

2025 Handbook of Florida Water Regulation: Appendix¹

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Preface

This handbook is designed to provide an accurate, current, and authoritative summary of the principal federal and state (Florida) laws that directly or indirectly relate to agriculture. This handbook provides a basic overview of the many rights and responsibilities that farmers and farmland owners have under both federal and state laws as well as the appropriate contact information to obtain more detailed information. However, the reader should be aware that because the laws, administrative rulings, and court decisions on which this handbook is based are subject to constant revision, portions of this publication could become outdated at any time. Several details of cited laws are also left out due to space limitations. This handbook is provided as an educational text for those interested in water use and water resource issues in Florida.

This handbook is distributed with the understanding that the authors are not engaged in rendering legal or other professional advice, and the information contained herein should not be regarded as a substitute for professional advice. This handbook is not all inclusive in providing information to achieve compliance with the federal and state laws and regulations governing water protection. For these reasons, the use of these materials by any person constitutes an agreement to hold harmless the authors, the UF/IFAS Center for Agricultural and Natural Resource Law, and UF/IFAS Extension for any liability claims, damages, or expenses that may be incurred by any person as a result of reference to or reliance on the information contained in this handbook. Note: UF/IFAS is the acronym for University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

List of Acronyms

The following is a list of acronyms for the Handbook of Florida Water Regulation (FE579–FE617, FE1017–FE1019).

ACE—United States Army Corp of Engineers

BMAP—Basin Management Action Plan

BMP—Best Management Practice

BRA—Florida Brownfields Redevelopment Act

CAFO—Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

CERCLA—Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (or Superfund)

CERP—Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program

CWA—Clean Water Act

EAA—Everglades Agricultural Area

ECP—Everglades Construction Project

EPA—Environmental Protection Agency

EPCRA—Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

ERC—Environmental Regulation Commission

ESA—Endangered Species Act

FAC—Florida Administrative Code

FARMS—Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems

FAWPCA—Florida Air and Water Pollution Control Act

FCPTF—Florida Coastal Protection Trust Fund

FDACS—Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

FDEM—Florida Division of Emergency Management

FDEP—Florida Department of Environmental Protection

FDOH—Florida Department of Health

FEFA—Florida Everglades Forever Act

FEPCRA—Florida Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

FFWCC—Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

FIFRA—Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act	PIR—Project Implementation Report
FLOPP—Florida Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan	PRC—Pesticide Review Council
FPDPCA—Florida Pollution Discharge Prevention and Control Act	RCRA—Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
FPL—Florida Pesticide Law	SARA—Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
FRTFA—Florida Right-to-Farm Act	SCS—Soil Conservation Service
FSAPA—Florida Springs and Aquifer Protection Act	SDWA—Safe Drinking Water Act
FSHMERC—Florida State Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Commission	SERC—State Emergency Response Commission
FQPA—Food Quality Protection Act	SFWMD—South Florida Water Management District
FWMD—Florida Water Management Districts	SQG—Small Quantity Generator
FWPCA—Federal Water Pollution Control Act	STA—Stormwater Treatment Areas
FWRA—Florida Watershed Restoration Act	SWCD—Soil and Water Conservation District
HRS—Hazard Ranking System	SWIM—Surface Water Improvement Management
IPM—Integrated Pest Management	TCNS—Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough Reservoir and Treatment Area Project
LEPC—Local Emergency Planning Committee	TMDL—Total Maximum Daily Loads
LOWCP—Lake Okeechobee Watershed Construction Project	TSCA—Toxic Substances Control Act
MSSW—Management and Storage of Surface Waters	UIC—Underground Injection Control
NEEPP—Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program	USDA—United States Department of Agriculture
NEPA—National Environmental Policy Act	WMD—Water Management District
NIOSH—National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	WPS—Watershed Protection Section
NPDES—National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	WQS—Water Quality Standards
NRCS—Natural Resources Conservation Service	
OAWP—Office of Agricultural Water Policy	
OFS—Outstanding Florida Springs	
OSTDS—Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System	

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