



# **Alachua County Environmental Protection Advisory Committee Program Summary**

Alachua County,  
**June 25, 2024**  
Florida

**BoCC Presentation**

**John Rosenbek, EPAC Chair**

# Alachua County Environmental Protection Advisory Committee Members

John Rosenbek

Christopher Stoney

Neesha Anderson

Bettina Moser



Holly Florence

George Papadi

Jeff Arnold

Jan Frentzen

David Moritz

# Alachua County Environmental Protection Advisory Committee History

April, 1984

- EPAC established
- Focus on hazardous materials
- Seven-member committee

August, 2019

- Protection of various environmental resources
- Twelve-member committee
- Extended Sunset date to 2025

# EPAC Major Accomplishments FY 2023

## Land Use & Conservation

- Completed recommendation to BOCC regarding the Lee Special Area Study and presented at public meeting
- Discussed Weyerhaeuser's proposed development bordering SR 121 with Jennie Ford, City of Gainesville Environmental Planner

### Alachua County EPAC Upcoming Community Conversation Forum – A Better Future for Florida

October 12, 2021



Press release from Alachua County

# EPAC Major Accomplishments FY 2023

## Waste Management

- Analyzed Alachua County's landfill diversion practices recommended updates to Comprehensive Plan Policy 1.2.5 regarding plastics as a fuel source or as feedstock for a waste to energy facility

**ECOLOOP**

Landfill Diversion Options



# EPAC Major Accomplishments FY 2023

## Water Resources & Quality

- Advised Alachua County to collaborate with the Florida Springs Council on legislative issues
- Made suggestions to Water Resources Program regarding Water Conservation and Irrigation Code updates
- Encouraged BOCC to pass a resolution in support of Right to Clean and Healthy Waters state constitutional amendment



# Goals FY 2024



## New Categories



Water Resource Protection

Land Development and  
Conservation

Recycling and Waste Management

Health and Safety

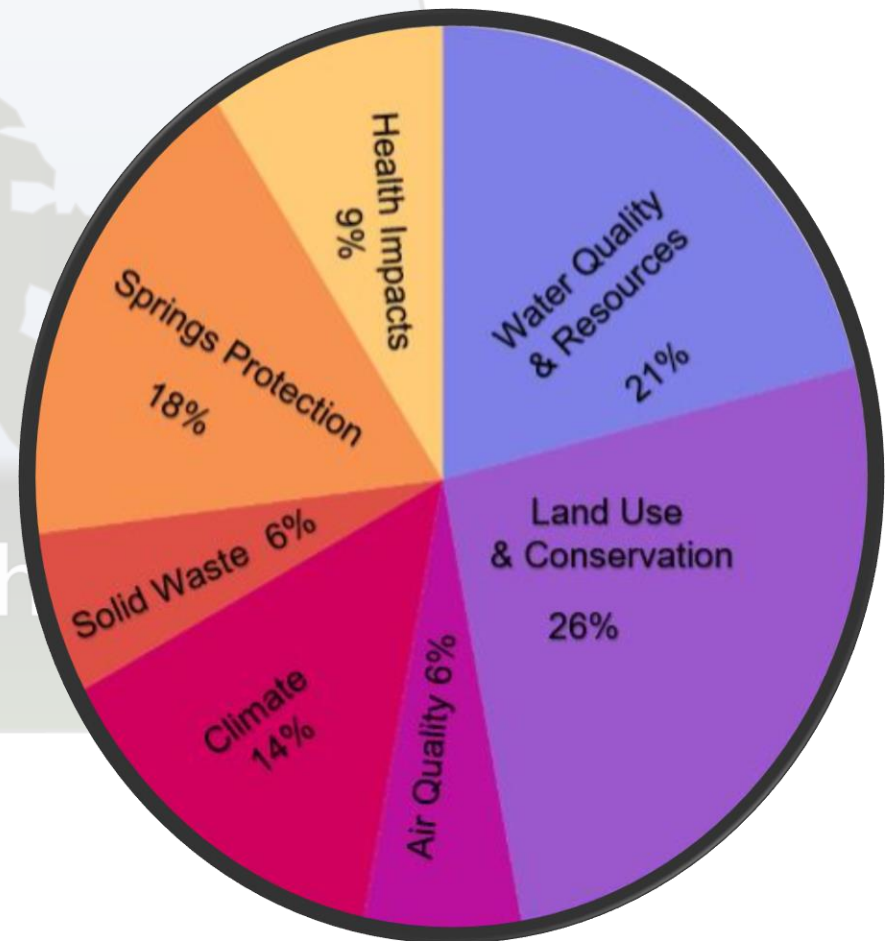
Community Outreach and Equity

# Outreach and Equity

- Develop a structured approach to collect community feedback and select topics for Community Conversations
- Bring Community Conversations to a live audience
- Currently planning a panel discussion on Land Use and Preservation

Question: *What Local Environmental Concern is most important ?*

## Survey Responses

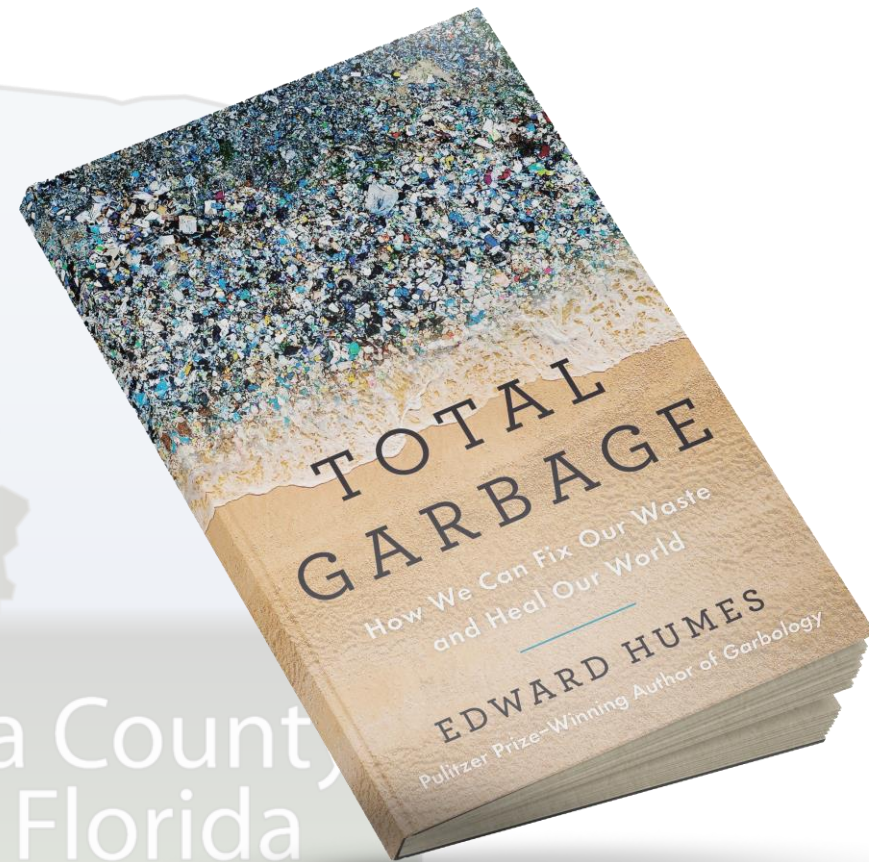


Credit: Krista Kilburg, UF Intern  
Spring Semester 2024



# Health and Safety

- Analyze research on microplastics and provide recommendations
- Identify opportunities for collaboration with Citizen Climate Advisory Committee and promote initiatives that foster awareness and engagement



# Land Use and Conservation

- Propose approaches to reduce environmental impacts of major development projects
- Support Alachua County Forever's proposed Agricultural Protection Strategy
- Investigate and promote the benefits of integrating pervious surfaces into land development and stormwater codes



## America the Beautiful

Share

Spotlighting the work to restore, connect and conserve at least 30 percent of lands and waters by 2030



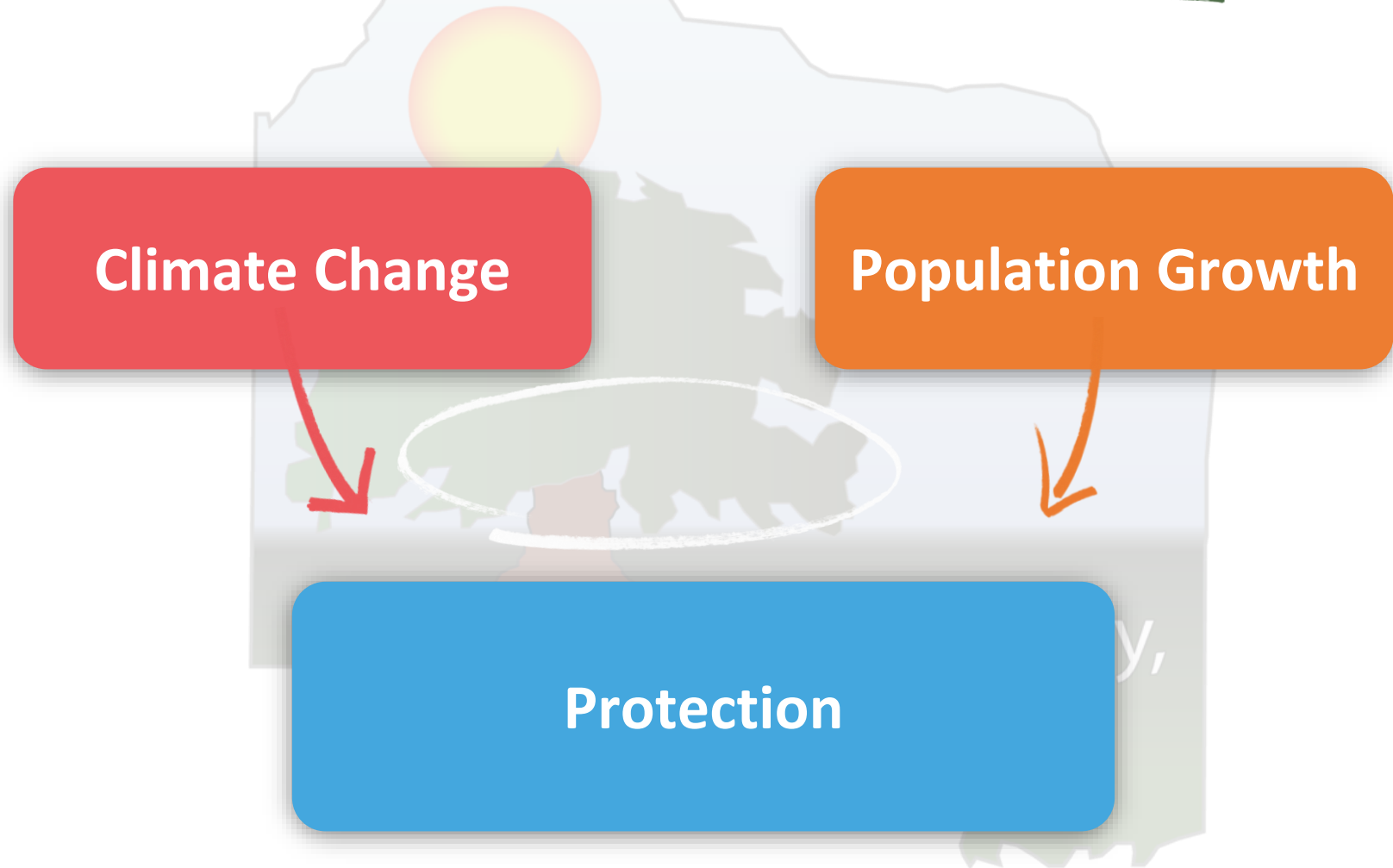
# Water Resources Protection

- Focus on challenges facing our springs, wetlands, and water systems
- Consider proposed GRU groundwater recharge facility
- Propose recommendations accordingly

Poe Springs Park



# Origins of our 2024 Goals





**Thank you for  
supporting EPAC**

Alachua County,  
Florida