

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™



Community Association Outreach Program

If you manage the landscape for your community association or condominium and are interested in learning how to have an attractive landscape that conserves water and protects natural resources, free professional assistance is available to you. And you may end up saving money on utility bills like some other area communities!

The Hillsborough County and Polk County Extension offices offer a service within their Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) Program through funding from the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

Maria Carver, coordinator for the FFL community association outreach program, offers free on-site landscape evaluations to association officers or boards of directors. The evaluation includes recommendations for any problem areas.

FFL is a program of the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. Landscape evaluations and recommendations are based upon scientific research. Following these recommended best management practices and FFL principles will result in a landscape that is healthy while having a minimal impact on the environment.

Maria is available to present the site report at a board of directors' meeting or at an association membership meeting.

Landscape elements that will be evaluated include:

- ◆ Overall design, and selection and placement of plants
- ◆ Pruning practices
- ◆ Problem plants, such as diseased trees and invasive, nonnative plants
- ◆ Pest and disease issues; pesticide use on the property
- ◆ Nutritional deficiencies and the application of fertilizers
- ◆ Mulch — type, quantity and application
- ◆ Irrigation (in-ground sprinkler) system operation and time clock settings



Maria Carver is available to present educational programs. If your association would like to learn more about this program, please call (813) 744-5519, ext. 142, for Hillsborough County, and (863) 519-8677, ext. 141, for Polk County, or email to carverms@hillsboroughcounty.org.



Southwest Florida
Water Management District

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Alafia River, Hillsborough River
and Peace River basin boards



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