



FLORIDA

Water Forum 2011

Addressing the critical issue of Florida's water supply, planning & quality.



ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA
The Voice of Florida Business Since 1920

American Water Works Association

AWWA  **FLORIDA**
Florida's Water Professionals

2011 Water Forum

Agenda

Friday, June 3rd • 10:30am – 2:00pm
Rosen Shingle Creek – Orlando

Welcome

Barney T. Bishop III – President & CEO, Associated Industries of Florida
Richard Anderson – Chairman, Florida Section of the American Water Works Association
John Shearer – Moderator

I. The Florida House of Representatives Focuses on Water

Representative Trudi Williams (R-Ft. Myers), Chair of the House Select Committee on Water Policy

II. The Future of Water Management Districts

Melissa Meeker, Executive Director of the South Florida Water Management District

Break

III. Vision of Florida's Water Future

Lunch with Adam Putnam, Commissioner of Agriculture & Consumer Services

IV. Congressional Update on NNC in Florida

Introduction by David Childs, Hopping Green & Sams
Congressman Dennis Ross (R-Lakeland) *video*

V. Everglades Update

Eric Draper, Executive Director for the Audubon of Florida
Ernie Barnett, South Florida Water Management District

Adjourn



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Florida Water Forum Participants

Moderator



John Shearer, P.E., BCEE – With more the 37 years of experience in dealing with complex water and environmental issues, John Shearer has first-hand knowledge of the challenges facing Florida as it relates to water policy. Mr. Shearer served as Assistant Secretary of Florida's Department of Environmental Protection from 1987-1991 and is the former Executive Vice President of PBS&J. In this capacity he was the National Director of Environmental Services. Currently, Mr. Shearer runs Shearer Consulting Inc.

Featured Speakers



Rep. Trudi Williams (R-Fort Myers) – For five years prior to her election to the Florida House of Representatives, Trudi Williams served on the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board, a gubernatorial appointment, with two of those years as Chair. Elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 2004, Rep. Williams now serves as the Chair of the Select Committee on Water Policy as well as the Chair of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee. In addition, Williams is CEO of TKW Consulting Engineers, Inc. — one of the premier civil, structural, and environmental engineering firms in Southwest Florida.



Melissa Meeker – Melissa Meeker has over 18 years of water resource management experience in both the public and private sectors including serving as the FDEP SE Regulatory District office Director and Vice President of Water and Natural Resources with Tetra Tech, an international environmental consulting firm. Melissa was appointed under the Scott Administration as the Deputy Secretary of Water Policy and Ecosystem Projects, where she was responsible for developing a strategy for oversight of the water management districts. On June 1, 2011, Melissa assumed the roll of Executive Director for the South Florida Water Management District.



David Childs – Since joining Hopping Green & Sams in 2005, David has represented clients on various state and federal environmental matters. His practice focuses principally on regulatory and legislative issues impacting Florida's water, waste-water, and electric utility industries. David also represents various marine manufacturing interests, and based on this work, Governor Charlie Crist appointed David to Florida's Boating Advisory Council in April 2009. He has published and presented numerous papers about nutrient water quality regulation.



Congressman Dennis Ross (R-Lakeland) – Founding partner of the law firm Ross Vecchio, P.A., Congressman Ross began his commitment to public service following his election to the State House of Representatives in 2000. Following term limits in 2008, Ross was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2010 to represent District 12. As a member of Florida's Congressional Delegation, Ross continues to be a vocal advocate for water quality and quantity issues in Florida.



Eric Draper – Eric Draper is the Executive Director for the Audubon of Florida office and is recognized as a leading advocate for Everglades restoration, water resource protection and land conservation. Public service includes appointment to the Florida Soil and Water Conservation Council and board membership on the Council for a Sustainable Florida and the Florida Oceans Alliance. Eric is a former government relations director for The Nature Conservancy's Florida program where he led campaigns to fund Florida's \$3 billion Preservation 2000 program and local land conservation programs.



Ernie Barnett – is a senior manager at the South Florida Water Management District with 28 years of water resources management experience and public service, during which he contributed to several landmark environmental laws. He had a lead role in the successful passage by the Florida Legislature of the Lake Okeechobee Protection Act and the Everglades Restoration Investment Act, which has provided more than \$1 billion dollars for Everglades restoration. He also helped secure approval of the Water Resource Development Act of 2000, in which Congress authorized the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. During a 22-year tenure with Florida's DEP, Ernie led the state's Everglades restoration efforts, coordinated Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint Rivers intrastate water issues and developed the Florida Springs initiative.

Luncheon Speaker



As Florida's eleventh Commissioner of Agriculture, **Adam H. Putnam** serves as the leader of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Putnam served five terms as Congressman for Florida's 12th district in which he was a member of the House Committees on Government Reform, Rules, Agriculture and Financial Services. Before serving in Congress, Putnam was elected to the Florida House of Representatives. There, he quickly became Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, leading on the many issues facing Florida's dynamic agriculture industry, including property rights, water and the Everglades.

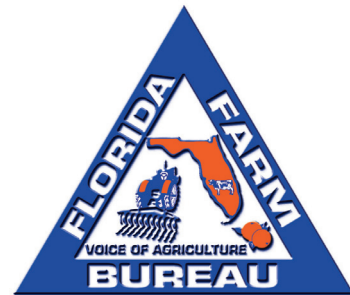
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