

Conserve Fresh Water

In order to sustain our water supplies for our current and future needs, and to reduce our footprint on our ecosystem there are several things that we can do to protect one of our most important natural resources by making small changes in our everyday lives.



*Rain barrel at Anna Maria Elementary School

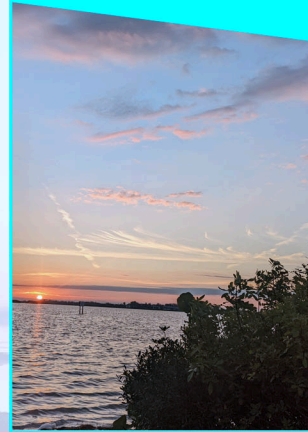
"There's plenty of water in the universe without life, but nowhere is there life without water."

-Sylvia A. Earle

"All the water that will ever be is, right now."

-National Geographic

Interesting Fact

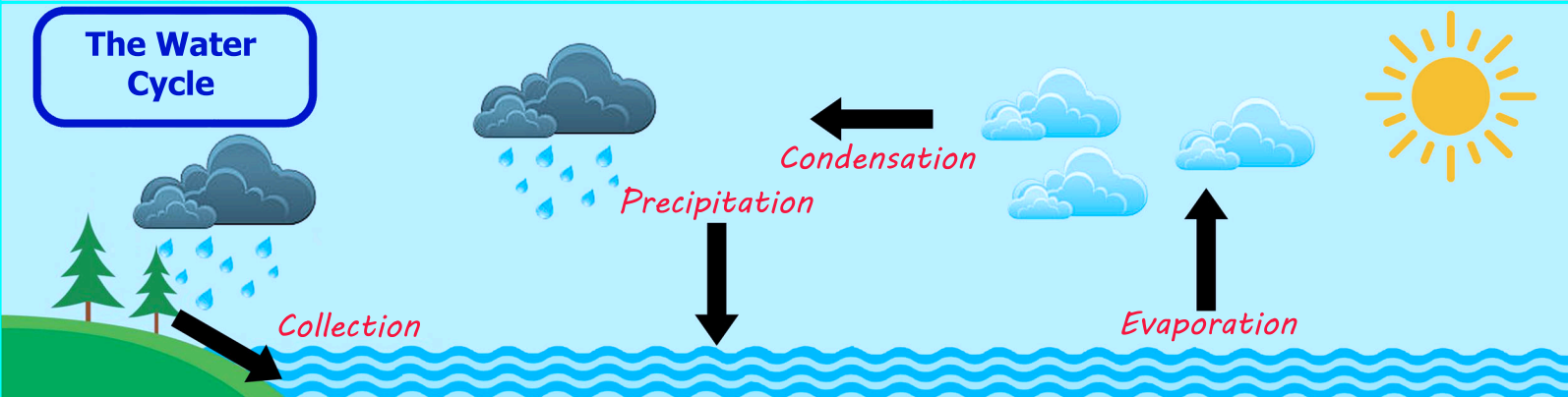


Only 3.5% of the Earth's water is fresh water.

How Can You Help?

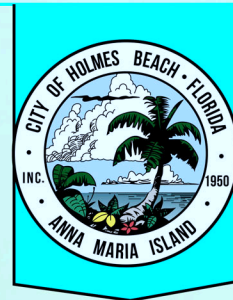
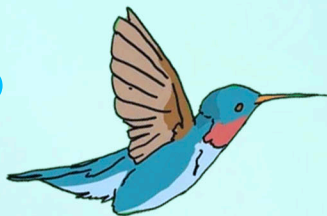
- ✓ Turn off the sink while brushing your teeth or shaving. Take shorter showers or try taking a bath instead.
- ✓ Only run your dishwasher or washing machine when they are full.
- ✓ Check faucets, toilets and pipes for leaks.
- ✓ Use a rain barrel to gather water for your garden.
- ✓ Follow local watering guidelines and choose drought tolerant landscaping.

The Water Cycle



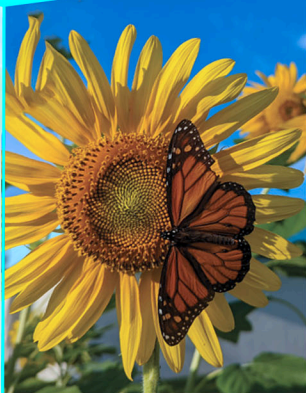
Action 2

Fertilizers



Interesting Fact

Butterflies like large flower clusters that form a landing pad; such as milkweed coneflower, and alyssum.



Reducing fertilizers can help protect our bays and ecosystem, allowing it to flourish, promoting a healthy life and environment.

There are many ways that we can do this to promote a healthier relationship with our waters.



*Public Works team poses in front of a home made compost barrel.

How Can You Help?

- ✓ Know your county's fertilizer ban. For Manatee County this is from June 1 to September 30.
- ✓ Use compost instead of fertilizer in your garden.
- ✓ Make sure to create a 10 ft space between your landscaping and the water.
- ✓ Buy organic or locally grown fruit or vegetables and compost when possible.

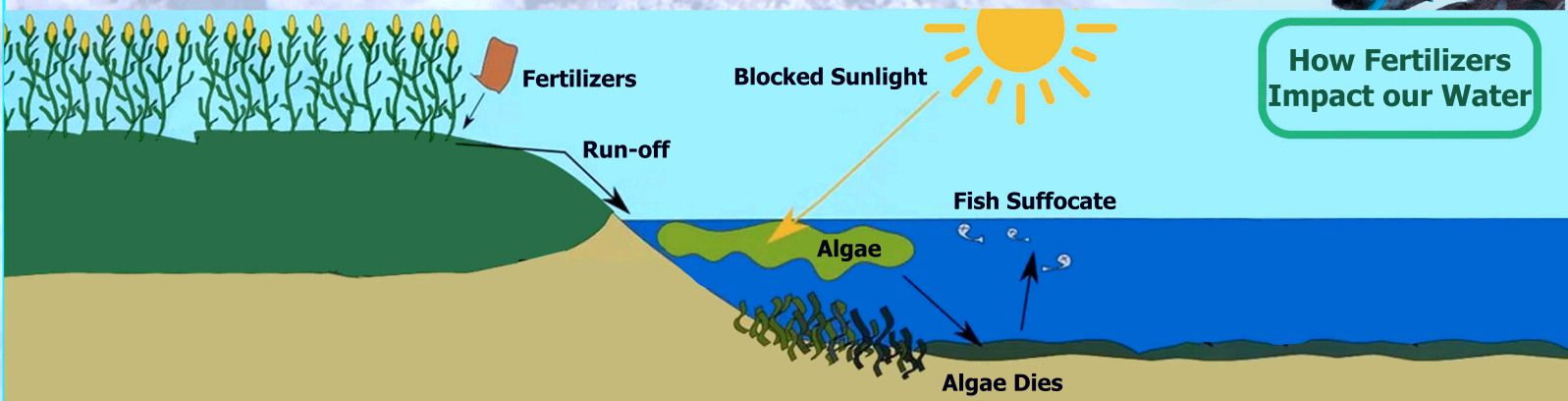
"Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children's lifetime. The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land."

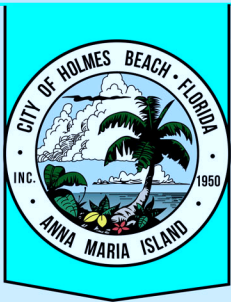
— Luna Leopold

*Drawings down by Anna Maria Elementary students



How Fertilizers Impact our Water





Florida Friendly Landscaping



Florida native and friendly landscaping can be used as an alternative means of redirecting stormwater and can help reduce the amount of water and runoff produced from watering your yard.



*An example of Florida Native Landscaping at Key Royale Park

"We forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one."
— Jacques Cousteau



*Drawings down by Anna Maria Elementary students

Interesting Fact

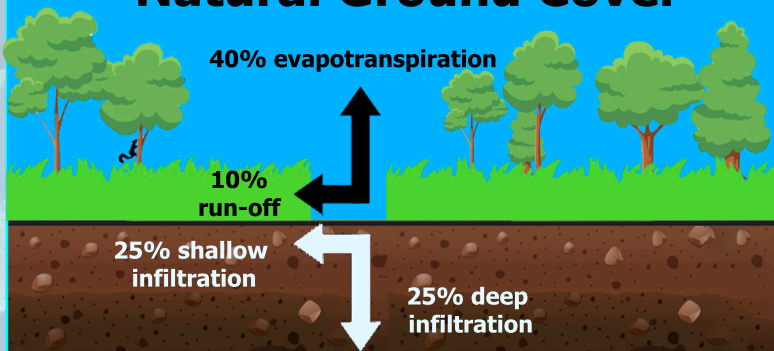


Native plants are comfortable with our climate and environment; they grow with almost no assistance and our wildlife loves them!

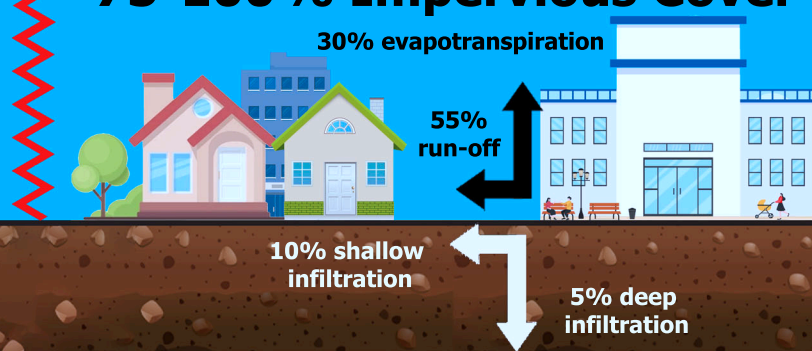
How Can You Help?

- ✓ Use Florida native plants and flowers in your landscaping.
- ✓ Replace your gravel and grass with native ground covers.
- ✓ Attract local wildlife, try adding a bird bath, bat house or butterfly garden.
- ✓ Keep your yard healthy- use leftovers from mowing and raking as a natural compost.
- ✓ Choose drought tolerant landscaping.

Natural Ground Cover

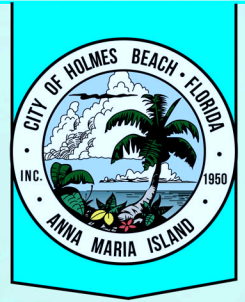


75-100% Impervious Cover



Action 4

Pesticides



Interesting Fact

Did you know you can make your own biopesticide with just baking soda and canola oil?!



Reducing pesticides helps keep our ecosystem healthy and thriving. Using other methods of pest management such as introducing beneficial insects, native plants, or physical methods such as hand weeding will reduce the use of chemicals in our yards and stormdrain systems.



*Public works team hand weeds at Prince Park

How Can You Help?

- ✓ Always read the label before every use and consider natural pesticides before manufactured if at all possible.
- ✓ Never dispose of any pesticides down storm drains or into sewer systems.
- ✓ Try using mulch on top of soil to prevent or slow the growth of weeds.
- ✓ Do not apply pesticides when it's raining or about to rain.
- ✓ Instead of using pesticides to kill weeds, try pulling them right away before they can spread.



*Drawings down by Anna Maria Elementary students

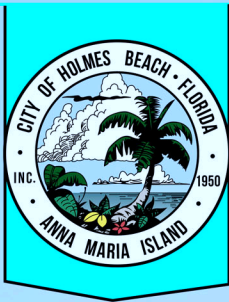
"Water is life,
and clean water
means health."

-Audrey Hepburn



The Pesticide Cycle





Action 5

Disposal of Hazardous Items

By correctly and safely disposing of any hazardous household items, we can prevent toxic chemicals or waste from getting into our water and ecosystem.



"Simple, easy actions can protect the health of our water resources and help save drinking water supplies. There is not one individual who cannot help to make a difference to the health of the environment."

— Ian Kiernan



Interesting Fact



Hazardous waste must be transported in special tankers that are made of steel or aluminum alloy. These trucks can hold up to 9,000 gallons of waste.

How Can You Help?



Identify and collect any household items that you are unsure of how to dispose of.



Contact your local waste management agency for the proper way to dispose of these items.



Pay attention to the labels on cleaning supplies. Try to buy non-toxic products when you can.



Avoid single use containers, buy items that will last.



Organize a community drop off with your friends and neighbors.

How to Recycle



**BUY ITEMS
THAT WILL LAST**



**AVOID
EXCESS PACKAGING**

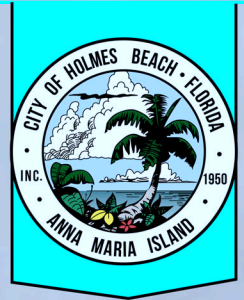


**REUSE
AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE**

Action 6

Reduce Stormwater Run-Off

Sponsored by:



Interesting Fact

The maximum speed of a falling raindrop can be between 18-22 mph.



Water follows the path of least resistance, often flowing into the bay. In residential yards, raing ardens and infiltration help to reduce the impact of stormwater runoff. These have a low impact on our environment and can increase our water quality.



How Can You Help?

✓ Build a rain garden- they can come in many shapes and sizes. Install swales or infiltration at the perimeter of your property. Choose plants that can tolerate a lot of water.

✓ Consider using pervious surfaces in your yard- mulch, grass, soil, sand and replacing your impervious driveway with infiltration systems and permeable pavers.

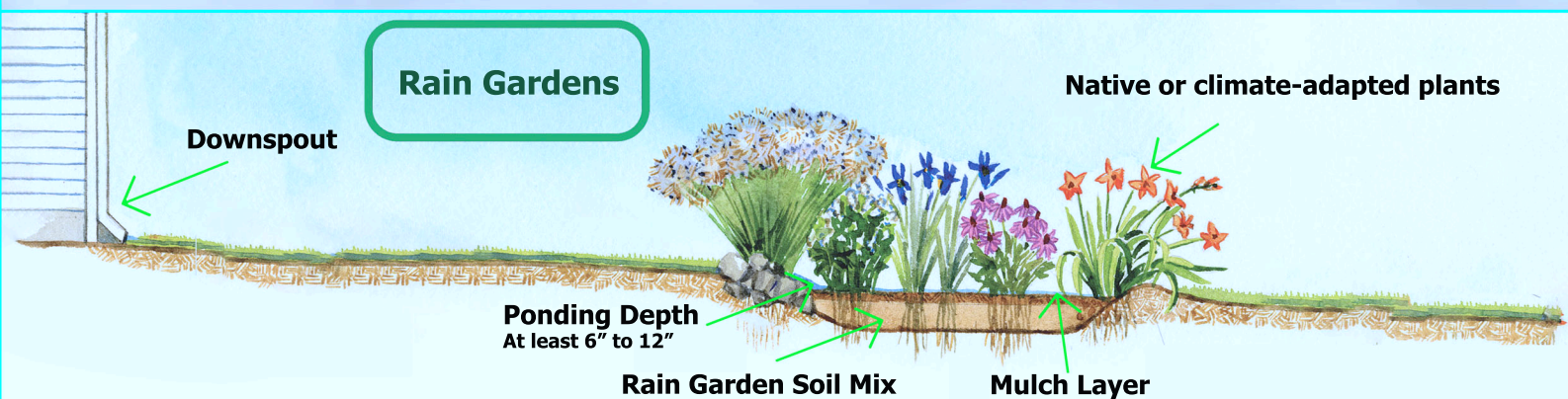
✓ Install gutters and use a rain barrel to gather stormwater.

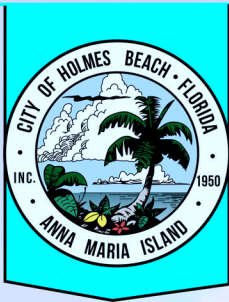
"Water links us to our neighbor in a way more profound and complex than any other."

– John Thorson

"No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, no culture comparable to that of the garden."

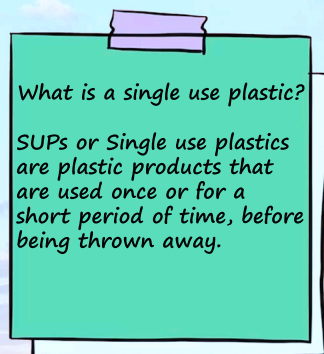
–Thomas Jefferson





Reduce Use of Single Use Plastics

We can protect our environment by reducing our use of single use plastics, which can end up in our water, effecting its quality with toxic chemicals at a detriment to human and animal health.



Interesting Fact



It takes **1,000 years** for a plastic bag to break-down in a landfill.

How Can You Help?

- ✓ Use re-usable shopping bags instead of plastic.
- ✓ Avoid plastic drinking straws.
- ✓ Bring your own re-usable cup to the coffee shop!
- ✓ Skip the water bottle, try a metal tumbler instead.
- ✓ Try glass or stainless-steel storage containers instead of sandwich bags or plastic wrap.

"It cannot be right to manufacture billions of objects that are used for a matter of minutes, and then are with us for centuries"
-Roz Savage

We don't need a handful of people doing zero waste perfectly. We need millions of people doing it imperfectly."
— Anne Marie Bonneau

Don't buy synthetic clothing

Use cloth diapers

Use less detergents

Do not use disposable cutlery

Avoid cosmetic products with micro plastics

Say no to disposable cups and straws

Choose reusable pads

Avoid bottled water

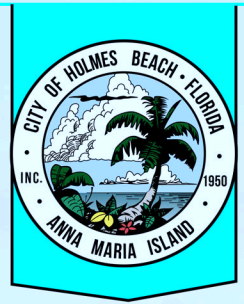
Choose reusable shopping bags



Action 8

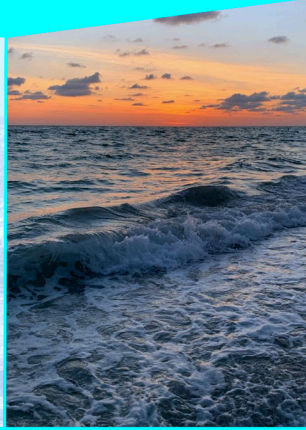
Be Informed & Report Problems

Sponsored by:



Interesting Fact

The purpose of the Clean Water Committee is to focus, prioritize, and coordinate community activity and philanthropy to accomplish water quality improvements in our region.



Let's build a community that works together to stay informed and educated on the importance of keeping our water clean, with a safe and helpful place to report any problems to.



*Code Compliance Supervisor, James Thomas, poses during a beach cleanup

How Can You Help?

- ✓ Familiarize yourself with the Holmes Beach Clean Water Committee.
- ✓ If you see something harmful or dangerous to our waterways, report the problem to Code Compliance.
- ✓ Utilize the City of Holmes Beach Website.
- ✓ Explore our local parks and waters to familiarize yourself with the community and our environmental initiatives.
- ✓ Follow the City of Holmes Beach's Facebook page

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever has"

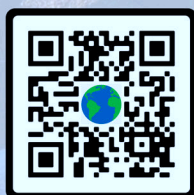
– Margaret Mead

"To do good, you actually have to do something."

– Yvon Chouinard



Clean Water Committee



SCAN ME



Follow us on
facebook

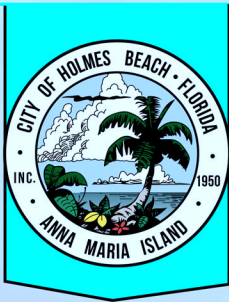
Key Contact Info:

Police Hotline: (941)778-COPS

Code Compliance: codeenforcement@holmesbeachfl.org

facebook.com/cityofholmesbeach

facebook.com/holmesbeachpd



Work, Live, & Play Responsibly in Our Waterways



Our waters are home to many animals and forms of plant life that are essential to our ecosystem. If we work together as a community, we can protect and conserve our water by making sure all of our activities we do in and around it are mindful and carried out with thoughtfulness.



"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."
— Dr. Seuss, *The Lorax*



FISH CARCASSES
KILL PELICANS

NEVER CUT THE LINE
IF YOU HOOK A PELICAN

DISPOSE OF FISHING LINES
RESPONSIBLY

Interesting Fact



25-30% of manatee deaths in Florida are due to watercrafts.

How Can You Help?

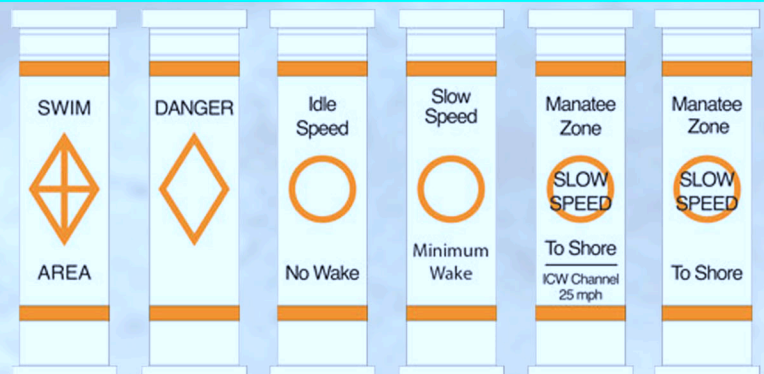
- ✓ Follow the posted speed zone signs.
- ✓ Avoid boating over seagrass beds and shallow water areas.
- ✓ Stay at least 50 feet away from manatees.
- ✓ Use only reef safe sunscreen.
- ✓ Do not throw trash in the water.



Know your
speed zone markers

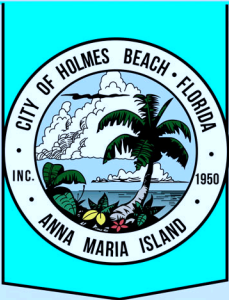


SCAN ME



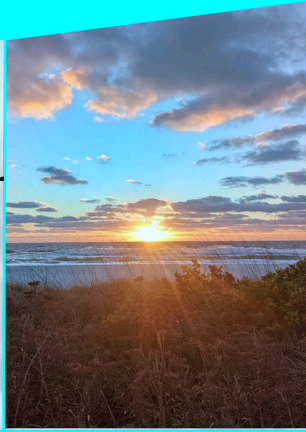
For a video on how
to unhook a pelican scan
the QR code to the right.

Share These Tips & Challenge A Friend!



Interesting Fact

Together we all can reduce our impact on our waterways making it a healthier and more enjoyable place for everyone that enjoys our waters.



Use all the actions we've outlined, including (but not limited to) conserving fresh water, reducing the use of single use plastics, and eliminating pesticides to help maintain healthy and safe water around Anna Maria Island.



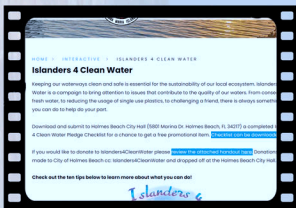
*Code Compliance team members pose after a community beach cleanup event

How Can You Help?

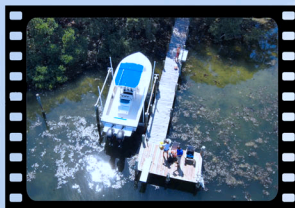
- ✓ Start a neighborhood rain garden.
- ✓ Organize a beach cleanup with friends and neighbors.
- ✓ Utilize social media to share how you are doing your part and to encourage others to participate.
- ✓ Attend a Clean Water Committee meeting & become informed.
- ✓ Challenge a friend to the "Take the Plunge Challenge"

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."
— Mother Theresa

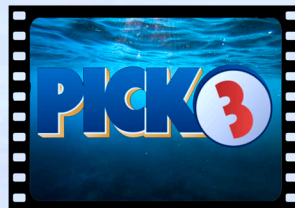
"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."
— Jane Goodall



Educate yourself on the 10 Actions of the Clean Water Plunge



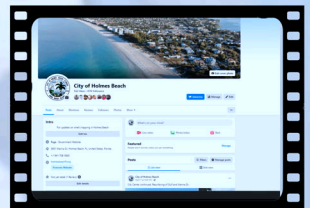
Pick a location and a friend to record you taking the plunge.



Choose three friends to challenge to take the plunge.



Record yourself taking the plunge.



Post plunge on social media and tag the City of Holmes Beach