
NATURAL RESOURCES - GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

ENV Policy 1.4.9: Watershed Planning Overlay District (WPOD)

The County shall establish the Watershed Planning Overlay District as illustrated on FLUM Series Map #4 and Map #4A. The intent of the WPOD is to protect the quantity and quality of water within the Hendrickson Dam Reservoir, which is the City of Punta Gorda's potable water supply. Since all overground and underground waters within the watersheds of Shell Creek and Prairie Creek drain into the reservoir, those watershed perimeters shall constitute the boundary of the of the Overlay. The creek system is delineated along with the boundaries of two significant water sources, Long Island Marsh and Tippen Bay.

1. The following shall apply throughout the entire Overlay:
 - a. By right uses shall be those allowed by the comprehensive plan.
 - b. All agricultural and resource conservation uses are encouraged to utilize Best Management Practices as created by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Florida Department of Forestry, as applicable. The County shall support and assist, as possible, in the Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS) projects and the Federal Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).
 - c. The generation or transmission of petroleum products or other hazardous substances is prohibited. The storage and use of such products as incidental to a permitted use are allowed (the exemption shall not be construed to relieve these activities from compliance with applicable State and Federal regulations pertaining to the installation and use of hazardous substances). An exemption may also be made for biofuel generation manufacturing operations when in conjunction with an agricultural operation that utilizes Best Management Practices.
2. The following shall apply within one-half mile of the creek system and within Long Island Marsh or Tippen Bay:
 - a. There shall be no increases in intensity. This does not apply to changes in agricultural uses.
 - b. Density is restricted to the maximum density allowed at time of adoption of this comprehensive plan. There shall be no increases in density.
 - c. Group III excavations are prohibited.
 - d. Agricultural Best Management Practices are required.
 - e. Biofuel generation manufacturing operations are prohibited.

- f. Prohibited uses may be allowed on a case by case basis by the Board of County Commissioners if it can be demonstrated through generally accepted, science-based analysis that the proposed use will have no negative affect on the quality or quantity of water within the Hendrickson Dam Reservoir. In no case shall prohibited uses be allowed within one-quarter mile of the shoreline of the creeks or creeks' tributaries.
3. The following are prohibited within 200 feet of the mean high water mark of the creeks and creeks' tributaries:
 - a. All septic systems (including all components of those systems), and
 - b. The storage or use of any hazardous substances.
4. For residential properties adjacent to the creek system, the County shall require adherence to the standard outlined within 40D-40.301(2)(f), Southwest Florida Water Management District Rules.

ENV Policy 1.4.10: Surface Water Protection Planning Overlay District (SWPPOD)

The County shall establish the Surface Water Protection Planning Overlay District as illustrated on FLUM Series Map #4 and Map #4B-5. The intent of the SWPPOD is to improve surface water quality by providing for natural filtration of pollutants prior to stormwater flows entering the waterbodies that feed into the Myakka River, Peace River, Lemon Bay, or Charlotte Harbor. Charlotte County shall place those natural and manmade waterbodies identified on FLUM Series Map #4 and #4B-5 into the SWPPOD.

Owners of property adjacent to these waterbodies, and the receiving waterbodies, are encouraged to utilize alternatives to traditional sodding such as berming, planting or retaining native vegetation, and utilizing bio-retention swales and rain gardens. A reduction of impervious surfaces parcel-wide is also encouraged. Fertilizer and pesticide usage is discouraged.

ENV Policy 1.4.13: Prime Floridan Aquifer Recharge Protection

Within Charlotte County's Pprime Floridan Aaquifer R recharge Aarea, as identified on Future Land Use Map Series Map #10-6, the County shall prohibit the generation or transmission of petroleum products or other hazardous substances. The storage and use of such products as incidental to a permitted use are allowed (the exemption shall not be construed to relieve these activities from compliance with applicable State and Federal regulations pertaining to the installation and use of hazardous substances). The County shall further protect its aquifer recharge area by requiring properties to develop in accordance with the guidelines of the Groundwater and Aquifer Recharge subelement of the Infrastructure element, AQR Policies 1.1.1 and 1.1.2.