RESOLUTION 2014-132

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, SETTING FORTH GOALS TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY IN VOLUSIA COUNTY AND REQUESTING THE MUNICIPALITIES PASS A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ACTION PLAN; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the quality of our rivers, estuaries, streams, lakes and the offshore waters of the Atlantic Ocean is critical to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Volusia County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Volusia has invested in a stormwater management program to reduce non-point source pollution, a surface water quality monitoring program to track and respond to changes in nutrient and other pollution levels, and has eliminated surface water discharge of treated wastewater; and

WHEREAS, the cities within the county also recognize the importance of the water quality of the rivers, estuaries, streams, lakes and the offshore waters of the Atlantic Ocean is critical to the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the majority of municipalities within the county have made long-term investments in stormwater and wastewater management programs and infrastructure to reduce nutrients and other pollution; and

WHEREAS, water quality is a multi-jurisdictional issue of regional significance; and

WHEREAS, it will require the cooperation of the county, municipalities, and state and federal agencies to realize measurable and sustainable improvements in water quality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN OPEN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED IN THE THOMAS C. KELLY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, DELAND, FLORIDA THIS 18TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2014, AS FOLLOWS:

Section I. The county council resolves to work together in good faith with all local, regional, state, and federal governments, educational institutions, and non-profit agencies to improve the water quality in Volusia County for all citizens to enjoy. The council further establishes the following goals and associated actions to improve water quality in Volusia County:

a. Promote clean water initiatives within all priority surface waters in the county, including the Tomoka River, Halifax River, Spruce Creek, Indian River/Mosquito Lagoons, St. Johns River, Blue Spring, and Gemini Springs.
b. Eliminate the discharge of all treated wastewater to surface water bodies.
c. Identify water quality capital projects and commit funding.
d. Develop and implement Reasonable Assurance Plans for priority surface waters that have not been declared impaired.
e. Aggressively promote springs water quality restoration.
f. Adopt policies to support and implement the elimination of septic systems within priority watersheds.
g. Improve stormwater conveyance and treatment systems to reduce nutrient pollution.

Section II. The county council requests each municipality pass a resolution stating its commitment to support these actions and to work cooperatively with the county to improve water quality in Volusia County by:

a. Actively lobby at the state and federal levels for funding for the above actions.
b. Partnering on agency or other grant and funding opportunities.
c. Eliminating the discharge of all treated wastewater to surface water bodies countywide.
d. Identifying water quality capital projects and committing funding/matching funds.
e. Developing and implementing Reasonable Assurance Plans for priority surface waters that have not been declared impaired.
f. Aggressively promoting springs water quality restoration.
g. Adopting policies to support and implement the elimination of septic systems within priority watersheds.
h. Improving stormwater conveyance and treatment systems to reduce nutrient pollution.
i. Adopting and implementing a strict fertilizer ordinance, which includes a seasonal ban on application of nitrogen and phosphorus.
j. Fully supporting and participating in meaningful education and outreach programs to inform citizens about water quality.
k. Engaging area colleges, universities, and non-profit organizations in advancing the state of our knowledge through research and analysis.

Section III. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

DONE AND ORDERED IN OPEN MEETING.

COUNTY COUNCIL
VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By Jason P. Davis, County Chair

James T. Demmeen, County Manager

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