

2025 Sumter County Water School for Leader Agenda

Date: May 8 and May 9, 2025, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Location: Wildwood Community Center

Day 1, Thursday, May 8, 2025	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration and Refreshments
09:00 – 09:15	Opening Remarks Michael Dukes, PhD, PE, Associate Dean and Professor, UF/IFAS
09:15 – 09:45	Florida's Water Resources: Challenges and Opportunities Yilin Zhuang, PhD, Water Resources Regional Specialized Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Central District
09:45 – 10:15	Florida Friendly Landscaping and Impact on Water Conservation Jamielyn Daugherty-Hagyari, Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ and Urban Forestry Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County
10:15 – 10:45	Water Restrictions and Homeowners' Understanding Laura Warner, PhD, Professor, UF/IFAS Department of Agricultural Education and Communication
10:45 – 11:00	Refreshments and Networking
11:00 – 11:30	Turf Age and Fertilizer Needs AJ Lindsey, PhD, Assistant Professor, UF/IFAS Department of Environmental Horticulture
11:30 – 12:00	Homeowners' Behaviors and Knowledge of Fertilizer Use and Ordinance Yilin Zhuang, PhD, Water Resources Regional Specialized Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Central District
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:00	Green Stormwater Infrastructure and Funding Opportunities Tom Wichman, Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program Assistant Director, UF/IFAS Center for Land Use Efficiency

14:00 – 14:30	Homeowners' Willingness to Pay for Enhanced Green Stormwater Infrastructure Samiul Haque, PhD, Postdoctoral Researcher, UF/IFAS Department of Food and Resource Economics
14:30 – 15:00	Florida Water StarSM Robin Grantham, Lead Communications Coordinator, Southwest Florida Water Management District
15:00 – 15:30	Refreshments and Networking
15:30 – 16:00	Discussions
16:00 – 16:30	Day 2 Overview and Evaluation
16:30	Adjournment
Day 2, Friday, May 9, 2025	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration And Refreshments
09:00 – 09:30	Water Use and Management in The Villages Vikus Water
09:30 – 12:00	Field Trip Led by Vikus Water
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:00	An Overview of Florida Water Regulations Weizhe Weng, PhD, Assistant Professor, UF/IFAS Department of Food and Resource Economics
14:00 – 16:00	Group Discussions
16:00 – 16:30	Graduation And Evaluation
16:30	Adjournment