



Project Renew: Quality Water, Quality Life

Partnership between the Suwannee River Water
Management's Educational Water Resource Funding Program
and Columbia Career and Adult Education

April 2021

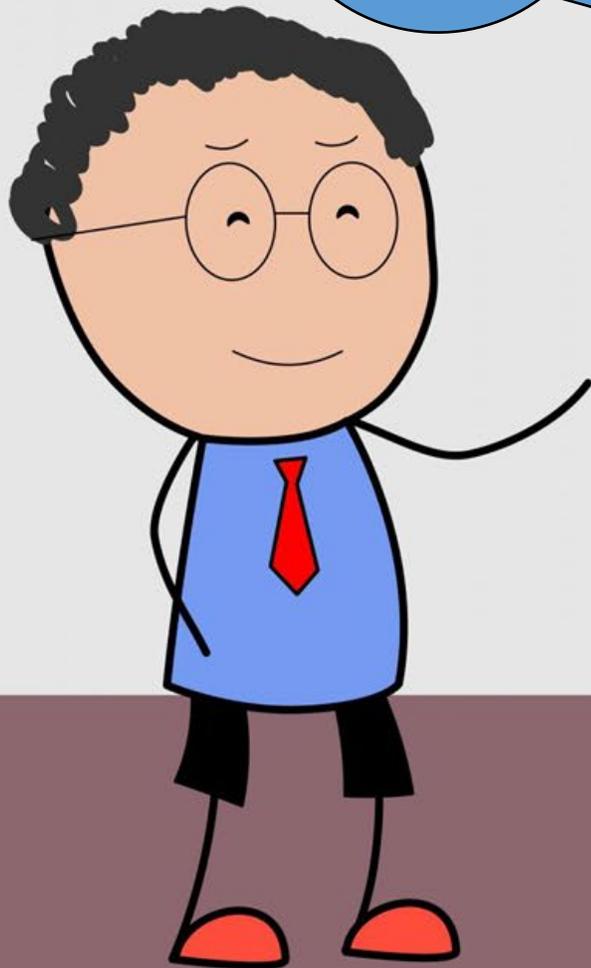


Columbia County Schools

1. CCAE Staff met and discussed the benefits of the grant objectives.
2. Students were informally surveyed for interest in the project.
3. Target student population were academically at-risk adult learners.
4. We wrote the proposal and was awarded!

Phase One





Would project be approved?

Who is doing what?



Student & Staff



Materials Needed

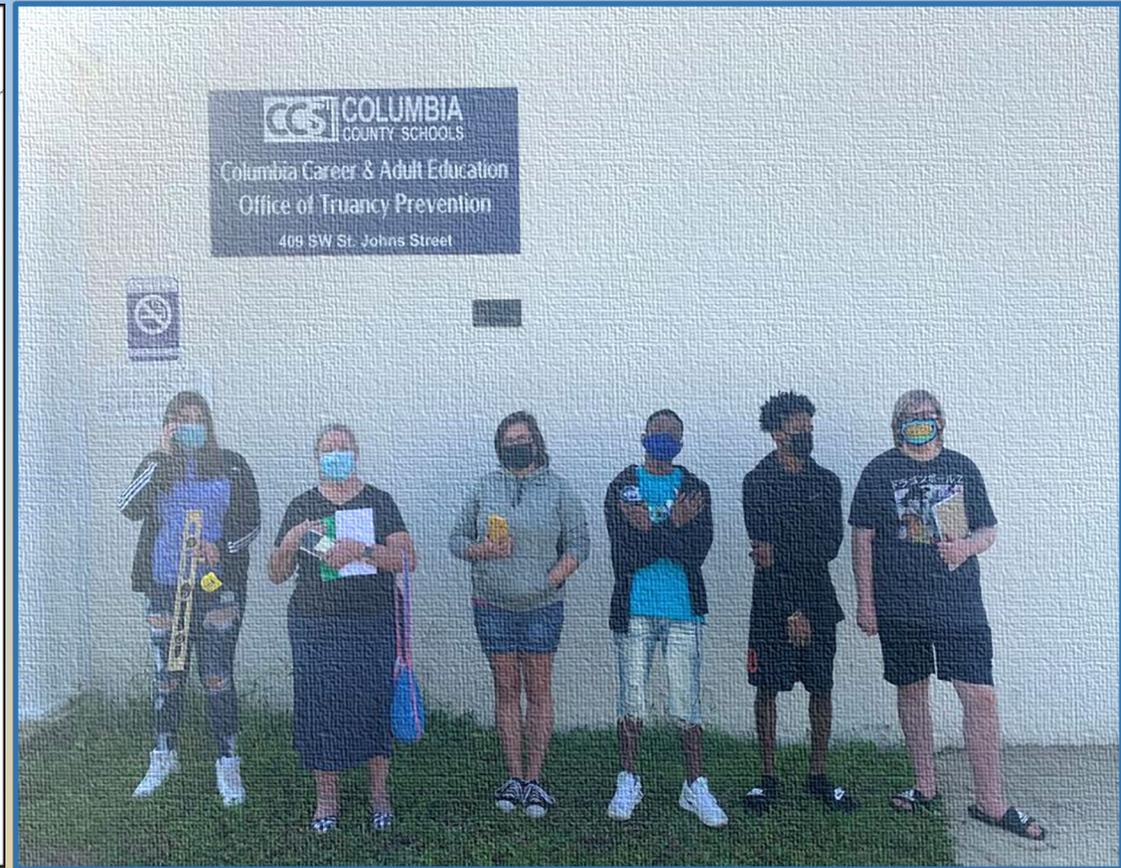
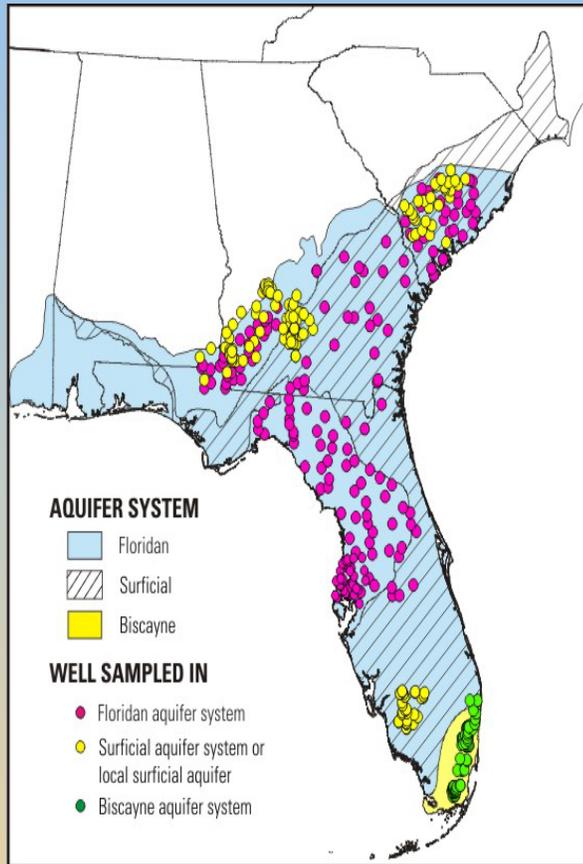


CCAЕ Staff research and write grant.

SWRMD Staff and CCAЕ & CCSD Main.

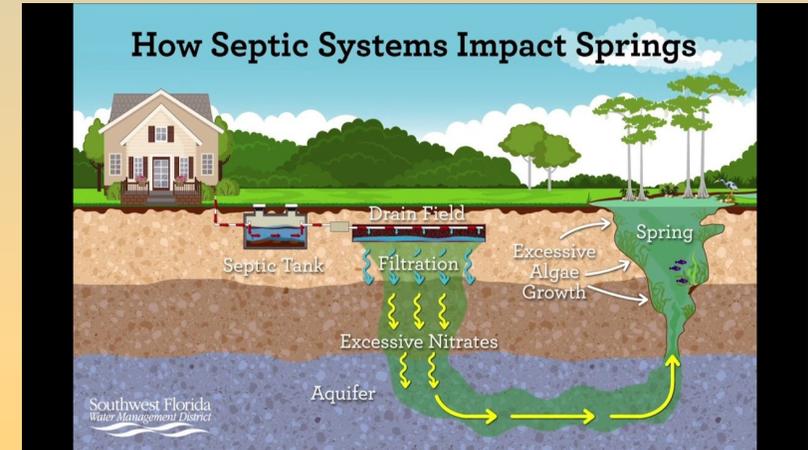
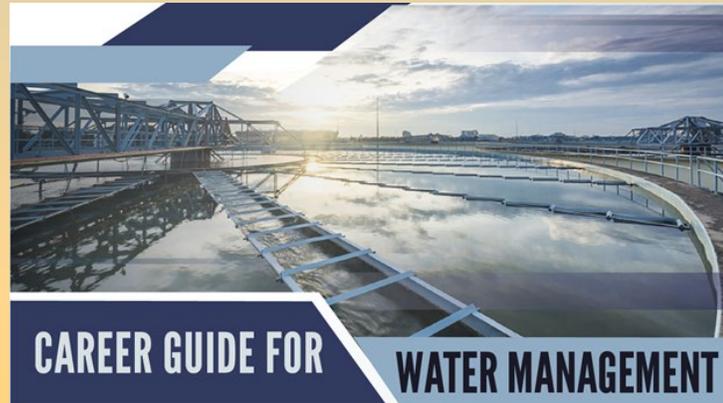
Phase Two

WHAT IS RESEARCH?



9 Florida-Friendly Landscaping Principles!

- 1 Right Plant, Right Place
- 2 Water Efficiently
- 3 Fertilize Appropriately
- 4 Mulch
- 5 Attract Wildlife
- 6 Manage Yard Pests Responsibly
- 7 Recycle
- 8 Reduce Stormwater Runoff
- 9 Protect the Waterfront





Florida's Best Native Landscape Plants
 200 Readily Available Species for Homeowners and Professionals
 GIL NELSON

BEST LANDSCAPING TOOLS

DRIP IRRIGATION FOR EVERY LANDSCAPE AND ALL CLIMATES
 Robert Kourik
 SECOND EDITION

unlock the secrets in the soil
 www.nrcs.usda.gov

Living in the soil are plant roots, bacteria, fungi, protozoa, algae, mites, nematodes, worms, ants, maggots, insects and grubs, and larger animals.

science of soil
 soil is made of about 45% minerals, 25% water, 5% air, and 25% soil.

Healthy soil has amazing water-retention capacity. 1% increase in organic matter results in as much as 25,000 soil water per acre.

100 million-1 billion individual bacteria.

Earthworm populations consume (if 1 meter per acre per year) more than 2 tons of soil.

Healthy soil is key to feeding 9 billion people by 2050.

12 Types Of **MULCH**
 To Use In Your Garden

Florida-Friendly

Irrigation Systems

DIY YARD DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS



**Erosion along
front of building**



**Storm water
running under
foundation**



CHALLENGES and SOLUTIONS



Phase Three







CCS receives water resource funding

SRWMD provides \$3,751 for water quality project.

Staff report

A water quality project at the Columbia Career and Adult Education center has received grant assistance from the Suwannee River Water Management District.

The Columbia County School District received a \$3,751 grant from the SRWMD's Educational Water Resources Funding Program for the "Quality Water, Quality Life" project, which included landscape improvements in the center. The project focused on local water topics and issues including water quality and quantity, Florida ecosystems, the impact agriculture and other industries have on Florida's water resources as well as their dependence on those resources and the importance of all Florida residents to be proactive in preserving those resources.

"Prior to beginning this project, many of our students seemed to know very little about water management issues and the role they can play in the preservation of water quality and quantity," Kays Johnson, the project lead teacher with Columbia Career and Adult Education, said in a release.

"Students researched water management topics, landscape design plans for Florida-friendly plants, assisted in selecting and purchasing plants and the installation of the landscape design components.

"For a majority of our students, this was the first time they performed any of the activities related to the project."

The project is expected to be completed by July, impacting more than 100 students and many community members, school district officials said in a release.

The SRWMD's Educational Water Resources Funding Program provides schools and community groups the opportunity to receive funding for projects based on educating people about the importance of improving water quality, conserving water, food production and water system restoration.

Columbia Career and Adult Education is one of six schools that have received funding from the SRWMD program, joining Frankford Park High, Suwannee and Cedar Key high schools and Hill Middle/High School.

Park White received \$3,500 for its "Educating and Developing a Sustainable Community" project, which includes developing an aquaponics system.



The Suwannee River Water Management District provided grant funding to the Columbia County School District for the Quality Water, Quality Life project at the Columbia Career and Adult Education center. Pictured are Lindsay Covington (from left), the communications and outreach coordinator for the SRWMD, and Janora Crow and Kaye Johnson from Columbia Career and Adult Education.

For more information about the "Quality Water, Quality Life" project, contact Lindsay Covington, the district's communications and outreach coordinator, at Lindsay.Covington@srwmd.org or 352-262-2822.



Cutting the ribbon for the Quality Water, Quality Life project at Columbia Career and Adult Education were Maria Gregorio (front row, from left), Brenda Acowick, Kera London, Shanda Jean, Janora Crow, Lee Carowick Jr., Lindsay Covington, Kaye Johnson, Linda Dallas and Cory Vought, Bonnie Adams (back row from left), Walker Edwards, James Rogovin, Hunter Bart, Aaren Lewis and Rebekah Rutten. Not pictured are Angela Crippock, Michelle Yelen, Colton Goss, Joe Brown, Kaita Nicholson, Elijah Robinson and Anarrah Edwards.

Thank you!





TO PLANT A GARDEN IS TO
BELIEVE IN TOMORROW.

-AUDREY HEPBURN

Columbia School District
is thankful for our
partnership with
Suwannee River Water
Management District.
Special thanks also to
CCSD Maintenance
Department and Lawn
Enforcement Agency.