



OFFICE OF RESILIENCE

2023 JUNE NEWSLETTER

COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS



OOB Joins Palm Tran for EV Bus Demos

As [Palm Tran](#) plans for a greener future, it is exploring electric buses as part of its goal to have a percentage of its fleet converted to electric. The Office of Resilience (OOR) has been excited to attend these electric bus demonstrations. Multiple vendors have presented to Palm Tran on the newest electric bus technology and potential future options. The transition to electric buses will help the County move towards a healthier and cleaner future and expand Palm Tran's services to the community.

PBC PACE Ordinance Updated With Increased Consumer Protection

On May 15, 2023, new amendments to the [Palm Beach County Property Assessed Clean Energy \(PACE\)](#) Ordinance went into effect, which the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved on November 15, 2022. Revisions include additional consumer protections, residential and non-residential PACE program requirement distinctions, and an administrative fee to cover staff time. Additional consumer protections include an updated consumer disclosure notice; additional methods to cancel the financing agreement; a required phone

call to confirm terms with customers; proof of the customer's ability to pay; strengthened language about marketing and kick-back violations; and enforcement provisions for deceptive marketing practices and kickbacks. Click [HERE](#) to read the fully amended PBC PACE Ordinance.

SE FL Climate Compact Partners on \$1M EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant to Develop Comprehensive Regional Plan for GHG Emissions Reduction

The [Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact](#) (the Compact) recently submitted an application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to advance work under the [Climate Pollution Reduction Grants](#) (CPRG) program. Through the CPRG, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is eligible for \$1 million. This non-competitive planning grant will position the region's local and tribal governments to be competitive for the next phase of discretionary awards to implement mitigation projects and strategies.

The Compact's application and resulting climate mitigation plan will cover the four Compact counties of Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach. The four-year award will result in the development of a regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan with a regional greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory and emission projections, GHG reduction targets and strategies, a benefits analysis that focuses on low- and moderate-income communities, a federal funding plan, and a workforce planning analysis.

SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE

Explore Public Transit Options in PBC!

The Palm Beach [Transportation Planning Agency](#) is interested in your feedback on transit needs and wants in Palm Beach County. Fill out this [survey](#) by June 30!

Using public transportation is one of the most effective things you can do to reduce your carbon footprint! According to the Federal Transportation Authority, light rail systems produce 62% less GHG per passenger mile than an average single-occupancy vehicle, and bus transit produces 33% less. On top of that, it can also cut your transportation costs. Here are some resources in Palm Beach County to help get you started!



Palm Tran

Palm Tran is Palm Beach County's public transportation provider for fixed-route passenger bus service, paratransit service, and Go Glades service. Electronic payments are accepted through the [Paradise Pass App](#), with mobile payments, and credit cards. There are [discount options](#) available for eligible riders. Download the [Palm Tran App](#) to explore bus stop locations, route options, and [plan your next trip](#). Single bus rides cost \$2.00, with unlimited day and month passes available.



[Tri-Rail Train](#)

Tri-Rail is the local commuter train that runs along the coast from Mangonia Park in Palm Beach County to the Miami International Airport, with [18 stops](#) in total. It is one of only 28 commuter rail systems in the US. It runs [50 Weekday trains](#) and [30 Weekend/Holiday trains](#) with [fares](#) ranging from \$1.25 to \$17.50 for one-way tickets; daily and monthly passes are also available. Download the [Tri-Rail App](#) for train schedules, mobile passes, real-time tracking, arrival times, and more.



[Brightline Train](#)

Brightline is a high-speed rail service between Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach, along the Florida East Coast railway. It recently opened new stations in Boca Raton and Aventura, with plans to expand service to Orlando later this year. [Fares](#) start at \$10 and monthly passes are available. Download the [Brightline App](#) to book, change, or cancel tickets.



[Amtrak Train](#)

Amtrak is national-wide rail system that connects 46 US States, D.C., and three Canadian provinces. It has [19 stations in Florida](#), with two Palm Beach County stations located in West Palm Beach and Delray Beach. Amtrak offers both seats and private rooms. Download the [Amtrak App](#) to purchase tickets and monthly passes, modify your plans, use your eTicket during travel, and more.

NEWS

[El Niño is Here - June 2023 Climate.gov Update](#)

The climate phenomenon 'El Niño' has developed and is expected to last through the winter. Read the NOAA [Climate.gov update](#) for details on what this means for upcoming weather and climate patterns.

[White House Announces \\$2.6 Billion Framework to Build Climate Resilience and Support Coastal Communities](#)

On June 6, the White House released plans for climate resilience and coastal communities with Inflation Reduction Act funds. To learn more about how these funds will support communities on the front line of climate change, read the full [NOAA announcement](#).

[State of Florida Passed Bill to Protect Water Resources and Support Environmental Conservation](#)

On May 31, 2023, Governor DeSantis signed HB 1379 to support water quality improvements and environmental conservation, with a special focus on the Indian River Lagoon and Everglades ecosystems. Read the full [press release](#) for more details.

[Florida Crystal Expands Renewable Energy Production](#)

The Florida Crystals Corp. expanded its renewable energy production by installing a 900-panel solar array and a Tesla Megapack battery to power its Palm Beach County rice mill. For more information, read [this article](#).

EVENTS

[Climate Resilient Affordable Housing Implementation Workshop](#)

Location: Zoom, Register [HERE](#).

Dates: June 28, 2023, 1:00 PM- 4:30 PM

Details: Hosted by the [SEFL Regional Climate Change Compact](#), Southeast Florida faces two considerable and interconnected challenges to the region's shared prosperity, resilience, safety, and economic growth—climate change and affordable housing. This workshop will explore the intersection of these dual crises and provide insights toward integrated, holistic strategies that address both challenges simultaneously and in ways that meet the needs of the most at-risk households. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

[Plastic-Free July](#)

Location: Everywhere

Date: July 2023

Details: Plastic Free July is an annual, global campaign of the Plastic Free Foundation. This initiative challenges participants to make small changes in their life that can help reduce the amount of plastic waste they are consuming. Click [HERE](#) for more details.

[Community Connection: Get Ready to Garden with Palm Beach County UF/IFAS Horticulture Extension Agents](#)

Location: Hagen Ranch Road Branch, 14350 Hagen Ranch Rd, Delray Beach, FL

Date: July 05, 2023, 2:30 PM

Details: Learn about pollinators and the plants they need to thrive with Extension Agents Kara Krueger and Emily Marois. Also, pot your own pollinator plant to take home. Ages 5 & up. (30 min.) Call (561) 894-7500 to preregister.

[Gardening for Wildlife: Master Gardener Series](#)

Location: West Boynton Branch Library - 9451 Jog Rd, Boynton Beach FL

Date: July 11, 2023 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM

Details: Master Gardener Emily Marois teaches you how to turn your backyard into an oasis for wildlife. (60 min.) Call (561) 734-5556 to preregister.

READING & LISTENING

PODCASTS



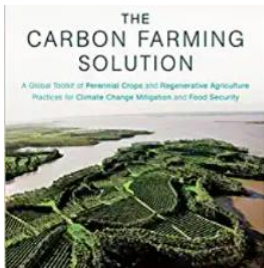
[Green](#) [Minds](#) [Podcast](#)
By: Southeast Sustainability Director's Network



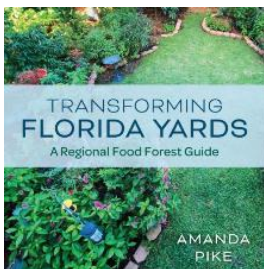
[Coping with Change as an Alpine Plant](#)

By: In Defense of Plants

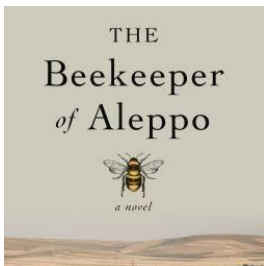
BOOKS



[Carbon](#) [Farming](#) [Solution](#)
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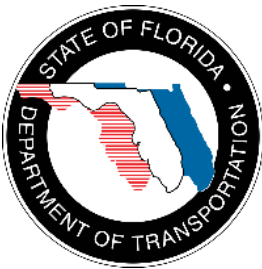


[The](#) [Beekeeper](#) [of](#) [Aleppo](#)
By: Christy Lefteri

REPORTS

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By: Florida Atlantic University Center for Environmental Studies



[Resilience](#) [Action](#) [Plan:](#) [FL](#) [State](#) [Highway](#) [System](#)

By: Florida Department of Transportation

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**DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS, SPEAKING EVENT REQUESTS, OR OTHER
FEEDBACK ?**

[Email us.](#)

