



OFFICE OF RESILIENCE

2024 APRIL NEWSLETTER

COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS



Office of Resilience (OOR) Director Megan Houston Attends Aspen Ideas: Climate Conference

On March 12, 2024, OOR Director Megan Houston attended the [Aspen Ideas: Climate](#) conference in Miami Beach. While there, she participated in a roundtable with local

government resiliency staff, economic experts, and green technology leaders. [The Nature Conservancy](#) shared findings from its February 2024 report on [Economic Benefits of Decarbonization in Florida](#). Participants highlighted how local governments can support decarbonization through clean tech investments, engaging with the private finance sector, encouraging workforce development, incorporating green technology, and pursuing grant and other funding opportunities.



Palm Beach County Breaks Ground on Green Cay Phase II

Have you heard the news yet? [Green Cay Nature Center & Wetlands](#) is expanding! [Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department](#) (PBC WUD) recently held a ceremonial groundbreaking for Green Cay Phase II, which will include a park, education center, and an advanced water purification facility. The future Green Cay Park and Reclamation Education & Center for Advanced Purification will also provide potable, purified water to help meet the needs of the growing County. Construction for the project began in early April 2024 and is estimated to open in late 2026. To read more about Green Cay Phase II, click [HERE](#).

RESILIENCE RESOURCES

How to Celebrate Earth Day 2024 in Palm Beach County



Looking for ways to celebrate Earth Day in PBC? “Seed” the opportunity to partake in the following events and activities held across our county!

- [Earth Day Activities at PBC Libraries](#)
- [Earth Day Extravaganza, Phipps Ocean Park](#) – April 19, 2024
- [Village of Wellington Earth Day & Arbor Day Celebration](#) – April 20, 2024
- [Village of North Palm Beach Earth Day](#) – April 20, 2024
- [Earth Day: Community Greening Tree Giveaway](#) – April 20, 2024
- [Earth Day Celebration at Okeehetee Nature Center](#) – April 20, 2024
- [City of Delray Beach Earth Month 2024 at Cornell Art Museum](#) – April 20, 2024
- [Earth Day Story Time at Busch Wildlife Sanctuary](#) – April 21, 2024
- [Earth Day Coastal Cleanup, West Palm Beach](#) – April 22, 2024
- [Earth Day at Daggertwing Nature Center](#) – April 27, 2024

Contributing to environmental conservation efforts does not have to end after Earth Month. There are numerous ways you can get involved in protecting the environment around you. Plant trees, clean up litter, reduce your carbon footprint, continue to learn about environmental issues, or get involved in environmental advocacy. By working together, we can strive to create a greener, healthier, and more sustainable future for both our county and the planet. Happy Earth Day!

NEWS

45 States, Large Metro Areas Submit Climate Action Plans Under President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act

On March 11, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that 45 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, plus dozens of Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) submitted climate action plans. The plans were made possible by the EPA's [Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program](#), which assists state local and local governments with devising strategies for decreasing harmful pollution and addressing environmental justice concerns. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Biden-Harris Administration Finalizes Strongest-Ever Pollution Standards for Cars

On March 20, 2024, the EPA announced new national pollution standards for cars, light-duty trucks, and medium-duty vehicles for model years 2027 through 2032 and beyond. The standards will improve air quality, reduce annual fuel costs and maintenance/repair costs, and prevent the release of more than seven billion tons of carbon emissions. To read the full press release, click [HERE](#).

Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$6 Billion to Transform America's Industrial Sector, Strengthen Domestic Manufacturing, and Slash Planet-Warming Emissions

On March 25, 2024, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced \$6 billion in funding for 33 projects across the country to “decarbonize energy-intensive industries, reduce industrial greenhouse gas emissions, support good-paying union jobs, revitalize industrial communities, and strengthen the nation’s manufacturing competitiveness.” The projects will focus on carbon-intensive industries, where decarbonization technologies will have the greatest impact, including cement, concrete, iron, steel, aluminum, and other metals. To read the full press release, click [HERE](#).

EVENTS

[Great American Cleanup 2024 Projects in Palm Beach County](#)

Location: County-wide

Date: Month of April

Details: During the month of April, [Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful Inc.](#) and the [Solid Waste Authority](#) will coordinate the Great American Cleanup, a project of [Keep America Beautiful](#), in Palm Beach County. Click [HERE](#) for a list of clean-up events throughout the County!

[Discovering a World of Water: Human History in South Florida \(Swamp Tromp!\)](#)

Location: Loxahatchee Slough Natural Area Canoe Kayak Launch, 8311 PGA Boulevard, Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Date: April 24, 2024, 5:30–8:00 PM

Details: Join PBC Environmental Resources Management (ERM) on an adventure through the thriving bottomlands of Loxahatchee Slough Natural Area. Get up close and personal with some of the animals of the swamp, and learn about the groundbreaking discoveries we're uncovering about what human history really looked like in the Greater Everglades Ecosystem. The hike will be approximately 0.5 miles in length but will be strenuous with the warm weather of April and walking off-trail through uneven terrain, in water and mud up to the knees or even thighs, depending on water levels at the time of the event. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

[City Nature Challenge at High Ridge Scrub Natural Area](#)

Location: High Ridge Scrub Natural Area, 7300 High Ridge Road, Lake Worth, FL

Date: April 27, 2024, 8:30–10:30 AM

Details: This event is part of the [City Nature Challenge](#), an annual four-day global bio blitz! The data you collect will be shared on [iNaturalist](#) and will help us show off South Florida's amazing biodiversity by photographing and cataloging wildlife (including birds, insects, fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and more), plants, fungi, and any other living organisms you can find! For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

[Plant-a-Palooza Spring Plant Sale 2024](#)

Location: Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL

Date: April 27, 2024, 9:00 AM–4:00 PM; April 28, 2024, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

Details: [Mounts Botanical Garden's](#) Spring Plant Sale features the highest quality of well-known plant growers and experts from across the State of Florida. Visitors have the opportunity to fully engage in the world of plants and learn new gardening techniques, discover what's trending in floral design, and enjoy Mounts Botanical's tranquil tropical oasis all at the same time. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to purchase tickets in advance.

[City Nature Challenge at Lantana Scrub Natural Area](#)

Location: Lantana Scrub Natural Area, 1250 Southwinds Drive, Lantana, FL

Date: April 29, 2024, 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Details: This event is part of the [City Nature Challenge](#), an annual four-day global bio blitz! The data you collect will be shared on [iNaturalist](#) and will help us show off South Florida's amazing biodiversity by photographing and cataloging wildlife (including birds, insects, fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and more), plants, fungi, and any other living organisms you can find! For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

[Adventure Awaits - Wandering Through the Wildflowers](#)

Location: Frenchman's Forest Natural Area, 12201 Prosperity Farms Road, Jupiter, FL

Date: May 21, 2024, 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Details: Join PBC ERM staff at Frenchman's Forest Natural Area and learn about the abundance of wildflowers at this amazing urban oasis. This will be a leisurely hike along well-maintained walking trails. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

LOOK, LEARN, AND LISTEN

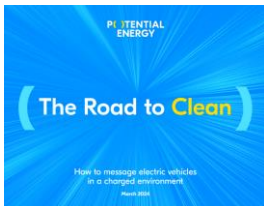
ARTICLES



[Unusual critter on Palm Beach with similar color to Portuguese men-of-war has mild sting](#)

By: Kimberly Miller

REPORTS



[The Road to Clean: How to message electric vehicles in a charged environment](#)

By: Potential Energy Coalition

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Maria Sachs, Mayor, Maria G. Marino, Vice Mayor, Greg K. Weiss,
Michael A. Barnett, Marci Woodward, Sara Baxter, Mack Bernard

Verdenia C. Baker, County Administrator

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS OR OTHER FEEDBACK?

CONNECT WITH US AT



