

# FLORIDA-FRIENDLY™ LANDSCAPING PRINCIPLES

## Protect the Waterfront

Waterfront property, whether on a river, stream, pond, bay or beach, is very fragile and should be carefully protected to maintain freshwater and marine ecosystems.

## Attract Wildlife

Plants in your landscape that provide food, water and shelter will attract Florida's diverse wildlife.

## Reduce Stormwater Runoff

Water running off your landscape can carry pollutants such as soil, debris, fertilizer, gasoline and pesticides that can negatively impact water quality. Reduction of this runoff will help prevent pollution.

## Mulch

Maintaining a 2"-3" layer of mulch will help retain soil moisture, prevent erosion and suppress weeds.

## Recycle

Grass clippings, leaves and yard trimmings recycled on-site provide nutrients to the soil and reduce waste disposal when reused on the landscape.

## Manage Yard Pests Responsibly

Unwise use of pesticides can harm people, pets, beneficial organisms and the environment.

## Fertilize Appropriately

Less is often best. Overuse of fertilizers can be hazardous to your landscape and the environment.

## Right Plant, Right Place

Plants selected to suit a specific site will require minimal amounts of water, fertilizers and pesticides.

## Water Efficiently

Irrigate only when your lawn and landscape need water. Efficient watering is the key to a healthy Florida yard and conservation of limited resources.

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