#### **Conservation Education**

A Focus On Education and Outreach

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#### Background

- Conservation Program inception –1980
- Comprehensively grown over time
  - ✓ Maintaining water use permit includes operating conservation programs
  - ✓ Incentive, education, and regulatory enforcement
- 5 full-time staff
- 6 subcontract staff- Water Watch
   Irrigation Restriction Enforcement
- FY 18 Budget \$1.5 million





## Public Outreach/Education Strategies

- Inform the community about water efficiency/conservation
- Incorporate proven technologies, research, and information as it becomes available
- Utilize bill stuffers
- Florida Friendly Demonstration
   Gardens



## Public Outreach/Education Strategies

- Give classroom presentations/utilize conservation-focused educational materials
- Place conservation signage and displays
- Special events, conservation fairs, and educational workshops
- Conservation themed contests



#### Classroom Presentations

- Presentations to K-12 classrooms, community centers, and special interest groups on:
  - Water Source (Aquifer)
  - Water as a resource and why it is important
  - ConservationStrategies
- K-12 Classroom
   presentations align with
   Florida Sunshine Standards





Waterwise Resource Action Program

Uses a school-based method that builds

- student knowledge
- provides high efficiency devices to families
- serves as an effective community outreach program





#### **Water Conservation Calendar**

- Partnership with Orange County Public Schools.
- K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students 2 dimensional artwork
- 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade students painted rain barrels







#### **Adult Education**

- Rain Barrel and Composting Classes
- Florida FriendlyLandscaping Classes
- Irrigation Classes
- HomeownersAssociations and civic group presentations
- Displays and presentations at local government building and libraries





#### **Community Involvement**

- Community fairs, special events such as Earth Day
   Festivities, and adjudicating school fairs and contests
- FSAWWA fundraisers and events





### **Internal and External Stakeholder Relationships**



Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Day

Florida Friendly Demonstration Garden





# Orange County Utilities Water Conservation Education Program

Saving Water for a Sustainable Orange County