

South Venice Civic Association Waterway Rehabilitation Project

John Ryan - Public Utilities

Steve Suau – SVCA Water Quality Task

Force

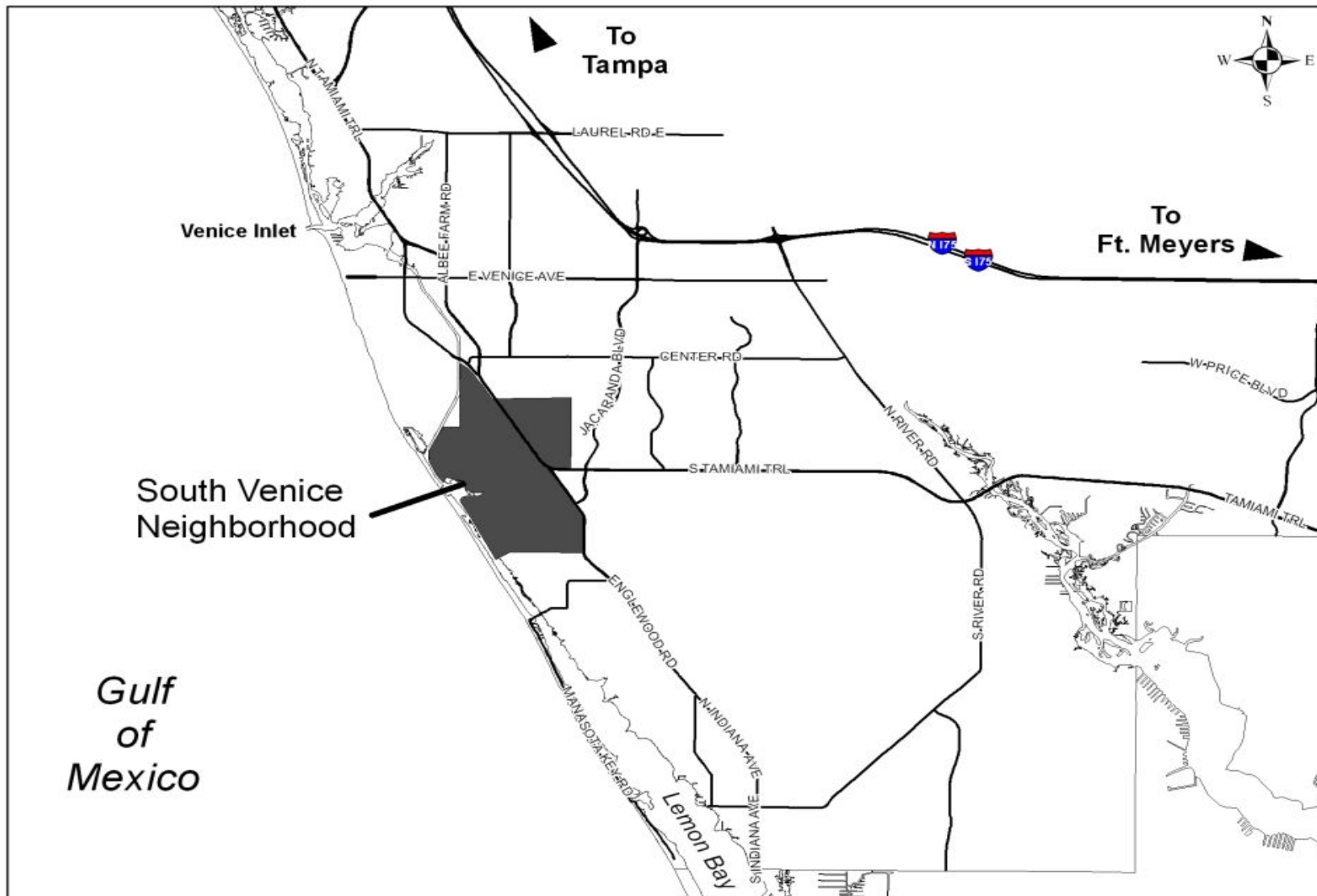
Project History and Objectives

- **Pilot study for more environmentally sustainable, cost-effective and attractive alternative to the current maintenance practices**
- **Beautification of the neighborhood by restoring the quality of streams**
- **Promotion of environmental sustainability awareness**
- **Builds on resident's efforts to clear and restore Siesta waterway**
- **Discontinue buildup of mowed organic material in the waterway**
- **Reduce blue green algae that excludes other life forms**
- **Hand removal of vegetation**
- **Install mulch and organic material**
- **Create growth medium for growth of cover plants**
- **Restore a healthy sandy bottom that will foster aquatic life.**
- **Mowing should become unnecessary once the restoration is completed.**

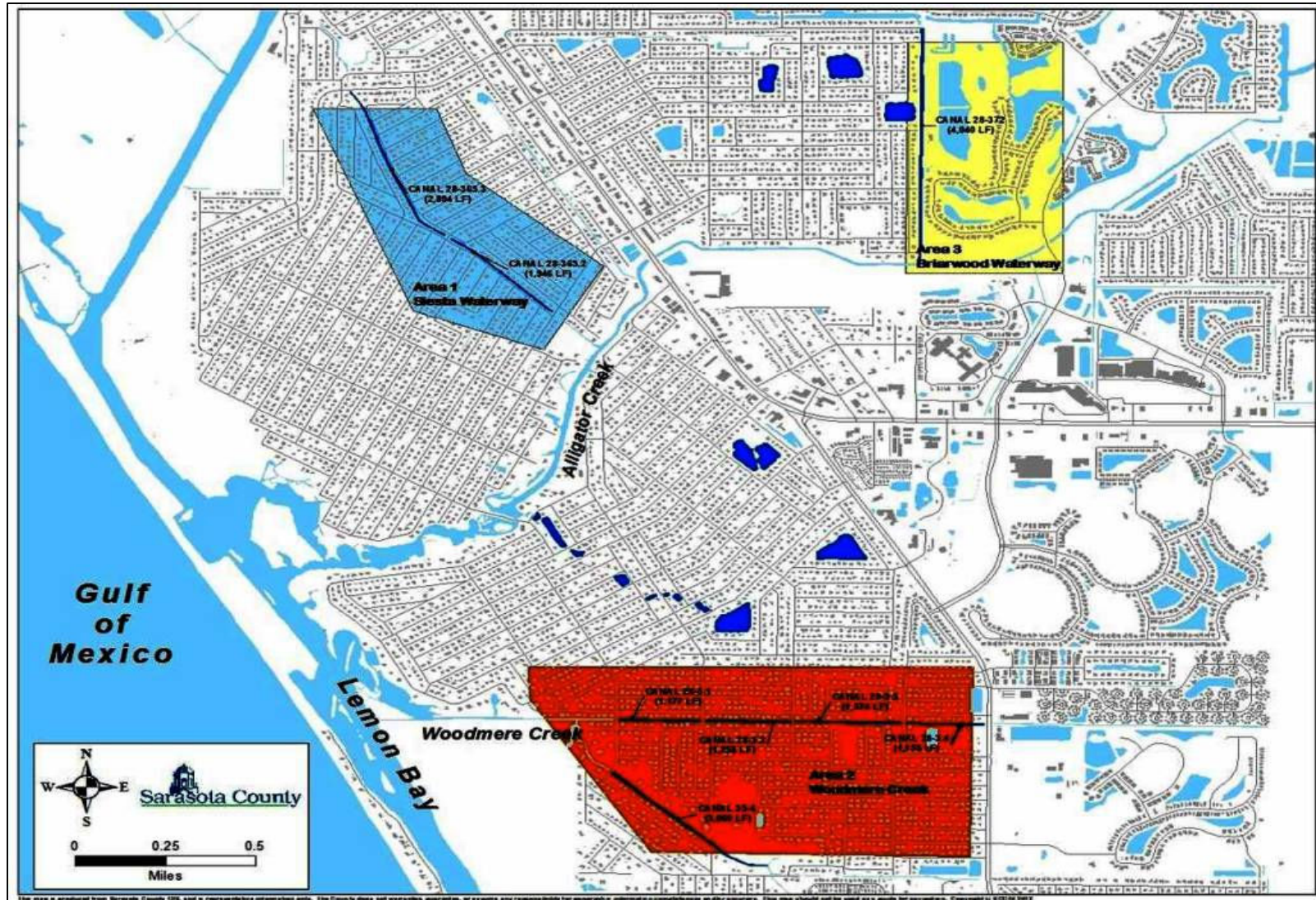
Example



South Venice Civic Association (SVCA)



Waterways: Siesta, Briarwood & Woodmere



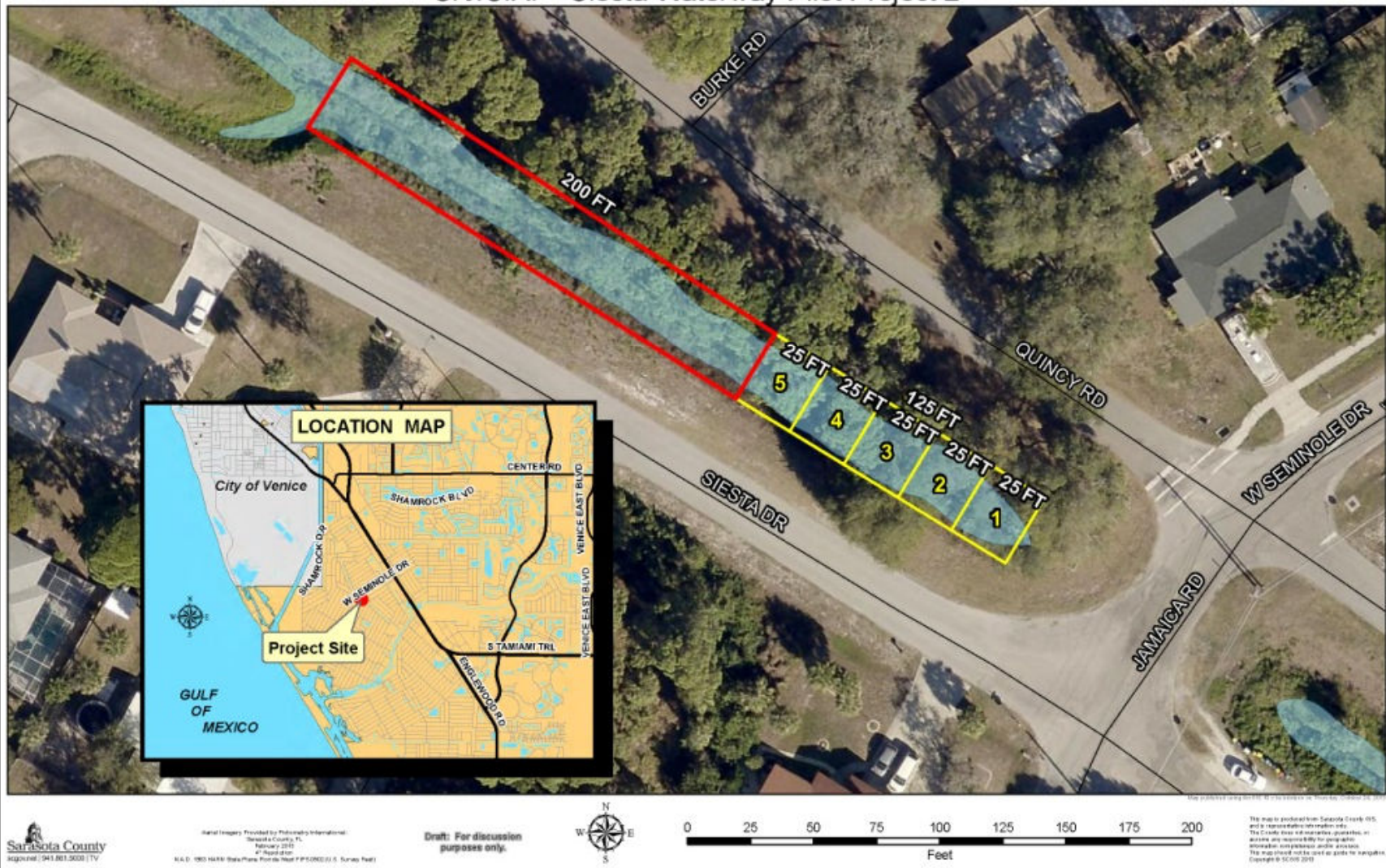
Community Involvement

- South Venice Water Quality Task Force
- Sierra Club
- Various County Departments / Groups
- Southwest Florida Water Management District
- Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program

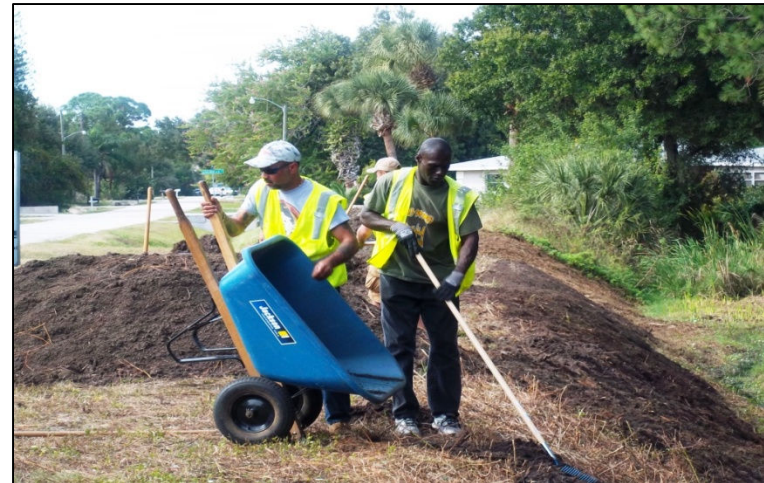


Siesta Waterway Pilot Project

S.V.C.A. – Siesta Waterway Pilot Project 2



Clearing and Spreading Mulch / Compost



Hydroseeding



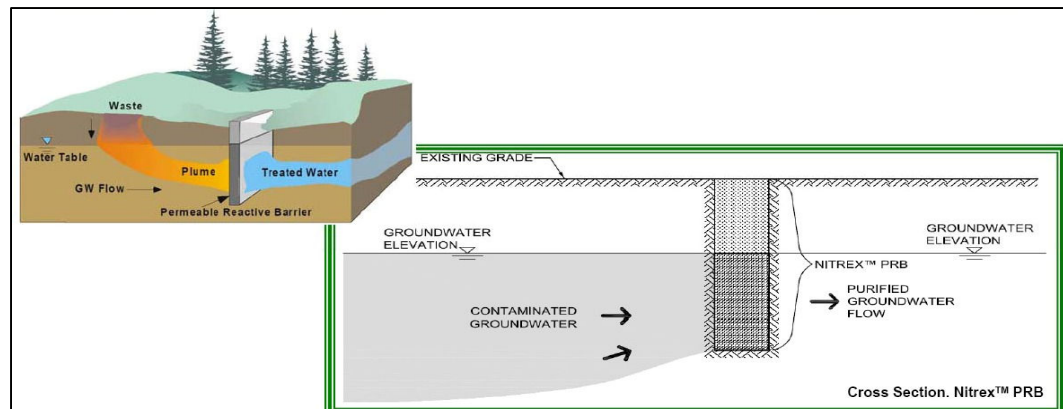
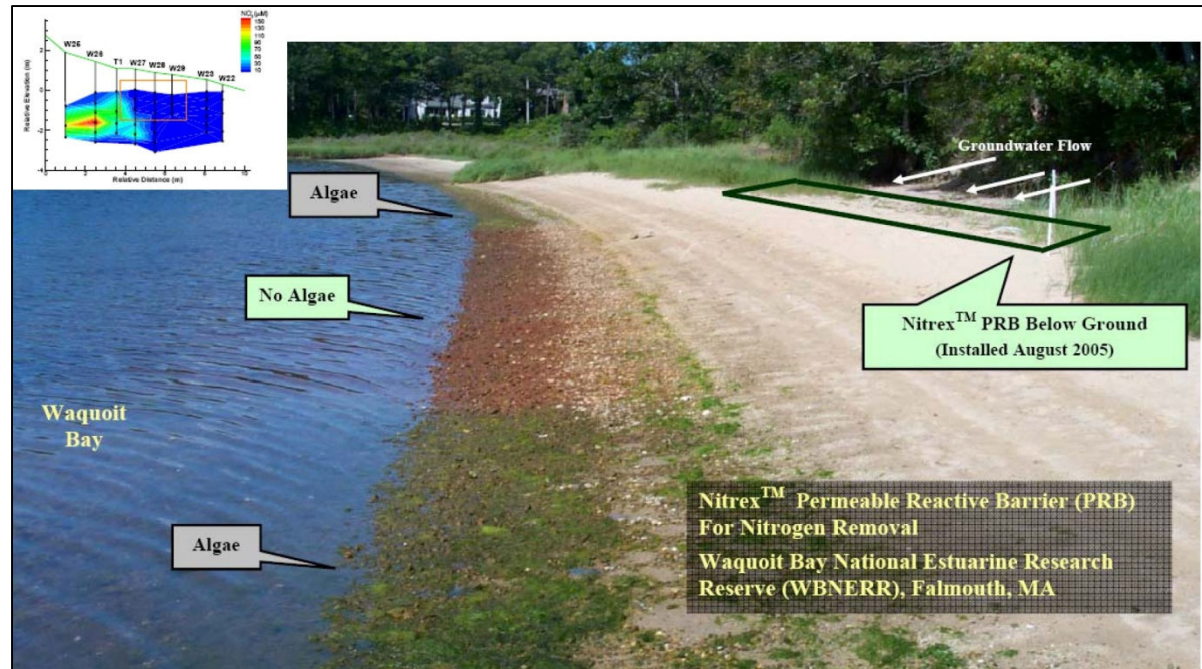
Low Growing, Good Looking Seed Stock



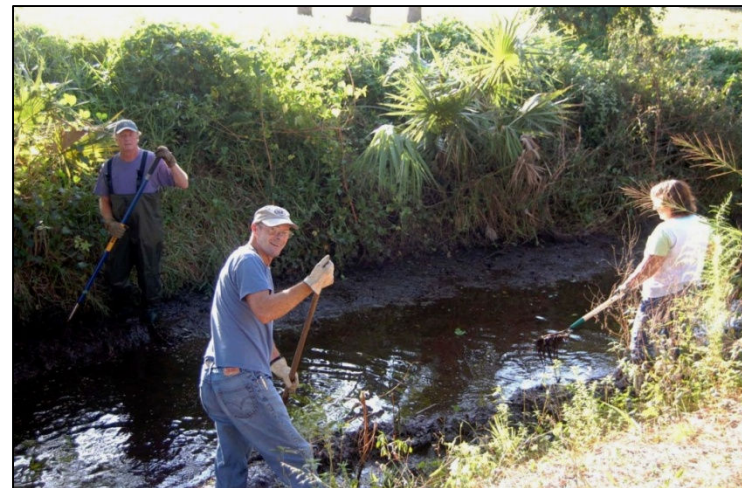
Bahia Grass
Powderpuff
Purple Love Grass
Sand Square
Partridge Pea
Perennial Peanut
River Oats



Nitrogen Removal by Organics - Wood



Volunteers Cleaning, Mulching & Planting





SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892



Manatee-Sarasota Group
Boca Sierra

Not blind opposition to progress, but opposition to blind progress

October 2012

Popular writer unveils 'Hidden Sarasota'

What: Manatee-Sarasota Group Meeting
When: Thursday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.
Where: Sarasota Garden Club, 1131 Blvd. of the Arts

Thomas Becnel, a longtime feature writer for the Sarasota Herald-Tribune, will speak about his outdoor recreation column, Play!, and about his popular series of "Hidden Sarasota" features.

These have included everything from the Edwards Islands and Myakkahatchee Creek to North Water Tower Park and the South Venice ferry.

Come and find out what you're missing! Bring a snack or dessert to share at the social time afterwards.

Frogs sing again in South Venice

Residents in South Venice had watched the once-productive Siesta waterway running through their neighborhood fill with garbage and muck, turning into an eyesore and a potential threat to public health. The upper part of the waterway was a green, stagnant soup.

The neighborhood decided to take action.

In November 2011, the South Venice Civic Association obtained a neighborhood grant from the county to set the wheels in motion. Over the next eight months, numerous work parties – made up of volunteers and armed with nothing more than hip waders and rakes – attacked the problem.



**SARASOTA
Herald-Tribune**

Ernst: One man and a rake stir up big change



Chronology

- 2011 Neighborhood Grant \$2,999
- July 10, 2012: Board Authorized CIP Funding \$313,682.62
- September 26, 2012: Board approved Grant Application to District \$300,000
- September 2012: CHNEP Grant
- Collaborative development of Priorities, Charrette, Scope & TSP
- Pilot Project: Clear, mulch / compost, hydroseed
- November 2013: Bio-assessment of canals
- January 28, 2014: District Board approved scope reduction from 17,000 to 7,500 LF

Upcoming

- March presentation to CHNEP Watershed Summit
- May 6, 2014: Board consideration of District grant funding
- Final Technical Special Provisions
- Evaluate success of the pilot project
- Bid & Contract
- October: Construction
- Operations & Maintenance Plan

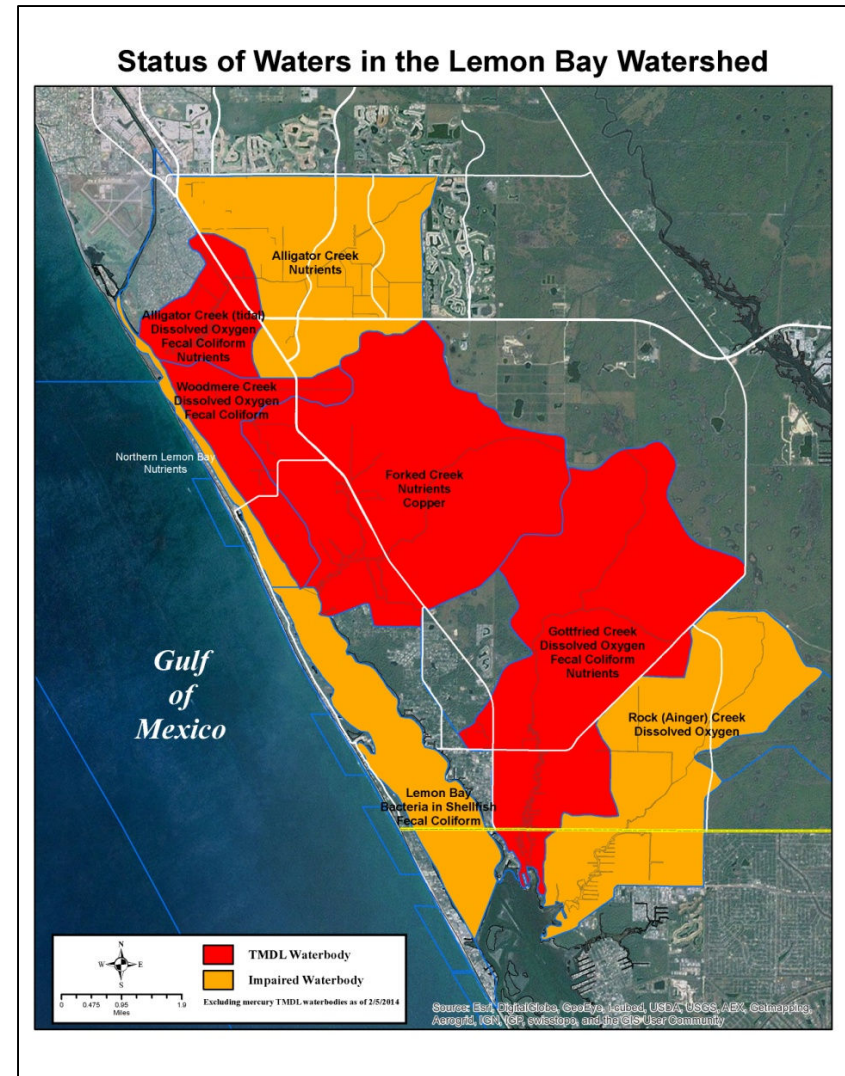
SWFWMD and SARASOTA COUNTY PROJECT TASKS and TERMS

- Construction – The COUNTY shall construct the PROJECT based on the Technical Special Provision. Only contracted construction, materials and equipment rental are reimbursable under the construction task. No reimbursements will be made for COUNTY staff hours spent on construction.
- Construction Phase Services – The COUNTY shall provide construction engineering and inspection (CEI) services. Only contracted services are eligible for reimbursement under this task.
- Operations and Maintenance – The COUNTY will develop an operations and maintenance plan to demonstrate how the COUNTY will maintain the areas after construction such that the measurable benefit will be maintained for 20 years or the COUNTY shall repay the DISTRICT all funds the DISTRICT paid to the COUNTY for this project.



Water Quality Sampling

- Alligator Creek sampling since 2006
- Canal sampling since March 2013
- Briarwood elevated for Nitrogen, Chlorophyll, BOD, and Solids
- Phosphorus elevated in Siesta and Woodmere South
- Alligator Creek is saline in lower reaches but the canals are not
- Bacteria intermittently high
- Oxygen levels a little low



**South Venice Waterways
Pre-Restoration Biological Assessment
Monitoring Report**

Prepared for:



Prepared by:





March 4, 2014

Field Work Completed November 2013

- Fish
- Bottom Dwellers
- Habitat
- Shoreline Vegetation
- Reptiles
- Birds
- Stream Geometry
- Amphibians
- Sediment Type
- Crustaceans
- Bottom Algae


An edition of [WaterAtlas.org](#) Presented By: [Sarasota County](#), [University of South Florida](#)

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Home > Explore > Lemon Bay Watershed > **Siesta Waterway**

Overview/Current Conditions Water Quality Water Levels & Flows Habitats/Ecology Recreation Photos

Siesta Waterway  Map It!
 located within Lemon Bay Watershed

Associated Names

- There are no associated names for this body of water.

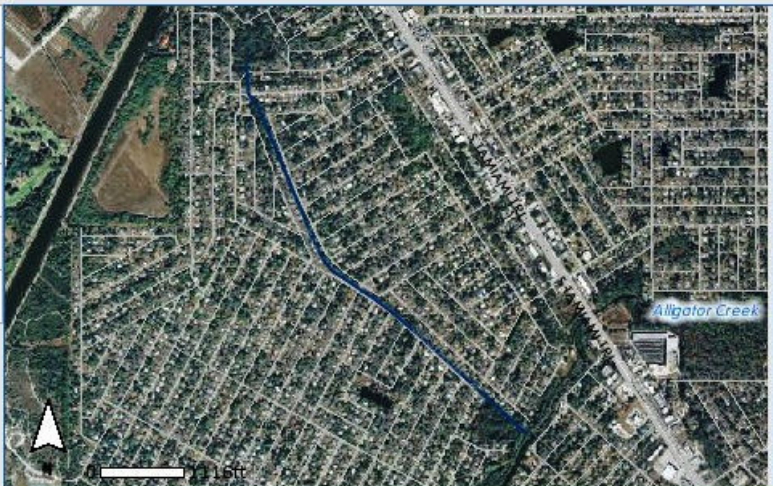
GO TO A SPECIFIC TOPIC:

- Water Resource Characteristics
- Weather
- Report Pollution and Other Environmental Issues
- Regulation
- Get Involved
- Historic Information
- Related Links



Water Resource Characteristics

Headwaters	Not Available
Mouth	Not Available
River Length Within	

Map **Aerials** **Water Resources Search**



Map Legend

-  Water Quality Sampling Sites
-  Hydrology Sampling Sites

Clear, De-Muck, Mulch-Compost, Hydroseed



Goal: Sustainable Sarasota County

