that cannot be dealt with by simple, general formulas. Similar questions apply in all areas of the globe, and for all aspects of human activity. Although the broad outline of the *goal* of sustainability is clear, there is, as yet, no consensus on many of the details.

Sustainability, in this sense, is less an answer to a question than the question itself: how are we to balance the Earth's ecology and human development? All of the world's environmental citizens will have to decide. What we are looking for, ultimately, is a *sustainable society*. We seek a society which ensures the health and vitality of human culture, economy, *and* of nature's capital resources--her fish, trees, oil, minerals, and including her ability to act as a sink for our wastes.

Is sustainability just about the environment and the economy?

No.

Although the term has its origins in a new awareness of how the environment and the economy depend upon one another, the search for sustainability goes beyond either. Sustainability is an attempt to strike a balance between the ecological health of the planet and human development in the broadest sense: physical, cultural, and spiritual.
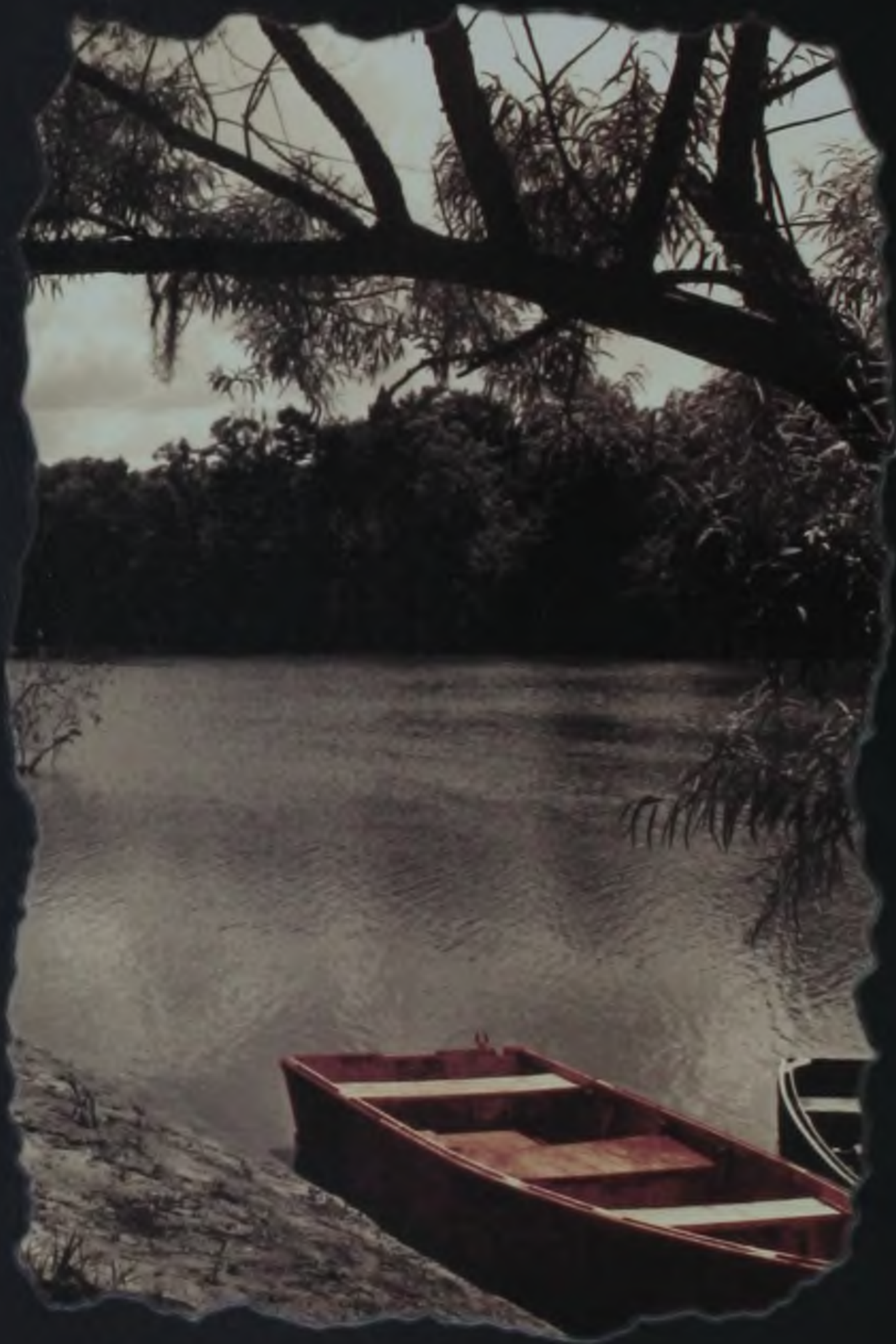
What are some basic principles of sustainability?

Nature can be a source of knowledge, a model, and a mentor. One of the key lessons of the science of ecology is that the elements of our world are *interdependent*. This means that every subsystem of our human ecosystems--economic, political, social, cultural, spiritual, physical and biological-- is connected in some way to each other.

FIGURE 5

*T*OTAL *P*OUNDS OF *T*OXIC *C*HEMICALS *A*NNUALLY *R*ELEASED TO THE *L*AND AND *W*ATER IN *F*LORIDA

Pounds (Millions)

Year	Pounds
1987	210.08
1988	77.59
1989	104.45
1990	61.54
1991	49.61
1992	48.92

But remember, the idea of interdependence runs against our tendency to see reality in pieces. Until recently, economic decisions and environmental decisions were made apart from one another, even though economic and ecological systems are inseparable and interdependent. We are beginning to understand that, rather than *reacting* to the ecological results of our economic decisions, we must bring the environment into our planning from the start. The search for sustainability must account for all relevant factors: economic, ecological, social, and cultural.

And, we must realize that continuous growth is not sustainable. The earth is finite. In the future, sufficiency must replace economic efficiency. In the words of Stephen Viederman, "necessity must be our guide, not 'excessity.'"

Basic to any debate on sustainability is the principle that everyone who may be affected by a decision should have a say. The debate must be global in scope and all communities, all stakeholders, must be represented. Community is essential. Individual liberty and community must be as balanced as rights and responsibilities. Cooperation rather than competition is key to sustainability. Diversity–biological *and* cultural–must be encouraged.

The Governor's Commission on a Sustainable South Florida, which includes a broad array of the most important players in the South Florida economy and ecosystem, is an example of encouraging broad participation in decision making. And, the involvement by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection of any stakeholder who wished to participate in the development of its Ecosystem Management programs also is a beginning. The Department's Ecosystem Management committees reached across institutional lines, and brought together a diverse group of people and philosophies from all parts of society–government, industry, environmental groups, universities, and others–in an attempt to define a new consensus on environmental issues within the Department.

So . . . what is the connection between environmental citizenship and the idea of a sustainable future?

Our task is to strike a new balance between the ecological health of our communities, of Florida, the planet, and the economic and social well-being of all the members of our species. It's a job that may never be finished and may not be done the same way everywhere. Each community, each nation, and each generation will have to address the question of what sustainability means to them, and how it will be achieved in their own particular circumstances and time. We cannot make these decisions in a vacuum. We must seek out and understand the needs of others.

The causes of the planet's environmental degradation are deeply rooted in society's values and its ethical foundation. Solutions will emerge only as the result of commitment--a deep-seated will to get more onto a sustainable course--and *not* just from better technology. The commitment

FIGURE 6

LEAD EMISSIONS FROM MOBILE SOURCES IN FLORIDA
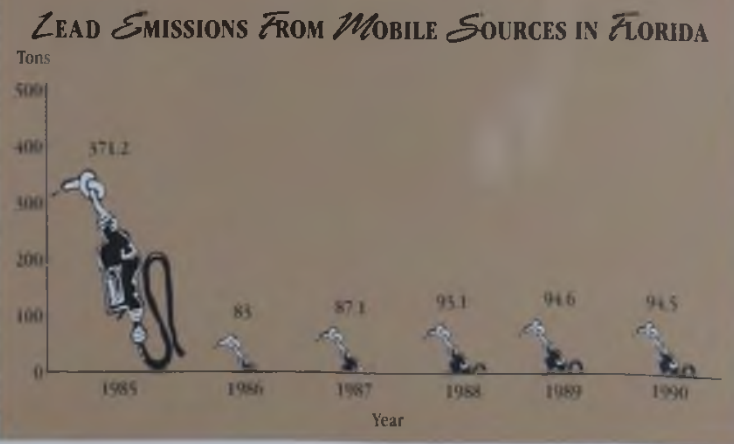
will require change, including: self-imposed limits on human population, limits on consumption of resources, a complete rethinking of our current views on stewardship of the land and use of energy, and new importance for the concept of biological integrity.

The critical challenge is not in what we know, but in what we *do*. To rise to the challenge of defining and achieving sustainability, the environmental citizens of the world must take part in the decision making that affects their futures. Merely having an informed citizenry is not enough; we need a global community of environmental citizens who accept responsibility for the biosphere as a whole.

How You CAN BECOME A BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZEN

Environmental citizenship means becoming informed and getting involved, and acting responsibly. It means acquiring a better understanding of the environment and environmental issues. It also means using this knowledge and acting responsibly. Many of us know we

FIGURE 7

FLORIDA: EXCEEDANCES OF THE AMBIENT STANDARD FOR OZONE

should exercise, diet, or stop smoking-but don't do it. As noted earlier, the challenge is not in what we know but in what we *do*. This section provides a few suggestions on how you can make a start.

Where is a good place to begin?

There are four areas where it is relatively easy to begin your journey to environmental citizenship:
- protecting the atmosphere
- conserving and protecting our drinking water supplies
- protecting our natural and historical heritage
- reducing waste.

Why is it important to protect the atmosphere?

The atmosphere keeps the earth warm by trapping the sun's heat near the Earth's surface. Without this natural *greenhouse effect*, the Earth's average surface temperature would be many degrees below freezing. However, activities such as burning fossil fuels and clearing forests threaten to magnify this natural process. The result would be global warming, which could have serious ecological and economic effects in all regions of the country, but especially in low-lying, coastal Florida. Clean air also is important to our own health, and to the health of plants and animals and the environment that sustains us.

What can one person do to protect the atmosphere?

Wise use of energy will help prevent global warming, as well as reduce air pollution such as photochemical smog and acid rain. Here is where you can begin:

- Ask your electric utility company for advice about energy efficiency. Many will perform energy audits at your home that will tell you where
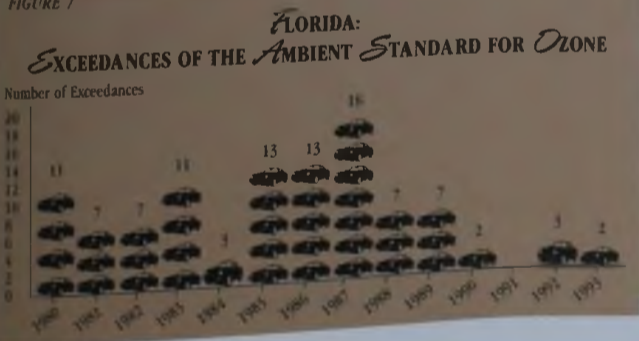
you can save energy, and money.

- Consider using compact fluorescent bulbs instead of high wattage incandescent bulbs.
- Make sure your home, water heater, and hot water pipes are properly insulated.
- Use a programmable thermostat, which can automatically adjust the heat or air conditioning at night and when you are away.
- When replacing appliances, look for energy efficient models.
- Consider mileage as a factor when buying a new car.
- Check your car's tire pressure regularly. Low tires reduce fuel efficiency.
- Don't use the car if you don't have to. Walk, bicycle, or use public transit. If there *is* no alternative transport, lobby your local government to provide some. *Then use it.* Become involved in local transportation planning.

Why is conserving and protecting our drinking water important?

Floridians use a lot of water. The average Florida family of four uses more than 171 gallons of water per day–for a total of 1.6 *billion* gallons every day. Total fresh water use in Florida amounts to 7.5 billion gallons–daily. Clean water is not free. In Florida more than 90% of our drinking water comes from the ground–from ground water. Florida's ground water is stored in permeable limestone formations called *aquifers*. Aquifers are extremely vulnerable to pollution–from leaking underground storage tanks, septic tanks, from salt water intrusion caused by overpumping, and from many other causes.

What can one do to protect our water supply?

▼ First, conserve water:
- Switch to low-flow shower heads and faucets.
- When you wash or shave, use a partially filled sink instead of

letting the water run.
- Install a toilet dam in your toilet tank.
- When replacing your toilet, consider installing the low-flush, water-saving kind.
- Do not overwater lawns and plants. Use mulches to reduce weeds and save water.

▼ Then, protect water quality.
- If you are on septic tanks, and if a city, county or private sewer system is available, hook up to it! Use septic tanks only where there is no alternative.
- Avoid pesticides wherever possible, and do not over-apply fertilizers. Your local Cooperative Extension Service office can tell you about alternatives.
- Do not dispose of chemicals on the ground, down drains, in storm sewers, or by burying or burning them. They can poison the soil

FIGURE 8

TONS OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE PROCESSED IN RECYCLING, LANDFILL AND WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITIES IN FLORIDA

Million Tons

1st ⬜ Recycling   2nd 🗑 Waste-to-Energy   3rd 🗑 Landfills

State Fiscal Year
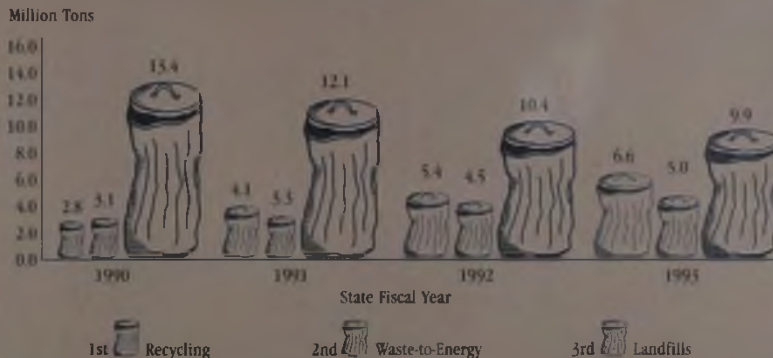
and water supply. Many communities offer local *Amnesty Days* when dangerous chemicals may be properly disposed of.

Why is protecting our natural and historical heritage important?

Florida is home to a great diversity of spaces and species. More than 75 species of Florida mammals, 283 species of birds, and 3,500 species of vascular plants live in Florida. And, more than 400 kinds of plants and animals in Florida are at risk of vanishing forever. We are not even sure how many state and national historic sites may be threatened. New Early American sites are constantly being discovered, for instance.

What can one do to protect our natural and historical heritage?

- Visit parks, historic sites, museums, or interpretation centers. Encourage schools to take field trips to parks and historic sites.
- Become involved in preserving your community's heritage through your local historical society or other cultural institution.
- Native shrubs, ground covers and trees absorb more rain, require less maintenance, and provide shade and wildlife benefits. They require fewer chemicals, less water, and less work on your part. On top of that, they'll grow better.
- Help wildlife in your community by planting trees, helping to clean up a stream, or by joining an environmental group.
- Reduce the size of, or eliminate, your lawn. Plant native wild flowers and shrubs in your yard to attract birds and butter-flies. Put up a bird feeder and birdbath.
- Ask your regional water management district about *Xeriscaping*. County agents can suggest appropriate native plants. So can many nurseries.

- Swales and berms can be used to retain and hold stormwater and for landscaping with native plants.
- If you live on the water, control upland runoff--which can carry nutrients from fertilizers or poisons from pesticides into the water--by planting and maintaining a buffer of native vegetation.
- If rain is expected, don't fertilize--so it won't run off.
- Protect the natural slope of the shoreline; don't dig a channel that directs waste into the lake, canal or bay.
- Avoid building sea walls, groins, or jetties.

Why is reducing waste important?

Florida produces more than 23 million tons of municipal solid waste annually, or a little more than two thirds of the amount collected in *all* of Canada. It amounts to almost 9.5 pounds per Floridian per day.

FIGURE 9

MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE COMPOSITION COMPARISON: U.S. AND FLORIDA

Florida MSW Composition[1]
23.6 Million Tons

U.S. MSW Composition[2]
206.9 Million Tons
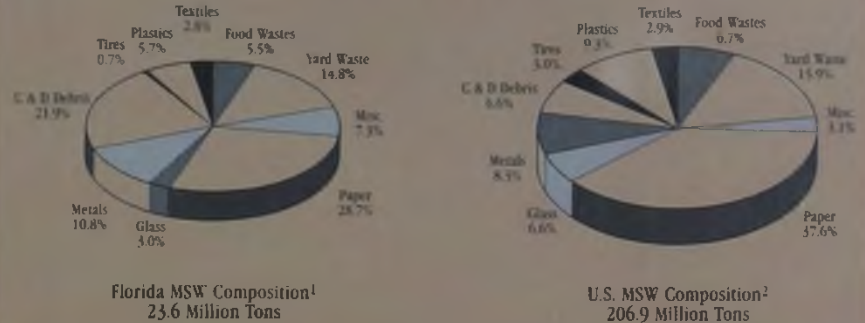
What can one do to reduce waste?

- Don't buy more than you really need.
- Avoid disposable or over-packaged products.
- Look for items made out of recycled materials, and for things that you can reuse.
- Help close the loop by buying recycled products. Think twice before throwing something away. Can it be used again? Can it be used by others? Can it be donated to a community group such as the Salvation Army, or Goodwill?
- Start a compost pile to turn food and yard waste into valuable soil.
- Participate in your community recycling program.

Some other things you can do . . .

- Join an environmental group.
- Keep up with local and state environmental lawmaking.
- Let your lawmakers know that the environment is important to all of us.
- Make sure your school has an environmental education program.
- Encourage your local newspaper and television stations to cover environmental stories.
- Read and share information with a friend.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Environmental Education, (904) 488-9334, can give you more information on "How You Can Help." Also, call the Ecosystem Management and Environmental Education BBS. The number is 1-800-217-2934. Set your computer's communications program at 8-N-1 and terminal emulation at ANSI. Modem speeds of up to 14.4 bps are accepted.

*M*ORE READING ON ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENSHIP

- *Protecting Paradise* - Peggy Cavanaugh and Margaret Spontak, 1992. Phoenix Publishing.
- *Florida in the 21st Century: The Challenge of Population Growth* - Leon F. Bouvier and Bob Weller, 1992. Center for Immigration Studies.
- *Ecosystems of Florida* - Ronald L. Myers and John L. Ewel, eds., 1990. University of Central Florida Press.
- *The Ecology of Commerce: A Declaration of Sustainability* - Paul Hawken, 1993. Harper Business.
- *Changing Course: A Global Business Perspective on Development and the Environment* - Stephan Schmidheiny, with the Business Council for Sustainable development, 1992. MIT Press.
- *State of the World: A Worldwatch Institute Report on Progress Toward a Sustainable Society* - Lester Brown, et. al., 1994. W.W.Norton & Co.
- *A Sand County Almanac* - Aldo Leopold, 1989 ed. Oxford University Press.
- *Desert Solitaire: A Season in the Wilderness* - Edward Abby, 1981. Peregrine Smith.

FIGURE 10

*H*AZARDOUS *W*ASTE *G*ENERATED IN *F*LORIDA
1982 - 1991

$\mathcal{A}$CKNOWLEDGMENTS

$\mathcal{F}$IGURES

The figures interspersed throughout *Toward Environmental Citizenship*
may be used as indicators of environmental quality in Florida. These –
ranging from population, through land use and natural resources, to
statistics on pollutants released into Florida's air and water or onto the
land – represent some of the issues Floridians must be aware of if they
are to become *environmental citizens*.

[*] Source: Strategic Assessment of Florida's Environment, Department of
Environmental Protection 1994

[**] Solid Waste Management in Florida, Department of Environmental
Protection, Jan. 1995

For information about Florida's ecosystem management program, please
call the Department's Office of Ecosystem Management, (904) 488-7454,
its Office of Environmental Education, (904) 488-9334, or use your com-
puter and modem to call the *Ecosystem Management and Environmental
Education Bulletin Board* 1-800-217-2934

ARE YOU AN ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZEN?

1. One of the following statements is not true:

a. An Environmental citizen would learn all he or she could about an issue before making a decision.
b. An Environmental Citizen believes in business as usual.
c. Environmental Citizens will act responsibly toward the world around them.
d. Environmental Citizens join into the environmental life of their community.

2. True or false:

a. Humans are a part of nature.
b. The Florida Everglades is an ecosystem.
c. There is more to citizenship than voting.
d. To be effective, a citizen should become informed on every issue.
e. You and I have no moral connection to the natural world.
f. Our actions affect the natural world.

3. Fill in the blank:

a. _____ is connected to everything else.
b. Development is _____ if it can endure.
c. _____ can be an Environmental Citizen.
d. Environmental Citizenship means becoming _____, and getting involved, and acting _____
e. Clean air is important to our _____.
f. _____ may be polluted by leaking underground storage tanks, septic tanks, and spills.
g. More than 400 kinds of plants and animals in Florida are threatened or _____.

• ~~CENTER~~ •

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