



Summer 2021
www.FLMS.net

Florida Lake Management Society
Managing Florida's Water Resources

Farewell to a Beloved Board Member & Friend



FLMS Director, Marissa Williams

It is with great sadness and regret that we inform our FLMS family that our beloved board member, Marissa Williams, passed away on April 24, 2021. Marissa worked as the Natural Resources Officer for the City of Casselberry for 6 years, was the project director for the Cambrian Foundation, and served as a board member of FLMS for 5 years. You may recall her upbeat attitude and infectious smile this past year as she served as a moderator for several on-line FLMS conference sessions. In recognition of her tireless efforts to conserve Florida's waters, she has been nominated for the highest honor of our society, the Majorie Carr Award in 2021. The FLMS Young Professional Award has been named in her honor. If you wish to leave a message in her memory, please visit:

www.mlw.forevermissed.com. Our hearts and condolences go out to her friends, family, and colleagues. We'll miss you, Marissa!



This Year's Symposium Theme: Citizen Science



Citizen science is monitoring and action research conducted by passionate volunteers of the community. While most are not professional scientists, their contributions are invaluable and allow scientists and organizations insight into environmental interests that otherwise would not be possible. With water being one of Florida's most treasured natural resources and over 3,000 lakes covering our state, we have a great appreciation and need for our citizen science groups to help fill in the data gaps. These important volunteers provide cost-savings amounting to tens of thousands of dollars.

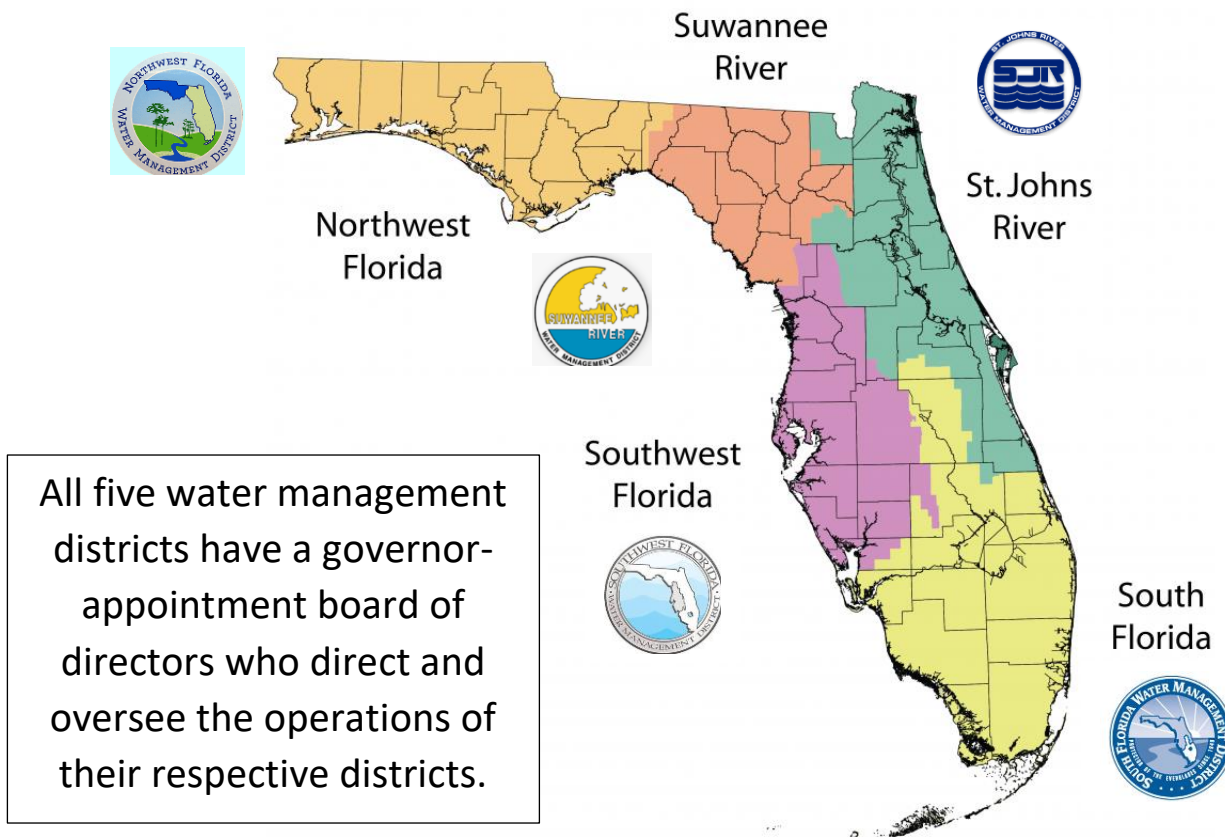
That's why this year we chose to honor our volunteer organizations with a focus on Citizen Science! Citizen Science groups can form out of professional research organizations, universities and colleges, and sometimes from concerned and curious residents. Collaboration with professionals on monitoring or research project goals and collection methods is key for sound data. During this year's symposium, we will hear from several volunteer program coordinators around the state. We hope you join us this year in discussing avenues for forming citizen science groups, connections made, and fantastic results volunteers have produced!

Do you have a citizen science organization or individual volunteer you would like to nominate for FLMS annual awards of excellence? The Dr. Daniel E. Canfield, Jr. Volunteerism Award is given to a volunteer organization or outstanding volunteer for significant contributions to the research, restoration and/or preservation of our water resources. The award is named after Dr. Daniel Canfield, founder of Florida LAKEWATCH, the pioneering citizen-volunteer water quality monitoring program involving over 1,200 lakes statewide, and now being emulated across the United States. Previous award recipients are:

Florida LAKEWATCH (2016)	Seminole County SERV (2017)
Lake County Adopt-a-Lake Program (2018)	Aquatic Preserve Alliance (2019)
Lee County PondWatch (2020)	

Did you know....

that Florida is unique in our creation of our five regional Water Management Districts? Our lush swamplands were some of our nation's last frontiers and controlling and managing the fluctuating flooding rains was no easy task. By 1947, after a series of droughts and flooding rains which devastated lands and populations around Lake Okeechobee, Florida requested a massive flood control plan from Congress. The five resultant Florida Water Management Districts were formed and charged with protecting our natural resources and ensuring the sustainable use of Florida's water for the benefit of the people of the District and State.



Florida property owners are charged a low millage rate in exchange for flood control and natural resource protection.



Gearing up for FLMS 2021 in Hawks Cay

Symposium Rate Information

We are planning for a semi-return to normalcy this summer and are looking forward to our conference in Hawks Cay, Duck Key in August 2021! Both Hawks Cay & FLMS will be following current CDC and Monroe County safety guidelines. As a reminder, due to rising facility costs, the registration rates beginning this year have changed:

Individual 3-day registration: \$360

Exhibit Booth: \$850

Tuesday Workshops: \$100

Room Rate \$164 + \$17 resort fee

Room Reservation Deadline: July 26

Early Bird Registration Ends: August 1

[Click here to go to the symposium page!](#)



Our Mission

The mission of the Florida Lake Management Society is to promote protection, enhancement, conservation, restoration, and management of Florida's aquatic resources; provide a forum for education and information exchange; and advocate environmentally sound and economically feasible lake and aquatic resource management for the citizens of Florida.