



# OFFICE OF RESILIENCE

2023 JULY NEWSLETTER

## COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS



## PBC OOR Hosts Municipal Flood Resilience Workshop

On June 27, 2023, the Palm Beach County Office of Resilience (OOR) and the American Flood Coalition partnered to host a Flood Resilience Workshop for PBC municipal staff. Florida's Chief Resilience, Officer Dr. Wes Brooks, and Krista Shipley from the FL Department of Environmental Protection spoke about the Resilient Florida Program, and grant opportunities to fund flood vulnerability assessments and adaptation implementation projects. Local environmental attorney and planner, Erin Deady, spoke about shoreline protection issues and policy options to unite local efforts. Representatives from 22 local PBC municipalities and other local stakeholders attended and discussed ways that we can collaborate to tackle PBC flooding issues together. PBC OOR plans to hold future workshops to collaborate with PBC municipalities on other local resilience issues. Click [HERE](#) to watch a recording of this workshop and email [ResilientPBC@pbcgov.org](mailto:ResilientPBC@pbcgov.org) to be included on the next invite.



## Resilient Affordable Housing Workshop with the SE FL Regional Climate Change Compact

The Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact) hosted a virtual workshop on July 28, 2023 discussing the need to address housing affordability and climate resiliency simultaneously for South Florida residents. This workshop explored the intersection of these dual crises and provided insights toward integrated, holistic strategies that meet the needs of the most at-risk households. Workshop speakers included representatives from the White House Council on Environmental Quality, the South Florida Community Land Trust, the Solar and Energy Loan Fund, The Florida Housing Coalition, Enterprise Community Partners, Sarasota County- University of Florida/ IFAS, Miami-Dade County, and Megan Houston from PBC OOR. Click [HERE](#) to watch a recording of the workshop.

## Extreme Heat Resources



South Florida has been experiencing weeks of unrelenting heat, with almost daily heat advisories in Palm Beach County this July. Heat Advisories occur when the [Heat Index](#) is at or above 108F for at least 2 hours and Excessive Heat Warnings occur when the Heat Index is at 113F or higher for at least 2 hours.

Florida leads the nation in heat-related illness with 6,800 heat-related hospitalizations in 2019, according to the CDC. The [Florida Department of Health](#) reports that PBC has one of the highest rates of heat-related deaths in Florida. In 2021, there were five heat-related deaths, 39 heat-related hospitalizations, and 242 heat-related emergency department visits during the summer months in PBC. These deaths and illnesses are largely avoidable when community members are provided with the proper information and mitigation measures.

The County encourages residents to practice heat safety during these hot and humid days. Reduce your risk for heat-related illnesses by:

- **Never leaving children, vulnerable adults, or pets in a parked car** – Temperatures in a parked car can rise quickly which can cause death for children, vulnerable adults, or pets. If you see a person or pet in a parked vehicle on a hot day, call 9-1-1 immediately;
- **Limiting time outside** – avoid being outside during the midday heat and spend more time inside when possible;
- **Utilizing public spaces** – take advantage of public spaces with air conditioning when possible. Use this time to read a book or surf the internet at one of the great library locations within the County ([PBC Library Map HERE](#)); visit a local park or neighborhood splash pad, a public or community pool, your local community center, or a neighborhood clubhouse. Even plan your shopping for the middle of the day to stay cool when it is hottest out;
- **Staying hydrated** – drink plenty of water, even if you don't feel thirsty; and
- **Limiting sun exposure** – apply sunscreen if you are going to be in the sun.

#### Additional Heat Safety Resources:

- [Beat the Heat infographic](#), Florida Department of Health
- [How to Stay Safe During a Heatwave](#), The National Weather Service
- [Heat Safety for Kids and Teens](#), The National Weather Service
- [Extreme Heat](#), Federal Emergency Management Agency

## NEWS

### [State of Florida Announces 2023-2024 Resilient Florida Funding for Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan.](#)

Governor Ron DeSantis announced the award of \$300 million in state funding from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for 71 new resilience and adaptation projects and three previously awarded projects to help prepare coastal and inland communities for the adverse impacts of flooding and storm surge. To read the full Press Release, click [here](#). The new list of awards and recipients can be found [here](#).

### [WPB GreenMarket voted 'Best Farmers Market' in the nation by USA Today](#)

For the third year in a row, West Palm Beach's GreenMarket has been voted the "Best Farmers Market" in the nation. Read the full article [here](#).

## [Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Investments to Improve Measurement, Monitoring, Reporting and Verification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions through President Biden’s Investing in America Agenda](#)

On July 12, 2023 in a USDA press release, that " the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that it "will invest \$300 million through President Biden’s Investing in America agenda to improve measurement, monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration in climate-smart agriculture and forestry." To read more about this initiative as well as its implementations, click [here](#).

## [White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Announces National Climate Assessment Art Submission Award Winners](#)

Following the first-ever call for visual art for the fifth National Climate Assessment, the White House has announced the winners. The goal of the project is to inject art into the assessment, as a way to harness the power of art as a catalyst for a conversation around climate change. For the full announcement, click [here](#).

## EVENTS

### [Climate Resilient Affordable Housing Implementation Workshop](#)

**Location:** Zoom, Register [HERE](#).  
**Dates:** June 28, 2023, 1:00 PM to 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.

### [School Year REady with REuse!](#)

**Location:** Resource Depot, 2508 Florida Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL  
**Date:** August 5, 2023, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
**Details:** School supplies can be expensive, and purchasing new supplies every year can put a strain on family budgets. By reusing supplies, we reduce the demand for new materials and conserve resources and money while minimizing waste. Tickets are \$10.00. Click [HERE](#) for more details.

### [PBC Climate Risk Assessment Community Workshop- Central PBC](#)

**Location:** PBC Main Library, 3650 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33406  
**Date:** August 17, 2023, 6:00 to 7:30 PM  
**Details:** PBC OOR has started a Countywide Climate Risk Assessment to address climate change threats like extreme heat, wildfires, and flooding. We’re creating a Resilience Action Plan and want your input! Join the community workshops to share your ideas, help with data collection, and make our County stronger against climate challenges. Don’t miss this chance to be part of the solution. Light dinner and refreshments are provided.

### [2023 Night for the Natural Areas](#)

**Location:** Twisted Trunk Brewery, 2000 PGA Blvd. #5506, Palm Beach Gardens, FL  
**Date:** August 18, 2023, 2:00 to 7:00 PM  
**Details:** Celebrate the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual “Night for the Natural Areas”! This event raises funds to help support the education, adventure, exploration, and conservation programs of the County’s Natural Areas. Your \$25 donation includes 1 drink, food from Little Moir’s new Hibiscus StrEATery, and a raffle ticket for nature photography/

artwork.

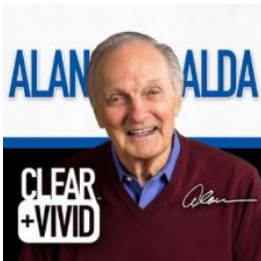


**Gardening for Birds with Native Plants**  
Location: PBC Main Library, 3650 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL  
Date: July 28, 2023, 3:00 to 4:30 PM  
Details: Horticulture Extension Agent Emily Marois from the UF/IFAS PBC Extension teaches how to attract birds to your yard with native plants. (90 min.) Presented by Main Library.

**2023 Florida Python Challenge**  
Location: The competition includes 7 Wildlife Management and Conservation Areas  
Dates: August 4, 2023 12:01 AM to August 13, 2023 5:00 PM  
Details: The Florida Python Challenge is a conservation effort that helps protect the rare Everglades habitat and the animals that live there from these invasive, non-native snakes. Prizes range up to \$ 10,000, with options for both most pythons removed and longest python removed. In 2022, this challenge contributed to the removal of 231 invasive Burmese pythons from South Florida ecosystems. For rules, required online training, registration, and toolkit, visit, <https://flpythonchallenge.org>.

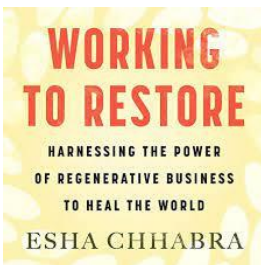
## LOOK, LEARN, AND LISTEN

### PODCASTS

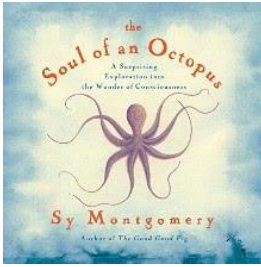


**Dan Levitt: You are Stardust. Really**  
By: Clear & Vivid with Alan Alda

### BOOKS



**Working to Restore: Harnessing the Power of Regenerative Business to Heal the World**  
By: Esha Chhabra



[The Soul of an Octopus](#)  
By: Sy Montgomery

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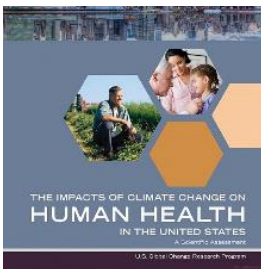
## Docuseries



[Getting Warmer with Kal Penn](#)  
Starring: Kal Penn  
Available On: Sling

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## REPORTS



[The Impacts of Climate Change on Human Health- 9 Populations of Concern](#)  
By: The US Environmental Protection Agency & the National Institutes of Health



[The Impact of Electric Vehicles on Climate Change](#)  
By: ICF

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[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

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