



Alachua County Water Conservation Code Changes Adoption Hearing

May 23, 2023

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Program Manager



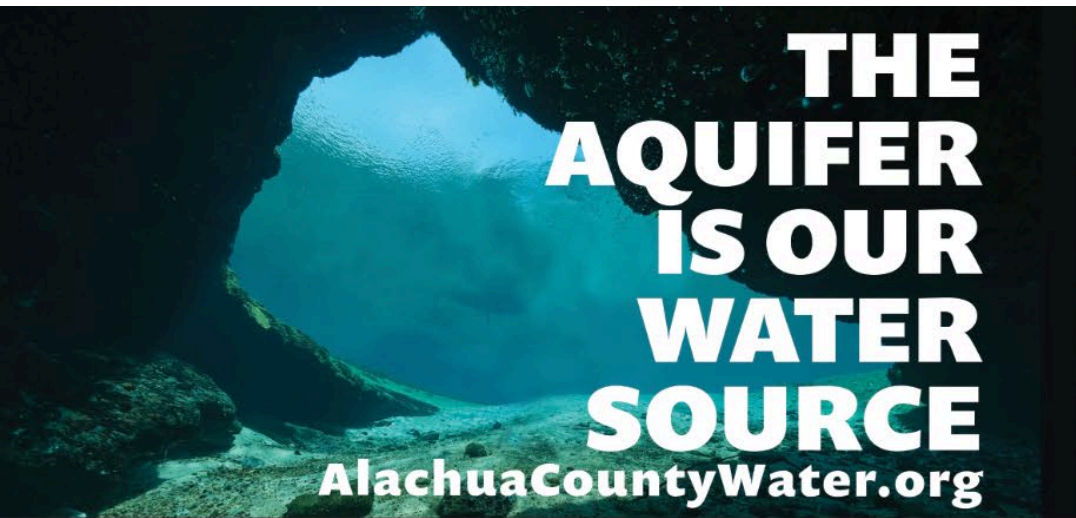
Presentation Outline

- Summary of proposed Code Changes
 - Chapter 77, Section 77.03, Definitions
 - Chapter 77, Article VI Irrigation Design Code
 - Chapter 77, Article VII HOA FFL Code
 - ULDC Chapter 406, Article VIII Springs and High Aquifer Recharge
- Public Engagement Efforts
- Staff recommendation



Irrigation Design Code Changes Summary

- Applicable to new systems and modifications (**additions**)
- Requirements waived for Florida Water StarSM **Gold** Certification
- Limit irrigation to **50% of permeable area** (single family lots and commercial or common areas of residential)
- Maximum **0.25 acres** of irrigation on single family lots
- Commercial Systems must register with the County and provide documentation of annual irrigation system inspection/audit
- Create the Water Conservation Fund for money collected due to violations

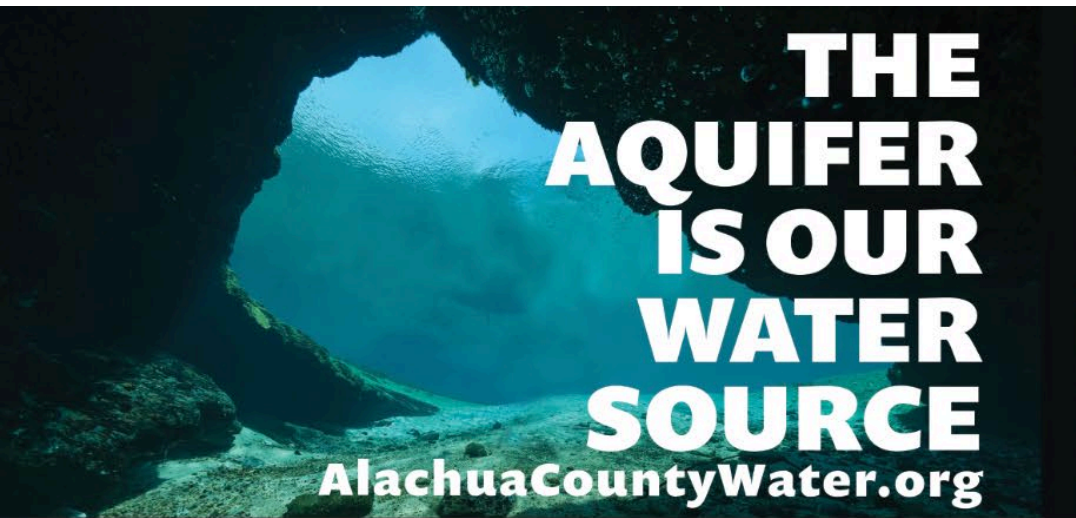


Irrigation Design Code Changes – BoCC directed

- Permeable Area definition

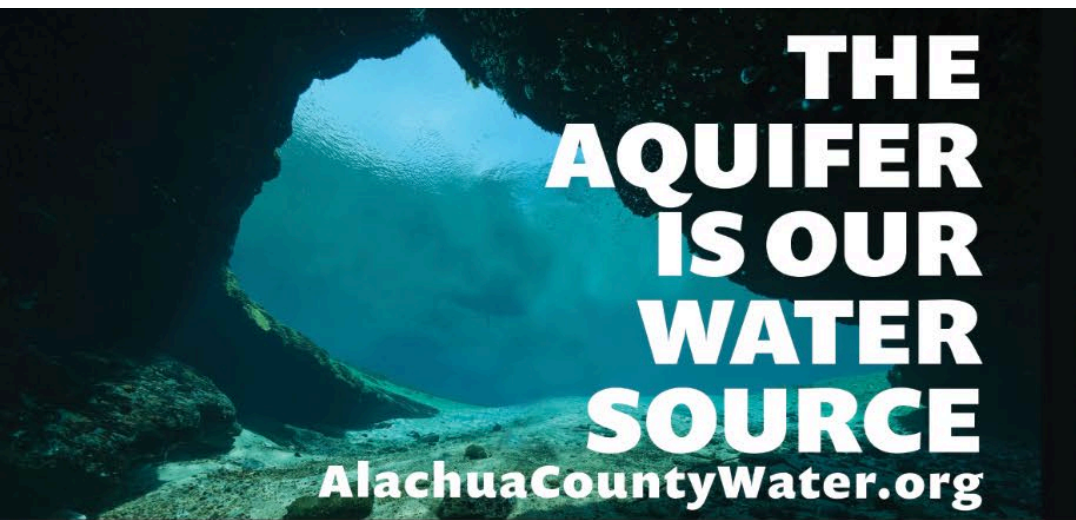
Permeable area means the entire parcel less the building footprint, driveways, paved or impervious surfaces, hardscapes such as decks and patios (whether pervious or impervious), pools, waterbodies, **stormwater basins, or any protected conservation resources or natural areas.** Specifically, any permeable surface that is typically covered with planted vegetation, turfgrass, landscaping, gardens or mulch on a given lot or parcel.

- Other minor text changes



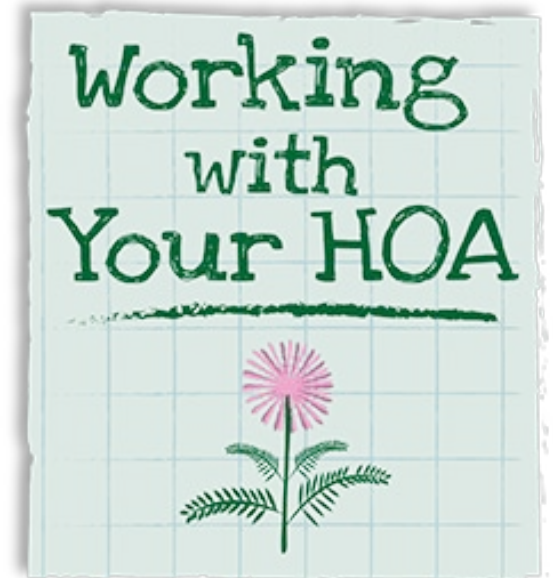
Irrigation Design Code Changes – Projected Savings

- Typical $\frac{1}{4}$ acre lot uses \sim 2,000 gallons per irrigation cycle
(Source: IFAS AE54400)
 - Assume 100% of the yard was irrigated
 - Limiting irrigation to 50% of the lot could reduce use by 50%, saving 86,000 gallons per lot per year



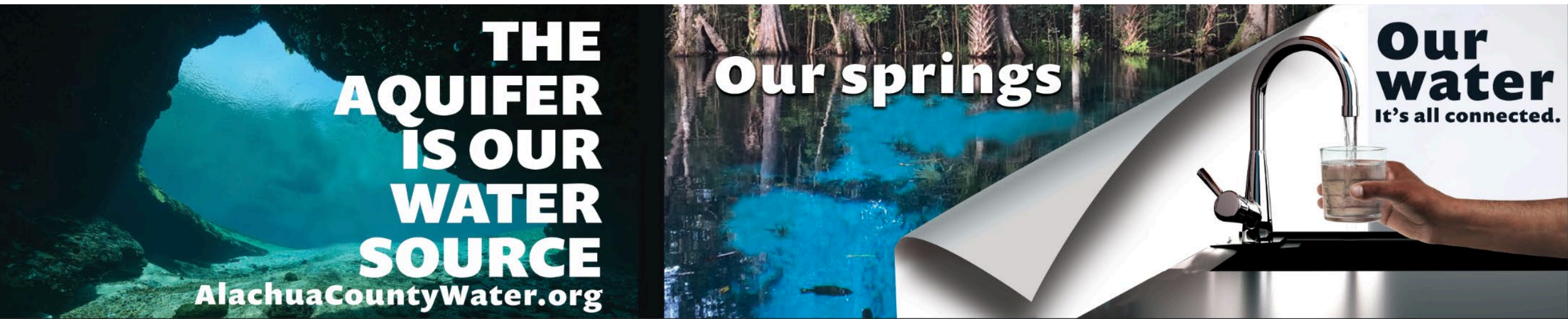
HOA Florida Friendly Landscaping Code

- Adopted in 2019
 - Deed restrictions, covenants or local ordinances cannot prohibit implementation of FFL
 - Homeowners still need to follow their HOA covenants
 - Deed restriction or covenants adopted after 10/1/19 shall not require a property owner to have a permanent irrigation system
- Proposed Changes:
 - HOAs must keep a contact on file with Alachua County
 - Fines would go to Water Conservation Fund

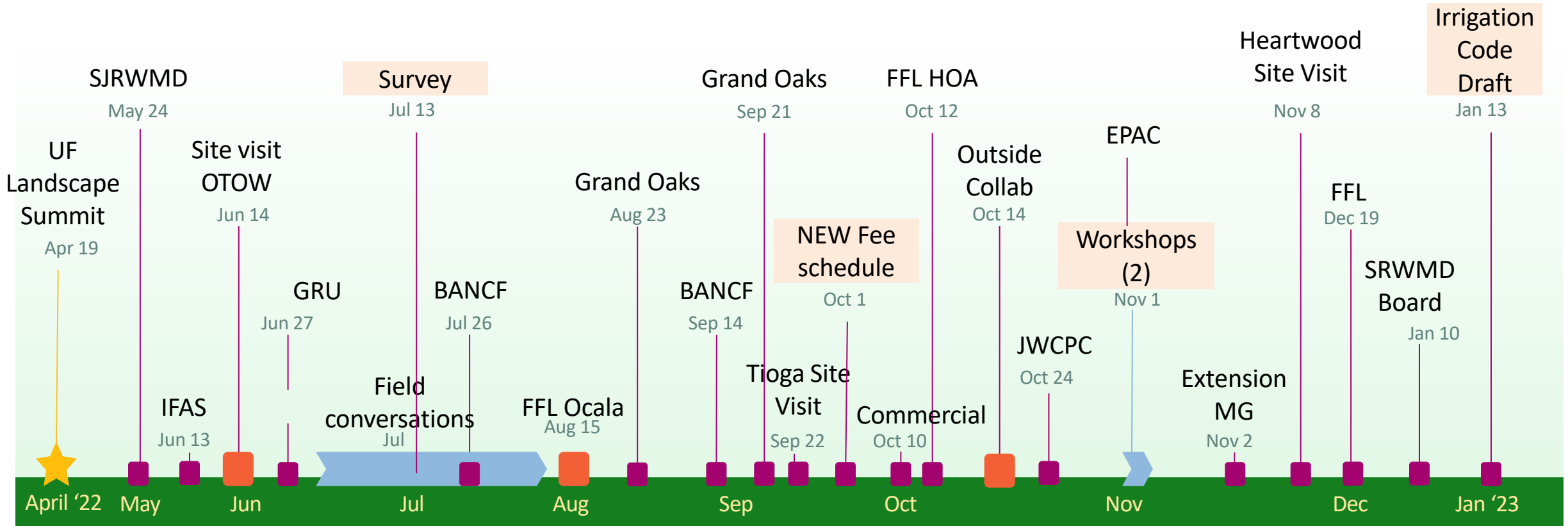


Article VIII Springs and High Aquifer Recharge Areas

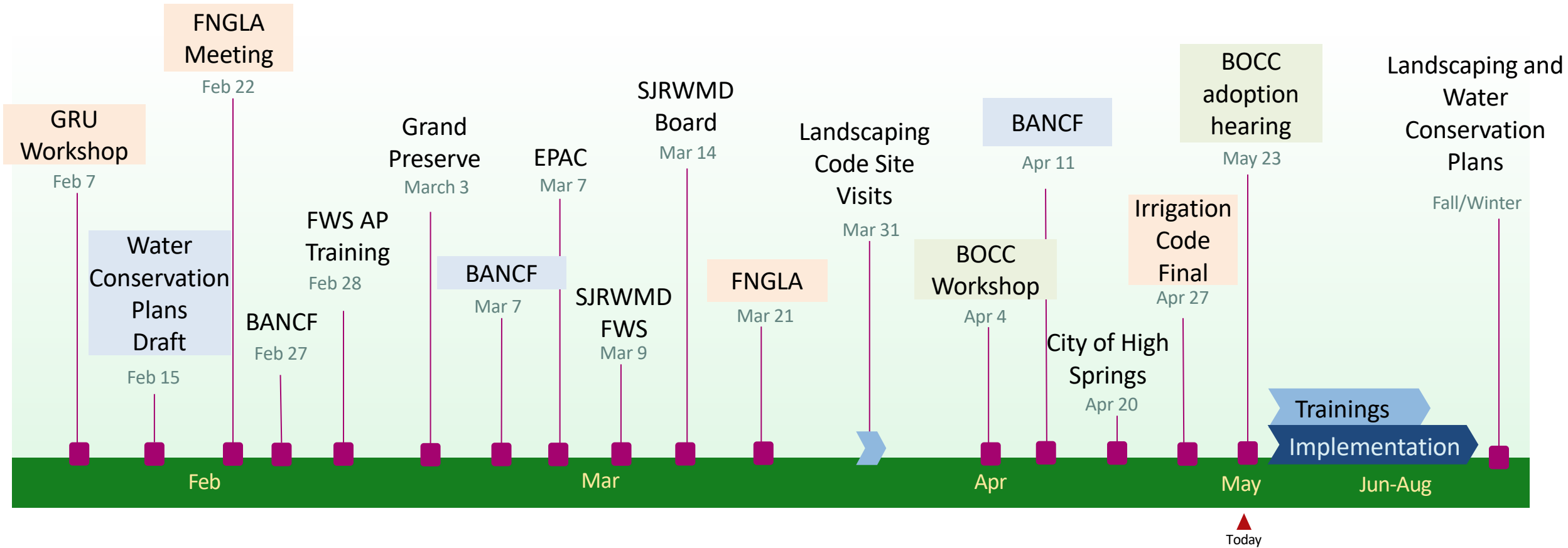
- Applies in unincorporated Alachua County
- Proposed Changes
 - Update language to reference Irrigation Design Code (removes conflicts)



Public Engagement to date



Public Engagement to date and next steps



Staff Recommendation

- Convene as the Land Development Regulation Commission and find the proposed amendments to the Unified Land Development Code consistent with the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan.
- Reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners and approve the ordinance.