

**North and Central Indian River Lagoon (IRL)
Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)**

Public Meeting Summary

Saturday, November 10, 2012

11:45 AM – 12:20 PM

*Indian River Lagoon Day – Front Street Park
2210 Front Street, Melbourne, Florida*

Attendees

Bob Day, Cocoa Beach Citizen	Troy Rice, IRL NEP
Michael Fitzgerald, Sebastian Citizen	Henry Stephens, Palm Bay Citizen
Julie Hanson, Indian River Land Trust	Terry Stephens, Palm Bay Citizen
Mary Paulic, FDEP	Lee Webster, Palm Bay Citizen
Marcy Policastro, Wildwood Consulting	

Questions and Comments on the BMAPs

Lee Webster asked how the local governments are removing nutrients from the lagoon. Mary Paulic responded that they are implementing the projects listed in the presentation including stormwater ponds, swales, street sweeping, and baffle boxes that capture debris before the water goes to the lagoon. In addition to the local government and state projects, there are also efforts that the citizens can implement to improve the lagoon.

Henry Stephens asked if most of the cities and counties are enacting fertilizer ordinances. Mary responded that a fertilizer ordinance is one of the actions the local governments can implement to help reduce nutrient loading. Henry noted that in Indian River County, the commission dismissed the idea of enacting a fertilizer ordinance because it would not be feasible to enforce. The county is instead working to reduce fertilizer use through education efforts so implementation is voluntary for the user. He asked if the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has a preference for how to approach fertilizer reductions. Mary responded that FDEP understands that a fertilizer ordinance is difficult to enforce. FDEP has been encouraging ordinances but they would like to see at least a good educational effort to provide information to the citizens. Henry stated that there are so many cities and so many different ways to try to make people comply with fertilizer reductions. There will never be 100% implementation of a fertilizer ordinance. Mary responded that fertilizer ordinances are really about partnerships and they do take time to implement. Henry stated that the Marine Resources Council and citizen groups have approached the Indian River County Commission about enacting a fertilizer ordinance but these groups have been dismissed. FDEP has not come to the commission and told them that they must enact the ordinance. Mary responded that she could talk with the FDEP municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) staff about Indian River County's permit and options for talking to the county about an ordinance. However, this might not be the right time for the county to enact an ordinance.

Bob Day noted that the legislature had tried to require fertilizer ordinances for all local governments but this effort is not working. Troy Rice stated that Brevard County would bring their fertilizer ordinance to the commission's December meeting so Brevard County should have a fertilizer ordinance soon. Bob added that Brevard County drafted their ordinance in coordination with their local governments and the ordinance will also apply to the local governments.