



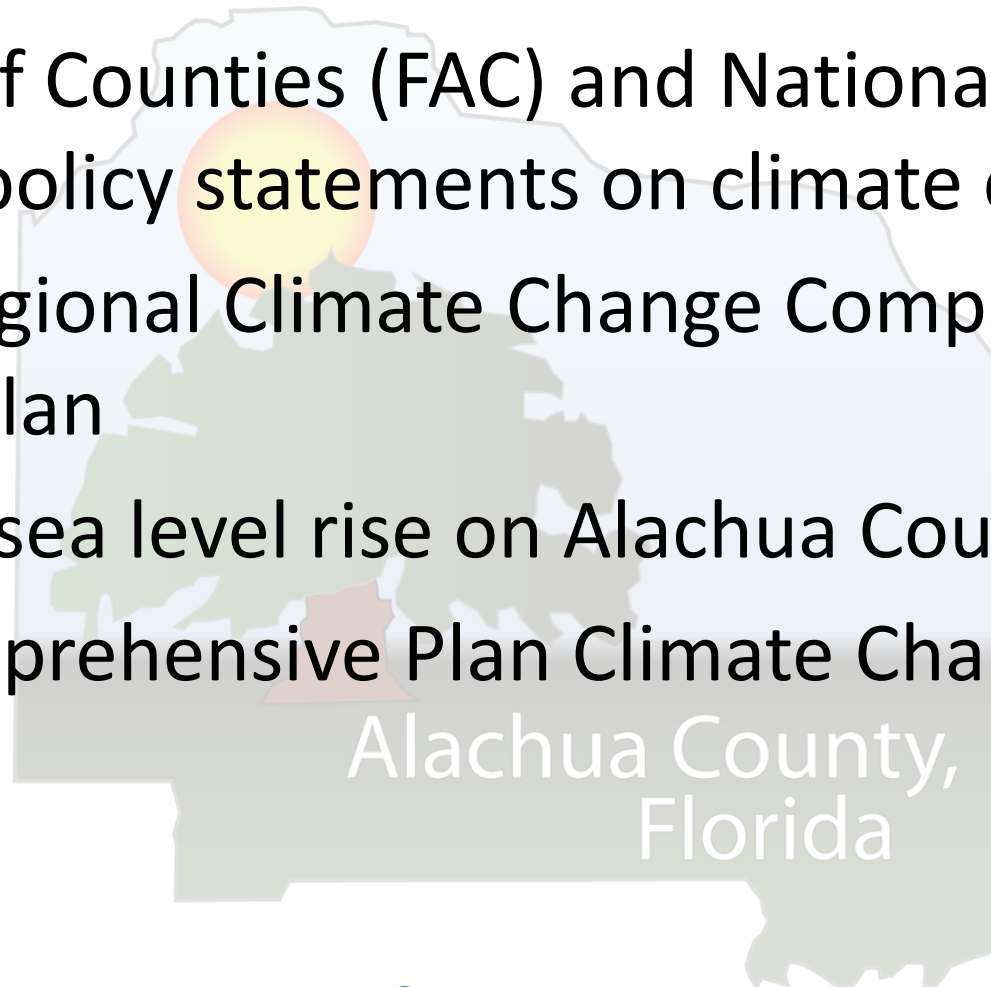
Alachua County Climate Change Policies and Programs

Chris Bird, Environmental Protection Director

November 5, 2019

Recent Board Inquiries and Assignments

- Florida Association of Counties (FAC) and National Associations of Counties (NACO) policy statements on climate change
- Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (SFRCCC) and Climate Action Plan
- Potential impacts of sea level rise on Alachua County population
- Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Climate Change Policies



Emerging Local Government Role in responding to Climate Change

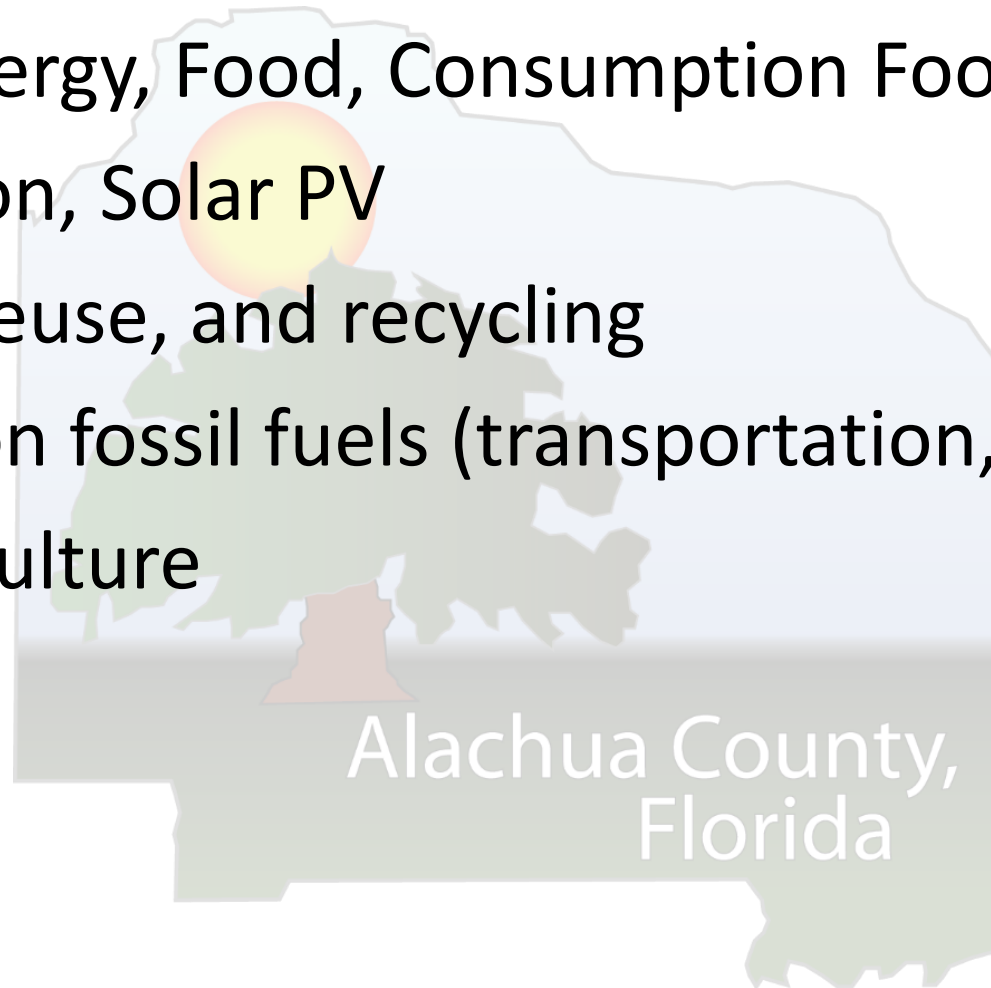
- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Social and Public Health Concerns



Alachua County Climate Mitigation

Reducing Carbon, Energy, Food, Consumption Footprints

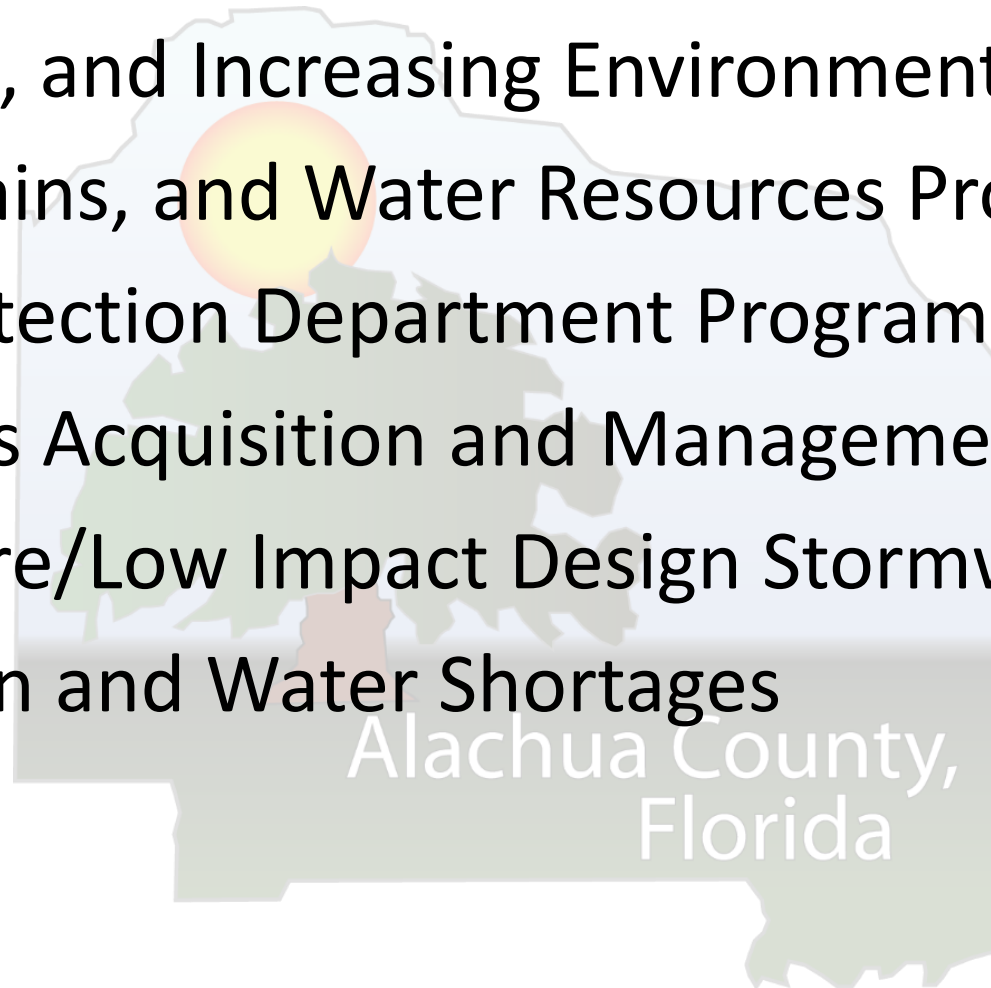
- Energy Conservation, Solar PV
- Waste reduction, reuse, and recycling
- Reduced reliance on fossil fuels (transportation, electricity)
- Regenerative Agriculture
- Wildfire Mitigation



Alachua County Climate Adaptation

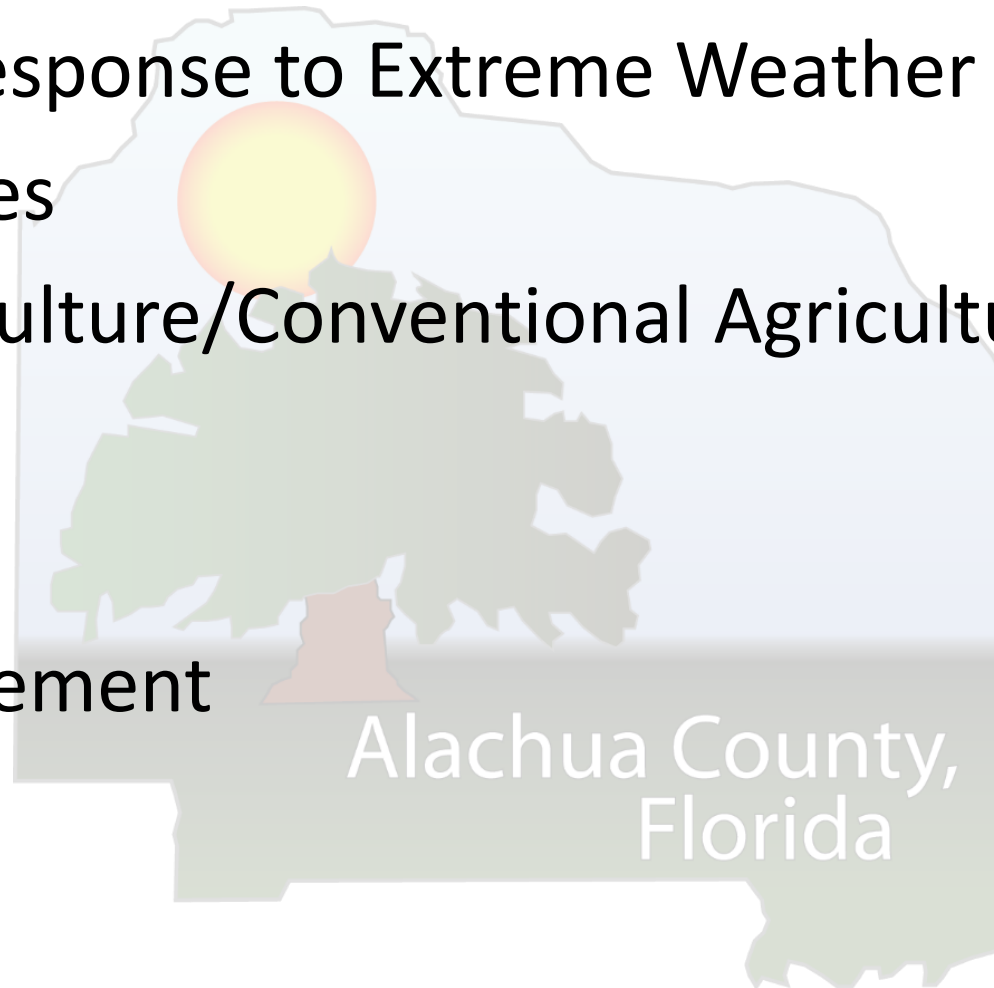
Restoring, Protecting, and Increasing Environmental Resiliency

- Wetlands, Floodplains, and Water Resources Protection
- Environmental Protection Department Programs
- Conservation Lands Acquisition and Management
- Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Design Stormwater Projects
- Water Conservation and Water Shortages



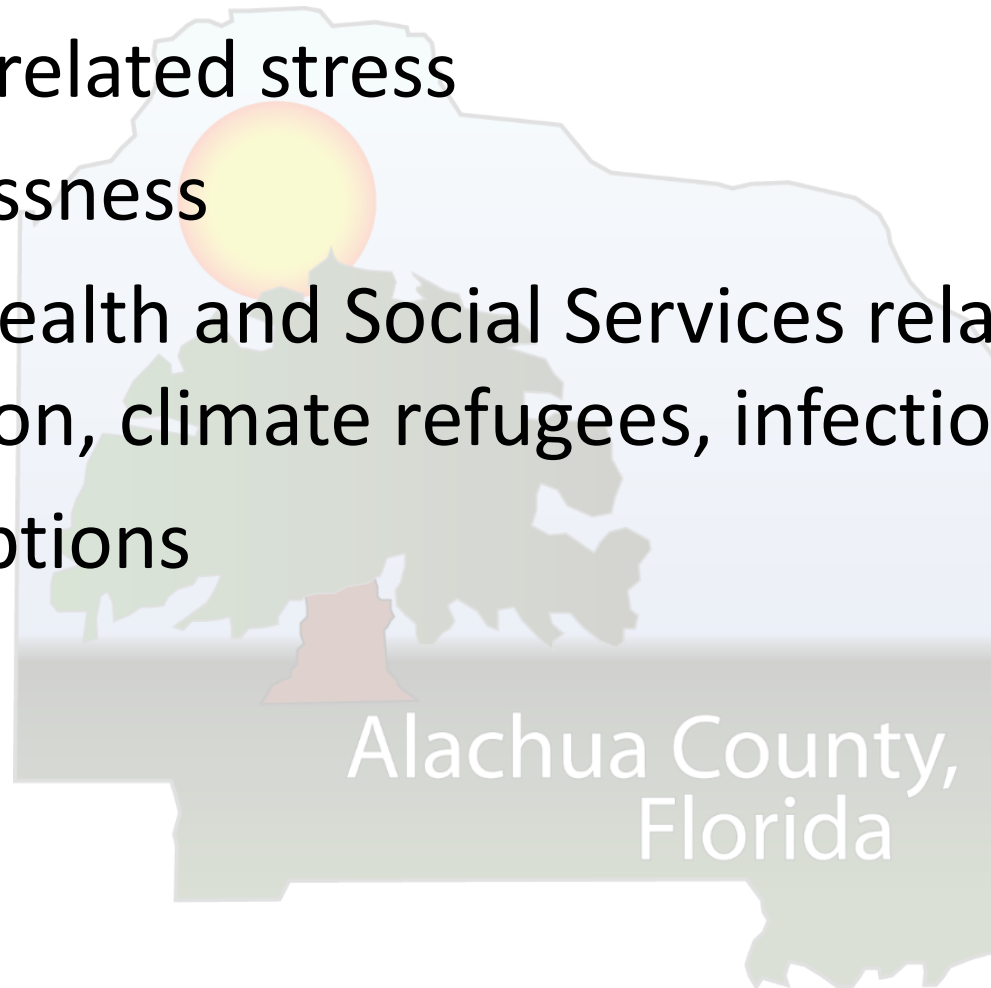
Alachua County Climate Adaptation (continued)

- Preparation and Response to Extreme Weather
- Resilient Landscapes
- Regenerative Agriculture/Conventional Agriculture
- Local Foods
- Supply Chains
- Emergency Management



Emerging Social and Health Concerns

- Managing Climate related stress
- Increasing Homelessness
- Impact on Public Health and Social Services related to population migration, climate refugees, infectious diseases
- Supply chain disruptions



FAC Statements on Climate Change

- The Florida Association of Counties (FAC) supports a comprehensive state climate action plan, with energy policies and other initiatives to reduce greenhouse gases and to address ecosystem sustainability, long term water supply, flood protection, public health and safety, and economic prosperity.
- The FAC supports state and federal recognition of adaptation and mitigation as critical to any climate change plan, and the funding necessary to assist local governments in developing and implementing these initiatives.
- The FAC supports collaboration among regional coalitions focused on resiliency and climate change in order to maximize resources, share information, analysis, and best practices, and foster useful collaboration.

NACo Statements on Climate Change

- Opposes unfunded federal mandates
- Supports a reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases
- Urges Congress to address global/warming/climate change and provide financial and technical assistance to local governments to help develop and implement local climate change adaption, plans, and initiatives.
- Supports active county participation in climate legislation initiatives

Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried's Proposed Florida Climate and Energy Plan

- Investments in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- Increase Resiliency of Florida's Infrastructure
- Promote Clean, Safe, and Sustainable Transportation
- Advance the Energy-Water Nexus
- Decrease the Energy Burden on Low-Income Communities
- Improve Electric Industry Infrastructure
- Improve Ag water efficiency, grow biofuel crop, reduce GHG emissions and increase water quality
- Establish Florida Advisory Council on Climate and Energy

Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (SFRCCC)

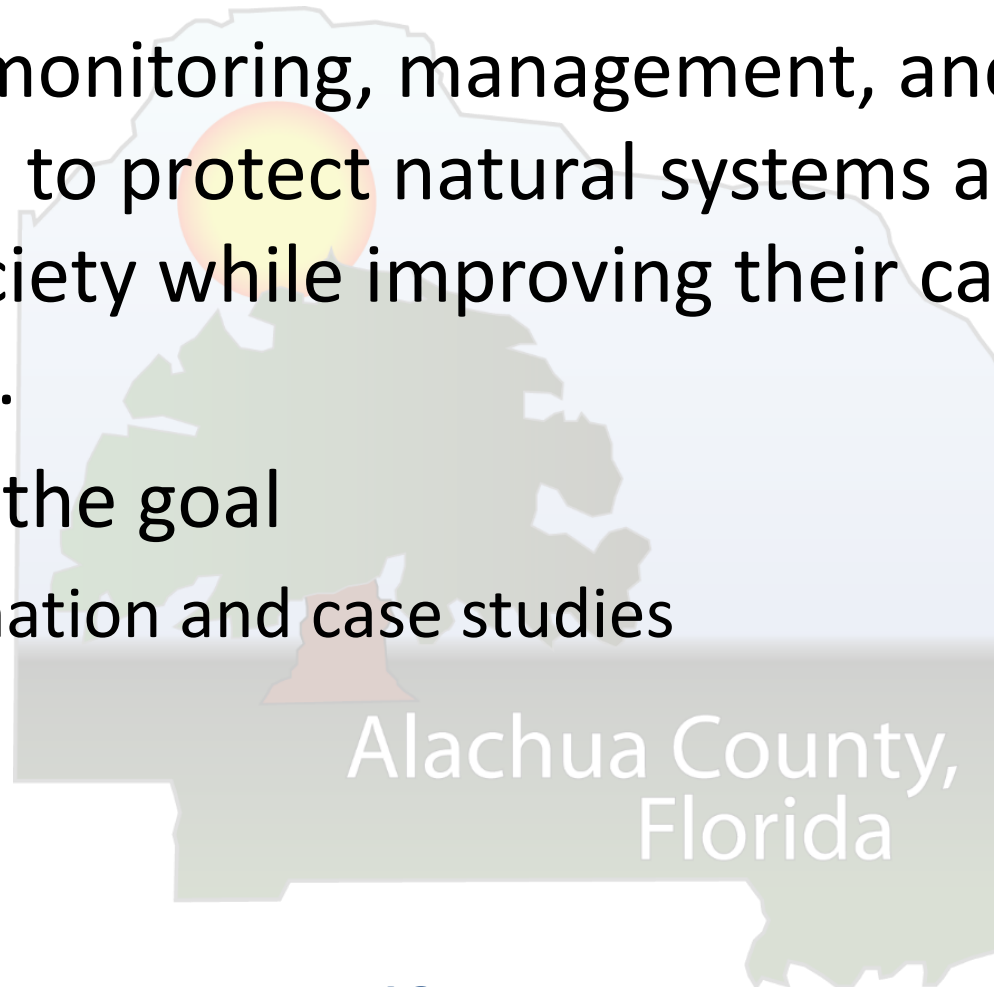


- Started in 2010 with coastal Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach Counties (representing over 6.2 million residents and 2017 GDP of \$344.9 Billion).
- Sea level rise and coastal flooding are primary concerns
- Compact represents 39 local governments and federal, state, regional, nonprofit, academic, private sector partners,
- Convene annual summit to identify emerging issues (650 attended their last summit)

Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact

Natural Systems Recommendation Example

- **Goal:** Implement monitoring, management, and conservation programs designed to protect natural systems and the services they provide to society while improving their capacity for climate adaptation.
- 15 Policies to meet the goal
 - Background information and case studies



Next Steps

Staff recommendations:

- Develop and implement Local Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plan
- Strengthen climate change policies in Comprehensive Plan
- Collaborate with other local, regional, state, and federal initiatives
- Create a Climate Crisis Advisory Committee
- Engage community stakeholders to develop a list of local climate resiliency initiatives for surtax referendum consideration on the 2020 General Election ballot