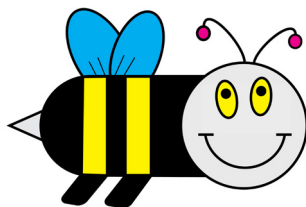


2022 HSWCD Year In Review



Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District Florida



“Conservation is everybody’s business”

HSWCD Fights To Stop Abolishment of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Florida

The Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District was at the Florida Capitol in Tallahassee during the 2022 legislative session to testify against companion bills introduced by Sen. Travis Hutson (SB 1078) and Rep. Keith Truenow (HB 783). The bills called for the abolishment of soil and water conservation districts statewide. Signed into law June 15, the combined bill, as amended, called instead for a reconstitution of who can run for election to fill supervisor seats for the state's 56 districts.

- **HSWCD Executive Director Betty Jo Tompkins attended multiple meetings and offered testimony** before appropriate legislative committees, which resulted in bill amendments that eliminated original abolishment intent.
- **HSWCD prepared and sent mailings** to members of the Hillsborough Legislative Delegation, to House and Senate committee members, and to other groups and organizations concerning the proposed bills.
- **HSWCD coordinated with Farm Bureau Day at the State Capitol** to allow for Florida conservation district representatives to participate. The event includes legislative meetings and briefings and the **Taste of Florida**, at which HSWCD served Hillsborough-grown food.
- **HSWCD worked immediately to fill vacancies created by SB 1078**, which the governor signed into law the evening of June 15, less than two days before the qualifying deadline for local candidates (June 17 at noon).
- **HSWCD is working with legislators to introduce a bill to correct a deficiency** that makes Hillsborough County the only county in Florida compelled to use school board districts to establish HSWCD district boundaries. This does not allow the county to meet the requirement that five districts encompass 20 percent of local land mass each.



Testimony in Tallahassee

"I was fortunate enough to spend the entire day visiting Senate offices before the House committee meeting. Our intent was to show the broad range of activities and impact that soil and water conservation districts can have throughout Florida and the rest of the nation."

— Betty Jo Tompkins / Feb. 14, 2022



"If you pass this bill the way it is written, a person who has a Ph.D. in agronomy, soil sciences, working as a researcher with the University of Florida for the past 30 years in soil nutrition, to better our ability to raise crops and feed the world, they couldn't even apply or compete for a seat on one of these boards."

"Roy Davis, our previous chairman of our board, who has over 70 years in the agriculture business . . . he would not qualify [to run for the board] because he's not actively farming right now. But he's one of the most intelligent people in the field of horticulture in Florida."

— Betty Jo Tompkins
Jan. 24, 2022



Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District / Florida

Board of Supervisors

Kathy Eckdahl, *Chair*
Andrew Brooks, *Vice Chair*
Dr. Sonja Brookins, *Treasurer*
Karen Cox Jaroch, *Supervisor*
Mark Proctor, *Supervisor*

Executive Director

Betty Jo Tompkins
Cell: 813-477-8332
Email: bjt6890@yahoo.com

Mailing Address

Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District
201 South Collins Street
Suite 202
Plant City, FL 33562

Visit Us

Web site:
HillsboroughSWCD.com
Social Media:
[Facebook.com/HillsboroughSWCD](https://www.facebook.com/HillsboroughSWCD)

January 7, 2022

The Honorable Travis Hutson
416 Senate Building
404 South Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Senator Hutson:

WE NEED YOUR HELP! The Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District, representing Florida’s 3rd largest agricultural county, opposes companion bills HB 783 and SB 1078, which seek to abolish all 58 Florida SWCD’s.

Established during the Dust Bowl of the 1930’s, almost 3,000 Conservation Districts nationwide provide critical conservation services through citizen driven, locally directed nonpartisan agencies led by elected, unpaid Supervisors. What makes Conservation Districts unique is that their programming is designed to meet the specific needs of each county they serve.

Here in Hillsborough County, our programs, projects and activities are focused on the needs of inner-city, urban, suburban and rural communities alike. Through partnerships with FDACS (Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services), NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service), USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) and others, HSWCD distributes much needed cost share funding to bona fide agricultural operators who engage in Best Management Practices (BMPs) to save tens of millions of gallons of water; reclaim land; restore water quality; protect wildlife; and enhance soil nutrition to maximize crop production and yield. **WITH ISSUES SUCH AS GLOBAL FOOD SHORTAGES AND CLIMATE DISRUPTION ON THE HORIZON, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE INCREASE CONSERVATION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION IMMEDIATELY.**

Moreover, in our own county, our annual signature Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge has engaged thousands of people in “Action Awareness” projects that demonstrate the many ways individuals, businesses, groups and community non-profits can further the cause of conservation. This highly replicable HSWCD program involves more than 100 activities annually, including road, river and bay cleanups; school and community gardens; recycling of paper, plastic and electronics; tree plantings; pollinator programs; and more, all supported by agricultural interests; businesses; civic clubs; corporations; educational and religious organizations; governmental entities; school and youth groups; non-profits; families and individuals. **For more information, please review the enclosed tabloid that is published annually in conjunction with the Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge. Visit online the following editions: [2021](#), [2019](#), [2018](#), and [2017](#).**



“Conservation is everybody’s business”



Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District / Florida

To illustrate the growing impact of HSWCD initiatives, we lead and direct 26 school garden programs, which we're set to expand to more than 50 schools in 2022. With more than 160 Title 1 schools countywide, school gardens are essential to help resolve food insecurity in underserved areas. Rounding out our year-long effort to engage children of all ages and backgrounds in the work and understanding of conservation action and awareness, HSWCD presents and/or supports a myriad of annual events, including poster, speech, land judging and rain barrel decorating contests; Envirothon (also known as the "environmental Olympics"), Ag-Venture, strawberry and blueberry U-picks; and educational exhibits at more than a dozen fairs, festivals and events that collectively attract more than 1 million attendees. **For more information on these and other activities, visit [HSWCD celebrates year of impact engaging communities, securing resources for conservation](https://www.hillsboroughswcd.com) at [HillsboroughSWCD.com](https://www.hillsboroughswcd.com).**

Over the past four years, Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District programs, projects and activities have been featured at both regional and national conferences, and the District has received considerable private sector support. We are good stewards not only of our natural resources, but also of the public and private funds entrusted to us.

Simply put, Soil and Water Conservation Districts are educators, not regulators, who meet a critical public need in the most cost-effective manner possible. Your support in opposing this legislation is both imperative and greatly appreciated.

And finally, when the Session is over, we welcome you to attend the 2022 Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge Kickoff Luncheon, April 12th at noon at The Regent in Riverview. Join us as we celebrate with our community of diverse backgrounds and interests our collective drive to raise awareness for a most necessary cause. Indeed, "Conservation *is* everybody's business."

Sincerely,

Kathy Eckdahl
HSWCD Board Chair

Karen Cox Jaroch
HSWCD Supervisor

Andrew Brooks
HSWCD Vice Chair

Mark Proctor
HSWCD Supervisor

Dr. Sonja Brookins
HSWCD Treasurer

Betty Jo Tompkins
HSWCD Executive Director



Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District / Florida

Board of Supervisors

Andrew Brooks, *Chair*
Dr. Sonja Brookins, *Vice Chair*
Melissa Jackson, *Treasurer*
Karen Cox Jaroch, *Supervisor*
Mark Proctor, *Supervisor*

Executive Director

Betty Jo Tompkins
Cell: 813-477-8332
Email: bjt6890@yahoo.com

Administrative Assistant

Kathy Eckdahl

Mailing Address

Hillsborough Soil and Water
Conservation District
201 South Collins Street
Suite 202
Plant City, FL 33563



Visit Us

Web site:
HillsboroughSWCD.com

Social Media:
[Facebook.com/
HillsboroughSWCD](https://www.facebook.com/HillsboroughSWCD)



**“Conservation is
everybody’s business”**

September 1, 2022

Hillsborough Legislative Delegation Member:

Please review the attached materials pertaining to the Hillsborough School Board District Map being used to determine sub-districts for the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District (HSWCD). **WE ARE THE ONLY FLORIDA COUNTY WHERE THIS IS BEING DONE.** Regardless of how you voted on Senate Bill 1078, we believe you will agree that this is an egregious mistake that totally penalizes our county.

To review the FDACS webinar where this issue was presented Aug. 17, 2022, please visit: <https://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Water-Policy/Rule-Development-Activities>.

It is critical to address this issue now. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) has set a Sept. 9, 2022 deadline for receipt of comments and questions regarding Rulemaking for SB 1078. The email address for FDACS is: AgBmpHelp@fdacs.gov.

HSWCD is proud of the expansive programming we provide to Hillsborough County’s inner-city, urban, suburban and rural communities alike. More details can be found on our web site at www.HillsboroughSWCD.com.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions. I’m available days, nights and weekends at: 813-477-8332.

Many thanks,

Betty Jo Tompkins

Betty Jo Tompkins
Executive Director
Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District



**Hillsborough
Soil & Water**
Conservation District
Florida



Comments and Questions Relating To Information Presented At: FDACS Rule Making Workshop / Aug. 17, 2022

The following was reviewed and approved by the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors at their duly called bi-monthly meeting, Aug. 31, 2022, at the Florida Strawberry Growers Association, 13138 Lewis Gallagher Road, Dover, Florida 33527.

Issue No. 1 — FDACS reported at their Aug. 17, 2022 Rulemaking webinar:

- That 49 Florida counties would use their County Commission geographic districts to serve as sub-districts for Soil and Water Conservation District boundaries as per SB 1078. (Requirement that the County Commission Districts be five in number, based on geographic size, not population.)
- That Hillsborough County would be the **only** county in Florida that would use its School Board Districts (which number 5) as the sub-districts for the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District, even though the School Board Districts are based on population, not geographic land mass, as required.
- That the sub-districts for seven remaining counties (Broward, Duval, Orange, Palm Beach, South Miami-Dade and the joint District of Calhoun and Liberty counties) would each be divided by FDACS based on geographic size as closely to 20 percent per sub-district in each county as possible (*see results below*):

County	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
Broward	19%	20%	19%	21%	20%
Duval	22%	21%	19%	16%	22%
Orange	18%	20%	20%	21%	21%
Palm Beach	17%	17%	17%	23%	26%
South Miami-Dade	26%	19%	20%	18%	18%

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SUB-DISTRICTS (*percent of land mass per district using School Board boundaries, which are population based*) are shown below:

County	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
Hillsborough	10.32%	16.92%	13.67%	52.22%	6.88%

Note: The land mass of District 4 is more than 7 times the land mass of District 5

The use of School Board boundaries in Hillsborough County is discriminatory as it functions to reduce the opportunity for qualified bonafide agricultural operators and those engaged in agricultural activities (such as veterinary medicine, as outlined in SB 1078) to have equal access to run for seats as most live within the one disproportionately large agricultural District (4). ***It is essential that the use of School Board sub-districts be eliminated.***



Issue No. 2 — It is the belief of the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District that some consideration must be made as to the distribution of agricultural entities within a county in order to make it possible for the District to meet the standard of all five (5) Supervisors being engaged in, or retired from, agricultural activity. Under the currently assigned School Board District boundaries, the Hillsborough county ag parcel count is noted below:

Hillsborough	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
Ag Parcels	424	167	745	4,270	163

Note: Many parcels zoned in ag classifications may not be currently under use.

Issue No. 3 — The Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District believes that it should be able to submit potential sub-district boundary maps for consideration since the Legislature and FDACS have both failed to protect the rights of citizens in Hillsborough County throughout this process.

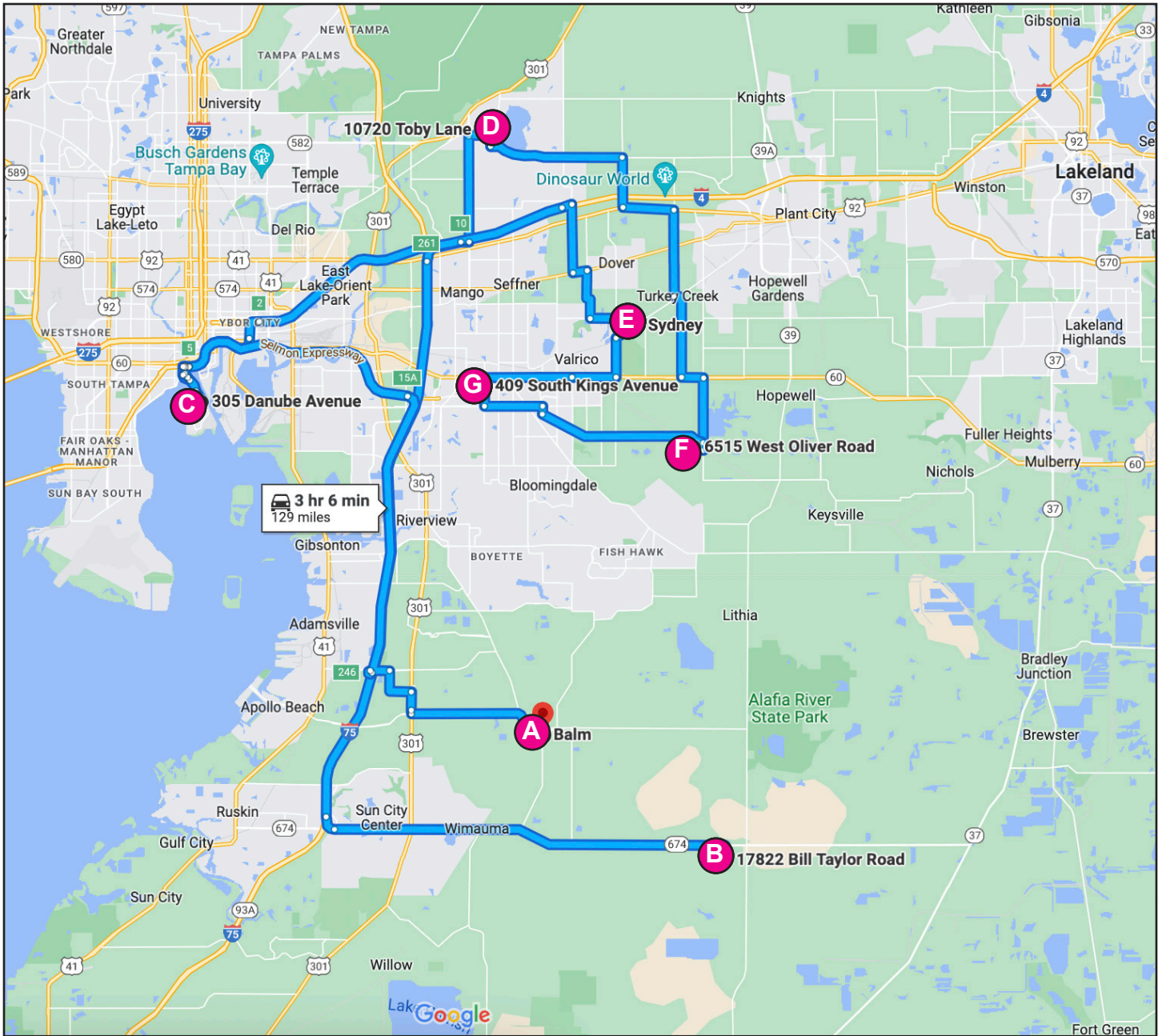
Approved by the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors at their Aug. 31, 2022 meeting, for consideration by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) and the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation

SB 1078 Legislation Timeline:

- *1st week of March 2022* — SB 1078 passes Florida Legislature.
- *2nd week of June 2022* — SB 1078 transferred to Governor’s office
- *June 15, 2022 (evening)* — Governor signs bill Wednesday evening of qualifying week, giving HSWCD only 40 hours to replace four Supervisors who did not meet SB 1078 new ag requirements, two of whom were only halfway through their elected four-year terms.
- *June 16, 2022* — General counsel of Hillsborough Supervisor of Elections Office rules that candidates running for HSWCD Supervisor seats in November 2022 can run for any seat, regardless of where they live in the county.
- *August 17, 2022* — FDACS announces on webinar that Hillsborough County will be the only county in Florida to use School Board District Maps to determine HSWCD sub-districts, even though maps fail to meet SB 1078 geographic requirements.

Contact: Betty Jo Tompkins, HSWCD Executive Director / 813-477-8332 / bjt6890@yahoo.com

2022 CANDIDATES / Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District



A	District 1	* Chris "Bear" McCullough	P.O. Box 7	Balm FL
B	District 2	* Ryan Gill	17822 Bill Taylor Road	Lithia 33547
C	District 2	Kim O'Connor	305 Danube	Tampa 33606
D	District 3	David Maynard	10720 Toby Lane	Thonotosassa 33592
E	District 3	* Adam Young	P.O. Box 8	Sydney FL
F	District 4	* Myke Morris	6515 W. Oliver Road	Plant City 33567
G	District 5	* Mark Proctor	409 South Kings Ave.	Brandon 33511

* Elected November 2022

Soil & Water Conservation District

(813) 477-8332 | hillsboroughswcd.com

Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District's (HSWCD) mission is to provide agricultural and conservation related programs, projects, and activities to youth and adult residents in inner-city, urban, suburban, and rural communities throughout the county. The district operates under the belief that "Conservation is Everybody's Business." Its major countywide program is the Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge, which is held annually between Earth Day in April and Soil Stewardship Week in May. This challenge engages agricultural groups, businesses, churches, civic clubs, educational institutions, families, governmental entities, schools, youth organizations, and others to conduct an array of projects. Challenge activities include road, river, and bay cleanups; recycling of paper, plastic, and electronics; wildflower and tree plantings; pollinator projects; community and school gardens; educational programs at fairs, festivals and schools, among others. The district also administers cost share programs for bona fide agricultural operators throughout the year.

FY 21 and FY 22 Accomplishments:

- Successfully completed the 2021 Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge which, in spite of COVID restrictions, resulted in a vast array of conservation projects and programs benefiting Hillsborough County residents. In addition, HSWCD published a 28-page, full-color Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge tabloid distributed through the Tampa Bay Times and at fairs, festivals, and events throughout the year.
- Presented educational displays and programs at Hillsborough County Fair, Hillsborough County Fall Festival, Florida Ag Expo, Florida State Fair, Florida Strawberry Festival, National Association of Conservation Districts national meeting, Southeast Conservation Districts Employee Association annual meeting, as

well as schools, etc. to broaden the understanding and engagement of the public and others in the critical responsibility of conserving the county's soil and water. These events reached an audience in excess of one million people.

- Conducted wildflower and tree plantings all year, the largest being the "Let's Plant Some Trees" event with 200 volunteers planting 20,000 donated long leaf pine seedlings in the Lower Green Swamp Preserve.

FY 22 and FY 23 Core Goals:

- Continue to develop and grow the Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge to bring greater awareness to the public as to the critical need and responsibility each resident has to the overall protection of the environment.
- To expand educational outreach through displays and programs at fairs, festivals, and other events throughout



**Hillsborough
Soil & Water**
Conservation District
Florida

the year, as well as an expansion of school educational programs, including school garden programs.

- Present and support additional conservation events, such as cleanup campaigns, major planting events, recycling, etc.

FY 22 and FY 23 Key Projects:

- Although HSWCD presented displays and exhibits throughout the year, the display at the 2022 Florida State Fair was the largest to date. Planned in 2021, the display was 1,800 square feet (30 x 60) in the center of the State Fair's Ag Hall of Fame building. The theme was "Conservation is Everybody's Business" and featured a student-painted 24-by-8 foot mural on "Bees, Bats, Birds and Butterflies ... Our Perfect Pollinators."
- The Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge is the district's key project for the entire year as it represents almost 100 different programs, projects, and activities, including the annual full-color tabloid.
- Community events are crucial, and the 20,000 long leaf pine seedling planting was HSWCD's largest to date, with over 200 volunteers. In addition, HSWCD held first-time strawberry and blueberry u-picks, with revenues going to HSWCD's youth programs, and its 5th annual successful "Great Plant Auction" at the County Fair, also supporting HSWCD youth programs.

Innovation:

The HSWCD created, planned, developed, and built its 1,800-square-foot exhibit at the 2022 Florida State Fair. Although it exhibits annually in multiple fairs and festivals, the HSWCD had never undertaken an exhibit of this size. The display was a collaboration of many agricultural and other groups from both private and public sectors, including the USDA, the Environmental

FY 2023 Hillsborough County Budget Book

Protection Commission, Farm Bureau, Hillsborough County Extension Service, City of Tampa, and Hillsborough County government, among others. The booth also included a display by Florida A&M University, who had never participated in the State Fair prior to HSWCD's invitation. Elements of the display included an art section where over 1,500 youth and adult fairgoers painted one of 24 themed pictures with a bee and message, such as "BEE Kind," "BEE Grateful," "BEE Generous," and others. Another area included rain barrels with hearts, flowers, and other designs that were colorfully painted by fairgoers. The display reached an audience of over 500,000 people with educational information and materials.



Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District's Florida State Fair exhibit mural with student artists and volunteers.



Educational conservation displays included in HSWCD State Fair exhibit.

Performance Measures

Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge programs, projects, and activities. Conducted challenge projects and continued program expansion. The challenge falls between April and May annually, with the newest program being "Operation Pollination," a major collaboration with Rotary International, Rotary Club of Brandon Global Eco, and many other groups as a Challenge "Action Awareness" project, which will run from April 2022 until April 2024.

Published 28-page color tabloid informational pieces in the Tampa Bay Times that were distributed throughout year.

Conducted exhibits in multiple fairs and festivals throughout the year, including continued exhibits at events that were not canceled due to COVID-19. HSWCD expanded its exhibit up to 1,800 square feet at the 2022 State Fair display with student artists and volunteers. Additional exhibits will be added as available, along with sponsorship of additional programs for youth at the fairs.

FY 2023 Hillsborough County Budget Book

Soil & Water Conservation District

Appropriations	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Adopted	FY23 Adopted
Personnel Services	\$ 172,962	\$ 157,359	\$ 229,468	\$ 259,804
Operating Expenditures/Expenses	8,466	7,362	70,708	74,540
	\$ 181,428	\$ 164,721	\$ 300,176	\$ 334,344

Budget by Fund	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Adopted	FY23 Adopted
Countywide General Operating Fund	\$ 153,870	\$ 163,403	\$ 300,176	\$ 334,344
Grants (Not Transportation-Related)	27,558	1,318	0	0
	\$ 181,428	\$ 164,721	\$ 300,176	\$ 334,344

	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Adopted	FY23 Adopted
Funded Positions	4	5	4	5
Funded FTE Positions	4.00	4.00	3.00	3.50

BUDGET CHANGES AND OPERATIONAL IMPACT FY 22 to FY 23

PERSONNEL SERVICES:

- A merit increase is budgeted in FY23.
- A 5% increase for health insurance is budgeted in FY23.
- In FY23, one part-time position is established to address an increase in community outreach responsibilities.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES:

- The increase in operating expenditures is primarily the result of increased insurance assessments.



**Hillsborough
Soil & Water**
Conservation District
Florida

HSWCD Conservation Display Florida State Fair / Feb. 2022 (30 feet by 60 feet)



- Agriculture, conservation, and farming educational stations and handouts
- “Our Pollinators” mural painted by students (8 feet by 24 feet)
- Painting stations for HSWCD Florida State Fair Rain Barrels
- #BEEYourBest coloring stations
- Hillsborough 100 tabloids
- Watershed display / AND MORE!



HSWCD EXHIBIT NEIGHBORS / FLORIDA STATE FAIR / AG HALL OF FAME BUILDING

FL Tropical Fish Farms Assoc. / Florida Dairy Farmers Association / Florida Dairymen Association / Florida Peanut Producers Association

Florida State Fair Foundation / Florida Watermelon Association (& Queen)



Florida State Beekeepers Association / Florida Aquaculture Association

Strawberry U-Pick

SAT, March 5 / 9 AM to 3 PM



Fancy Farms
INC.

**3524 Futch
Loop / Plant
City**

**All Proceeds Benefit
HSWCD Youth Programs & Events**

Thank you for your support!

Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District

\$1 per pound (in 2-pound containers)

Gloves, face masks & social-distancing desired.

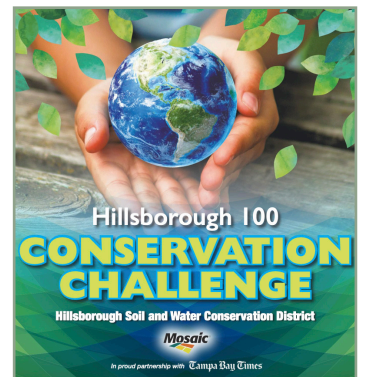
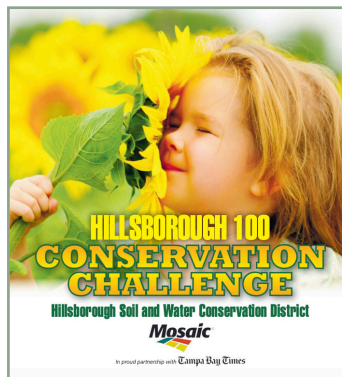
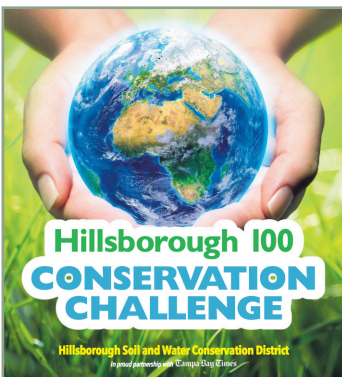
Call: Betty Jo Tompkins / 813-477-8332

HSWCD AT THE 2022 FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL





Covers for the Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge tabloid published annually. Above, the cover for 2022. Bottom, from left, covers published in 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2021. Note: No tabloid in 2020 due to the pandemic.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN US FOR THE

HILLSBOROUGH 100

CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

2022 Kickoff Luncheon / April 27

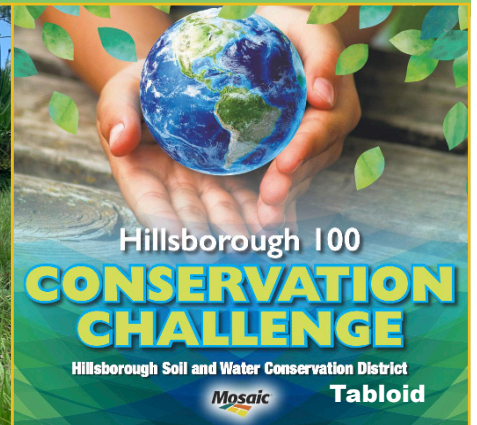
The Regent / 6437 Watson Road / Riverview / Noon to 2 p.m.



Poster Contests



Let's Plant Some Trees!



Hillsborough 100 CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District Mosaic Tabloid

Introducing 'Operation Pollination' Project w/Rotary Global Eco



Duggal & Sons Blueberry U-Pick



Great Plant Auction



Fancy Farms Strawberry U-Pick



Rain-Barrel Decorating Contest

Contests Ag Producer Land Judging
Seminars
Posters Cost Share Programs Legislation Environmental
Mobile Irrigation Labs Ag Working Group Grants Urban • Suburban • Rural
HILLSBOROUGH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Conservation

HILLSBOROUGH 100 CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

Best Practices

Please register by Monday, April 25, 2022

Betty Jo Tompkins, HSWCD Executive Director

Call: 813-477-8332 Email: bjt6890@yahoo.com

Printing compliments of Odiorne Insurance



Posters
Contests
Cost Programs
Share
Ag Producer Seminars
Land Judging
Venture Legislation
Mobile Irrigation Labs
Seminars
Society
Best Practices

Conservation
Hillsborough 100 Conservation District
Working Group
HILLSBOROUGH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Environmental Education
Grants
Urban • Suburban • Rural

“Conservation is everybody’s business”



Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District Florida



2022 Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge

Kickoff Luncheon & Awards Ceremony



Board of Directors

- Kathy Eckdahl, *Chairman*
- Andrew Brooks, *Vice Chair*
- Dr. Sonja Brookins, *Treasurer*
- Karen Jaroch, *Supervisor*
- Mark Proctor, *Supervisor*


District Contacts

- Betty Jo Tompkins
Executive Director
Email: bjt6890@yahoo.com
Call: 813-477-8332
- Sherrell Loyola
Administrative Assistant
Call: 813-752-1474, Ext. 3

Visit: HillsboroughSWCD.com



April 27, 2022 / The Regent

 The HSWCD “Operation Pollination” project is in partnership with Rotary Club of Brandon Global Eco Printing courtesy Odiorne Insurance

Introducing Hillsborough 100  **OPERATION POLLINATION** Action Awareness Project

Special thanks to ... 

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Mandolin Music

William "Bill" San Juan

Retired Coast Guard

Presentation of Colors

Brandon High School JROTC

Cadet Thomas Branhan

Cadet Lenox Carrill

Cadet Adryana Pagan

Cadet Isaac Standlee

Pledge of Allegiance

John Humphreys

Invocation

Eliana Holt

Welcome Remarks

Nikki Foster

The Mosaic Company

*Community Investment Manager,
Diversity & Inclusion*

Introduction of Special Guests

Luncheon

Awards Ceremony

Closing - Operation Pollination

AWARDS CEREMONY

Hillsborough 100 Program Overview

Betty Jo Tompkins

Executive Director, HSWCD

2021 Outstanding Supporter of the Year

Duggal and Sons Farm

2022 Outstanding Supporter of the Year

John and Kay Sullivan

2021 Outstanding Volunteer Family

The Holt Family

2022 Outstanding Volunteer Family

The Humphreys Family

Special Award

Judi Whitson

Outstanding Project of the Year

Fancy Farms

Outstanding Cooperating Partner

Florida State Fair

Outstanding Student Conservationist

Katherine "Katie" Tyson

Special thanks to our official event sponsor, The Mosaic Company and to our gift bag donors.

Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge

2022 Kickoff Luncheon and Awards Ceremony



2022 HSWCD Affiliated Partners



HSWCD Executive Director **Betty Jo Tompkins** participates with a variety of groups, organizations and governmental entities throughout the year, many of which are listed below:

- **Hillsborough County Farm Bureau / Florida Farm Bureau Federation** — Active member since the 1970's; Women's Committee member; annual county meeting exhibitor; liaison for Florida soil and water conservation districts to attend Farm Bureau Day at the State Capitol; past Hillsborough County Farm Bureau executive director
- **Hillsborough County 4-H Foundation** — Past president; current board member
- **Florida 4-H Foundation** — Past president; Florida 4-H Hall of Fame inductee; Florida 4-H Lifetime Achievement Award recipient
- **Hillsborough County Fair** — Past chair; current executive board member
- **Florida Conservation Districts Employee Association (FCDEA)** — Immediate past president
- **Rotary International** — Past district governor
- **Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG)** — Member
- **Rotary Club of Brandon Global Eco** — Member; *(past president of club formerly known as Rotary Club of Brandon South)*
- **"Operation Pollination"** — National Ambassador



Top photo — Betty Jo Tompkins, with EPC Director Janet Lorton, at the 2022 Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) Clean Air Fair in Tampa.



Middle photo — The Grooms family received first word of its induction into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame at the 2022 Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge kickoff luncheon. HSWCD Executive Director Betty Jo Tompkins founded the challenge in 2016 to allow for inner-city, urban, suburban and rural participation. The Grooms family owns Fancy Farms in Plant City and has graciously opened its strawberry fields for 4-H and HSWCD fundraiser U-picks to support youth initiatives. "I approached them about both these fundraisers and there was no hesitation in their support," Tompkins said. "They truly have been exemplary in their support of local conservation and youth efforts."

Bottom photo — HSWCD arranged to have the Florida A&M University exhibit on display, for the first time ever, at both the Florida State Fair and the Florida Strawberry Festival. The displays debuted in 2022. FAMU is the state's second-largest land grant college.

2022 HSWCD Affiliated Partners

Special Thanks to Our Cooperating Partners



Special Thanks to Our Cooperating Partners



Published annually, the Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge Tabloid features numerous pages of listings of affiliated and contributing partners.

HSWCD Partners Include:

- Florida State Fair
- Florida Ag Hall of Fame
- Florida Strawberry Festival
- Hillsborough County Fair
- Florida Strawberry Growers Association
- Association of Florida Conservation Districts (AFCD)
- National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)
- Hillsborough Extension (UF/IFAS)
- Hillsborough County Government
- City of Tampa
- Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission (EPC)
- Hillsborough Property Appraiser
- Hillsborough County Parks & Recreation
- Hillsborough County Farm Bureau
- Florida Farm Bureau Federation
- Florida State Beekeepers Association
- Tampa Bay Beekeepers Association
- Coalition of Community Gardens
- T.R.E.E. Inc.
- Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG)
- Rotary Club of Brandon Global Eco
- Schools, Universities, Nonprofits, Farmers, Businesses, Clubs and Civic Organizations



Partnership Highlight:

HSWCD, through letters, phone calls and community outreach, supported the Florida Strawberry Growers Association in its campaign to urge the Environmental Protection Agency to reexamine the data in its determination to ban the usage of Thiram, an important fungicide used in the cultivation of strawberries. A ban of Thiram would be devastating to strawberry production, according to industry experts.



Rotary



Operation Pollination Resolution



Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District, in partnership with Rotary Club of Brandon Global Eco

Because pollinators play a crucial role in food production in the United States and worldwide and face serious decline, the undersigned seek to commit through this resolution to the creation, development and execution of community-based pollinator projects.

WHEREAS, bees, bats, birds and butterflies are all pollinators that play a critical role in the transfer of pollen from one flower to another; and

WHEREAS, this transfer is essential for the flower to produce fruit and seed; and

WHEREAS, of the approximately 1,330 different crop plants grown worldwide for food, fiber and medicines, 75 percent are pollinated by animals and insects; and

WHEREAS, the value of food produced annually in the U.S. as a direct result of pollination is 15 billion; and

WHEREAS, according to the BIP (Bee Informed Partnership) Survey, beekeepers across the United States lost 45.5 percent of their honeybee colonies between April 2020 and April 2021, the second greatest decline recorded in a one-year period since the surveys started in 2006; and

WHEREAS, these declines are attributable to a number of environmental and man-induced factors; and

WHEREAS, the Monarch butterfly population has dropped by more than 80 percent over the past 20 years, with the U.S. Geological Survey estimating there is a 60 percent chance this continued decline will wipe out the Monarch's twice-yearly migration over the next 20 years; and

WHEREAS, planting milkweed and nectar-bearing plants is necessary to help reverse this trend;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that individuals or groups signing this resolution agree to conduct one or more projects benefiting pollinators between April 2022 and April 2024 and report their programs, projects and activities to the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District and Rotary Club of Brandon Global Eco in conjunction with the Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge and Operation Pollination. Projects may include, but are not limited to, development and restoration of pollinator habitats; planting of wildflowers, milkweed and other pollinator-friendly plant species; presentation of educational conservation and pollinator programs for youth and adults; establishment and support of bee colonies and hives; and other similar programs.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Print: _____

Group: _____



A Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge Action Awareness Project



HSWCD / Cost-Share and Promotion

Cost-Sharing Support

HSWCD works with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) to administer cost-share funds provided to bonafide agricultural operators for conservation enhancement programs throughout the year. In addition, the federal 2014 Farm Bill, administered by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, provides for a variety of cost-share programs for environmental stewardship programs on agricultural lands, with an emphasis on working land conservation projects. HSWCD helps eligible producers and landowners secure these grants in their work to voluntarily implement practices to protect soil, water, air, wildlife habitats and related natural resources.

USDA / NRCS Support

HSWCD promoted NRCS initiatives at fairs and festivals throughout the year, including four United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) exhibits at the Florida State Fair in Tampa and five exhibits at the Hillsborough County Fair in Dover. HSWCD representatives set up and re-packed the displays, manned the exhibits and answered questions from visitors about the work of federal departments and agencies. Also on behalf of USDA and NRCS, HSWCD promoted their initiatives at Earth Day activities throughout the Tampa Bay area, at the Hillsborough Environmental Protection Commission Clean Air Fair in Tampa, the Florida Ag Expo at the UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research Center in Balm, and more.



Both in the field, at local working groups, and at fairs, festivals and other events throughout the year, HSWCD supports the work of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The presentation trifold, *left*, was one of a myriad of displays in the HSWCD Hillsborough County Fair exhibit space. Among other sightings, the display was used as well at the UF/IFAS Florida Ag Expo at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center in



**Hillsborough
Soil & Water**
Conservation District
Florida



**OPERATION
POLLINATION**



Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District Participation in the 2022 Hillsborough County Fair / Nov. 3-13

The following arrangements and activities are planned for HSWCD participation in this year's fair at the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds, at 215 Sydney Washer Road.

The Hillsborough County Fair will provide HSWCD a tent dedicated to its mission . . .

"Conservation Is Everybody's Business"

Featuring a focus this year on . . .

"Bees, Bats, Birds and Butterflies ... Our Perfect Pollinators."

The tent will include the following:

- **Our Perfect Pollinators** mural in box format, designed and painted by students.
- **Twenty (20) painted rain barrels** entered in student competition.
- Displays of **HSWCD posters** and **Operation Pollination** programs, projects and activities.



The HSWCD tent will also feature . . .

- **Student plants** entered in the **HSWCD sponsored Youth Horticulture Competition**.
- **Plants on display for sale** at the annual **HSWCD Great Plant Auction** benefiting youth programming. The auction is scheduled to begin 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13.



**For more information, contact:
HSWCD Executive Director Betty Jo Tompkins / 813-477-8332**



**Hillsborough
Soil & Water**
Conservation District
Florida



HSWCD Featured At The 2022 Hillsborough County Fair

HSWCD Educational exhibits, along with those representing USDA, NRCS, Hillsborough County Farm Bureau, Rotary Club of Brandon Global Eco and Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission, featured in a 40' x 60' tent.

HSWCD's signature Great Plant Auction raises more than \$8,000 for youth programs, projects and activities, a record amount. More than 40 area nurseries donate plants annually, featuring hundreds of luscious annuals, perennials, shrubs and succulents, along with a vast array of trees, including, tropical, magnolia, olive and tabebuia.

Youth Horticulture Show features green-thumb achievements of individual students and classroom horticulture projects.

"Our Perfect Pollinators" Poster Contest entries from Hillsborough County students.

Winning rain barrels from 4-H, FFA, scouts and local church youth groups.

Also featured, "Operation Pollination" youth activity tables and rain barrel painting.



*Inquiries: HWSOCD Exec. Director Betty Jo Tompkins
Call: 813-477-8332 Email: bjt6890@yahoo.com*



Bees



Bat



Birds



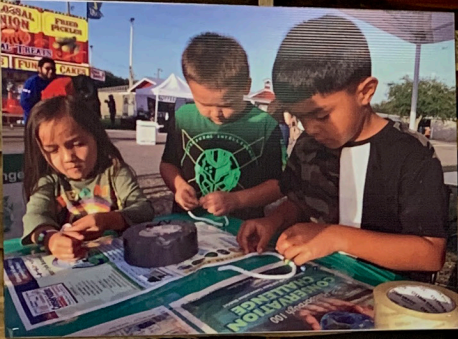
Butterflies



Our Perfect Pollinators



In 2021, Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District participated in Florida fairs and festivals reaching an audience of more than one million people.



More than 3,000 students learned conservation through Ag-Venture, school, and park programs with more than 500 entries in the annual HSWCD poster contests.



HSWCD held U-picks at Fancy Farms (strawberries) and Duggal & Sons Farm (blueberries). For 2022 dates, visit HillsboroughSWCD.com.

Posters Contests Cost Share Programs Ag Producer Seminars Land Judging Ag Ventire Environmental Education Best Practices

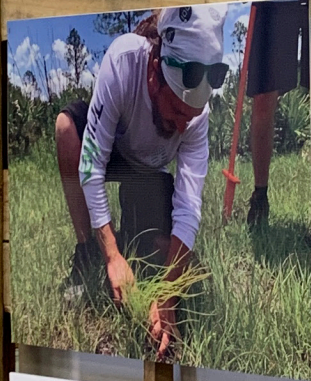
Legislation

Mobile Irrigation Labs

100 Environmental Education

Working Group Urban • Suburban • Rural

HILLSBOROUGH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



More than 200 volunteers planted 20,000 longleaf pine seedlings at the Lower Green Swamp Nature Preserve.



HSWCD sponsored a Rain Barrel Decorating Contest at the Hillsborough County Fair.

Conservation Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District Florida

For More Information:
Visit: HillsboroughSWCD.com
Call: 813-477-8332

"Conservation is everybody's business"



Some of the debris pulled from the Gasp-Our Beads cleanup of Tampa Bay.



The HSWCD "Great Plant Auction" at the Hillsborough County Fair raised more than \$7,000 for youth programs.

Our versatile display brings to light the many programs, projects and activities presented by your Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District

HSWCD TENT AT THE 2022 HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FAIR

Great Plant Auction / Youth Horticulture Show / Youth Poster Contest



Conservation
 Ag Producer Seminars
 Land Judging
 Ag Ventures
 2Ventures
 Legislation
 Mobile Irrigation Labs
 Hillsborough 100
 Conservation Contests
 Environmental Education
 Working Group
 Literacy - Suburban - Rural
 Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District

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HSWCD held U-picks at Fancy Farms (strawberries) and Duggal & Sons Farm (blueberries). For 2023 dates, visit HillsboroughSWCD.com.

More than 200 volunteers planted 20,000 longleaf pine seedlings at the Lower Green Swamp Nature Preserve.

Please Do Not Touch
 More than 3,000 students learned conservation through Ag-Venture, school, and park programs with more than 500 entries in the annual HSWCD poster contests.

HSWCD sponsored a Rain Barrel Decorating Contest at the Hillsborough County Fair.



Rain Barrel Decorating Contest / Educational Exhibits / Youth Activities



**Hillsborough
Soil & Water**
Conservation District
Florida

6th Annual Great Plant Auction

Sunday, Nov. 13, 2022 / Hillsborough County Fair



Auction starts promptly at 1pm

**Hillsborough County
Fairgrounds**

**215 Sydney-Washer Road
Dover, FL 33527**

**Preview plants Nov. 11-13
(during fair hours
in the HSWCD tent)**

Don't miss the opportunity to purchase high-quality plant materials at reasonable prices, grown and donated by local nurseries. Proceeds benefit HSWCD youth programs, the Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge and agricultural college scholarships.

Auction presented in cooperation with LOCAL NURSEYMAN donating the best of the best in . . .

**ANNUALS 🌺 PERENNIALS 🌺 LANDSCAPE & BUTTERFLY PLANTS
FERNS 🌺 BUSHES 🌺 TREE & PLANT NUTRITION ITEMS**

Auction Chairman, Roy Davis

Direct Inquiries To:

**Betty Jo Tompkins
813-477-8332**

bjt6890@yahoo.com



6th Annual Great Plant Auction

Supported by local nurserymen at the Hillsborough County Fair



Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District

In cooperation with

Area Nurserymen and Growers

Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District Florida

Conservation
Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge
Urban • Suburban • Rural
Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District

Hillsborough County Fair
6th Annual / Hillsborough 100
HSWCD GREAT PLANT AUCTION
November 13, 2022 / 1pm

OPERATION POLLINATION
HillsboroughSWCD.com / 813-477-8332

Plant & Allied Articles Live Auction

SALE ORDER

6th Annual Great Plant Auction

Hillsborough County Fair / Sunday, Nov. 13, 2022

**HSWCD / 201 South Collins St. / Suite 202 / Plant City
HillsboroughSWCD.com / 813-477-8332**



HSWCD Sixth Annual Great Plant Auction Sunday, Nov. 13, 2022

Special thanks to our 2022 Donors and Sponsors

AR Nursery	Beautiful Plants by Charlie	Blues Berry Farm
Butler Tree Farm	Cruz Nursery	Diamond R. Fertilizer Co.
Duggal & Sons Farm	ELM Land Management	Emerald Hill Nursery
Everglades Equipment Group	Fernando Nursery	Florida Wholesale Growers
Grove Equipment Service	Hand Grown Nursery	Harrell's Liner Farm and Nursery
Hillsborough County Fair	Holmberg Farms	J&R Nursery
James Irrigation Supply	Kerby's Nursery & Landscaping	Lowe's of Valrico
M&J Nursery	Michaels Nursery	Mid-Florida Nurseries
The Mosaic Company	1D Landscape Nursery	RNL Nursery
Robert's Nursery	Roy Davis	Sam's Club of Brandon
Speedling	Staggs Nursery & Tree Service	Stardust Farms
Sun Bulb Company	Sun City Tree Farm	Suncoast Plant Nursery
Tampa Nursery & Garden	The Exotic Plumeria	Three Pines Tree Farm
3 Seasons Growers	Betty Jo Tompkins	Veransa
Wood's Tree Farm	Woodard's Nursery	Young Texan Vegetable Stand

Many Thanks To Our 2022 Great Plant Auction Committee:

Roy Davis, *chairman*

Lynn Barber, *Florida Friendly Landscape, Hillsborough Extension*

Bill Burnett, *Tampa Nursery and Garden Center* / **Doug Holmberg**, *Holmberg Farms*

Doug Padgett, *Harrell's Liner Farm and Nursery* / **Mark Proctor**, *HSWCD Supervisor*

Betty Jo Tompkins, *HSWCD Executive Director (and HSWCD staff)*

2022 Hillsborough County Fair

YOUTH Horticulture Show Rules

Presented by Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District



November 3-13, 2022

Hillsborough County Fairgrounds

State Road 60 and Sydney Washer Road, Dover

Two Age Categories:

Junior Youth for grades K-6

Senior Youth for grades 7-12

Competition open to all Hillsborough County students, grades K-12, in public, private, parochial, charter, home and virtual school programs as of Sept. 1, 2022.

ENTRY FORMS VIA EMAIL MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCT. 10, 2022

ENTRY CLASSES

Exhibitors must own plants by Aug. 31, 2022 (honor system). All plants should be of exhibit quality; properly labeled; free of insects, disease or dead plant material; and a minimum of 1 gallon or 8" in size (hanging baskets).



101	Bonsai
102	Bromeliads
103	Cacti & Succulents
104	Ferns
105	Flowering Plants
106	Foliage Plants
107	Orchids
108	Palms
109	Vegetables (including herbs)
110	Special Groupings

NO ENTRY FEES! Each participant may enter up to 10 individual plants and two special groupings. **Judging** to be based on the modern Danish system.
Award Ribbons: Blue (\$8) / Red (\$6) / White (\$4) / Best in Show (\$25)

Special groupings may include a collection of decorative materials, assortment of similar plant materials, or other combination. Space required must not exceed 4' by 4'. Plants within special groupings will not be eligible for individual judging.

* **Deliver entries** to Hillsborough County Fairgrounds on Sat., Oct. 29 or Mon., Oct. 31, between noon and 7 p.m.
* **Pick up entries** from the fairgrounds Mon., Nov. 14 or Tues., Nov. 15, between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.



**Hillsborough
Soil & Water**
Conservation District
Florida

For further information and to participate:

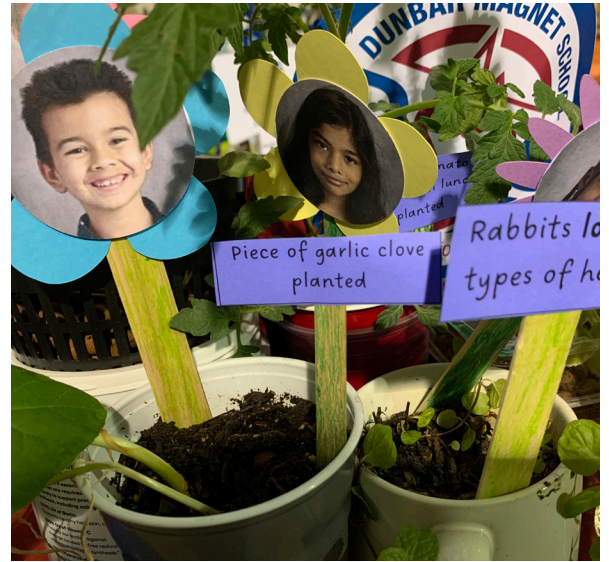
Mail or email entry forms to:

HSWCD / 201 South Collins St. / Suite 202 / Plant City FL 33563

Email: Betty Jo Tompkins / bjt6890@yahoo.com

Inquiries: Betty Jo Tompkins, Executive Director, 813-477-8332

2022 HSWCD Youth Horticulture Show



Sponsored by: Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District (HSWCD)

2022 Rain Barrel Decorating Contest



**Theme: "Our Perfect Pollinators . . .
Bees, Bats, Birds & Butterflies"**



Contest open to 4-H clubs, FFA chapters, Scouts, schools, places of worship & other youth organizations

**Rain Barrel Display and Silent/Live Auction at the
2022 Hillsborough County Fair / Nov. 3-13**



Contest limited to first 20 group entrants. Each entrant will receive a free food-grade plastic barrel. **APPLICATIONS DUE FRIDAY SEPT. 30.** Decorated barrels must be returned to the fairgrounds Saturday, Oct. 22 (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) Address: 215 Sydney Washer Road, Dover.



Entrants must complete the **"Rainwater Harvesting Workshop"** offered by the **Hillsborough County Extension Service**. At completion of the workshop, each group entrant will receive a free rain barrel to decorate. Call: **Lynn Barber**, Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County, at 813-744-5519, Ext. 54105

CASH PRIZES & SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

**1st PLACE
\$250**

**2nd PLACE
\$150**

**3rd PLACE
\$100**

**HONORABLE
MENTION(S)
\$50**

Entrants are invited to enter rain barrels into the silent auction, with winning barrels included in the live auction Nov. 13, at the HSWCD Great Plant Auction at the Hillsborough County Fair. Sale proceeds for each barrel will be paid directly to the group that creates it. Judging will take place prior to the fair's opening.

Rain Barrel Contest Judging Criteria:

- Functionality
- Creativity
- Use of Materials
- Interpretation of Theme

Rain barrels receiving cash awards will automatically be accepted for display at the HSWCD booth at the 2023 Florida State Fair, Feb. 9-20.

HillsboroughCountyFair.com / HillsboroughCountyFair@verizon.net

Fair: 813-737-3247 | HSWCD: 813-477-8332

2022 HSWCD Rain Barrel Decorating Contest





NRCS / HSWCD 2022 Local Working Group

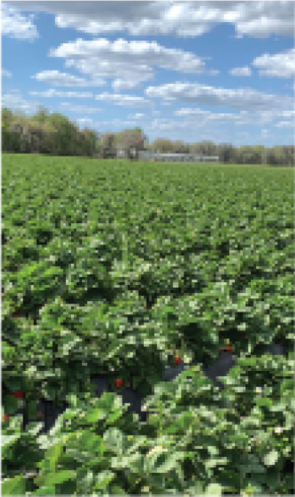


**SAVE THE DATE &
SHARE YOUR
OPINIONS**



LOCAL WORKING GROUP

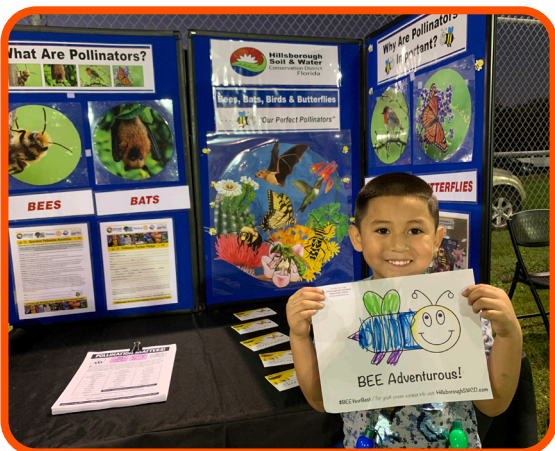
Meeting Sponsored by: Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)



TUE / NOV. 29, 2022 / 3 to 5:30 PM
Florida Strawberry Growers Association
13138 Lewis Gallagher Road / Dover
The public is invited. / Refreshments will be provided.

This meeting gives producers, land owners, and local, state and federal agricultural agency representatives the opportunity to help set NRCS funding priorities for fiscal year 2024.

For more information, call: 813-477-8332 or 813-752-1474 Ext. 3



HSWCD community outreach at Movies in the Park at the Brandon Recreation Center / Dec. 2022
Another opportunity to spread the word about our programs, projects and activities.
Our "BEE" coloring pages are a hit as they help us promote "Operation Pollination."



Above, a sampling of entries submitted for the HSWCD summer poster contest: "Our Perfect Pollinators"

HSWCD ANNUAL POSTER CONTESTS



Thanks to its unique partnership with the Hillsborough County Fair, HSWCD proudly presents to each poster contest entrant a complimentary admission ticket to the annual event.

Both the summer and school year contests are open to contest entrants representing schools and youth organizations, including 4-H, FFA and Scout troops, as well as students from Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation programs and church youth groups.

Cash prizes are awarded to first- second and third-place finishers in five age categories, in both the HSWCD summer and the HSWCD/NACD school year contests. *HSWCD posters in each age category were named area winners in the 2021-22 school year contest, with three of the entries advancing to national competition after winning at the state level. The winners will be announced in February 2023 at the annual convention of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD).*

HSWCD poster entries are displayed annually inside the HSWCD Exhibit at the Hillsborough County Fair.



Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District

2022 Poster Contest

Poster Theme: **“Healthy Soil, Healthy Life”**

Entry Deadline: **FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022**

Two contest divisions:

Please send submissions and inquiries to:

JUNIOR CATEGORIES:
Kindergarten - 1st Grade
2nd Grade - 3rd Grade
4th Grade - 6th Grade

PRIZES:
1st Place — \$25
2nd Place — \$15
3rd Place — \$10

SENIOR CATEGORIES:
7th Grade - 9th Grade
10th Grade - 12th Grade

PRIZES:
1st Place — \$50
2nd Place — \$30
3rd Place — \$20

201 S. Collins St.
Suite 202
Plant City, FL 33563

Contact Us:
813-477-8332
bjt6890@yahoo.com

Visit:
HillsboroughSWCD.com

Winning entries advance to area, state and national competitions.

National Contest sponsored by:
National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)

Printing courtesy of:
Odiorne Insurance Agency



All entries will be displayed at the 2022 Hillsborough County Fair and other locations.

Your contest entry is good for one free ticket to the Hillsborough County Fair!

“Conservation is everybody’s business”



**Hillsborough
Soil & Water**
Conservation District
Florida



**NEW DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 30**

2022 HSWCD Summer Poster Contest

Poster Theme: "Our Perfect Pollinators"

Contest Overview, Rules and Judging Criteria:

Presented by the **Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District**, the summer poster contest is open to students in kindergarten through grade 12. All entries will be displayed at the **2022 Hillsborough County Fair**, Nov. 3 -13, at the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds in Dover, at 215 Syndey Washer Road. ***Please follow all contest rules to ensure eligibility.***

Rule 1: "Our Perfect Pollinators" must appear in the artwork on the front of each poster.

Rule 2: Any media can be used, including paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper, or other materials. Poster size must be 14-inches by 22-inches (half the size of a standard poster board).

Rule 3: The **2022 Poster Contest Registration Form** must be attached to the back of each entry. **Entry Deadline is Friday, Sept. 30, 2022.**

Rule 4: All posters must be created by an individual student, rather than a team of students. Entry must be the contestant's original work. **Contest Judging Criteria is as follows:** *Uses and Reflects Conservation Theme* (50 percent), *Visual Effectiveness* (30 percent), *Originality* (10 percent) and *Universal Appeal* (10 percent).

* Five Poster Contest Categories:

JUNIOR CATEGORIES:

- * Kindergarten - Grade 1
- * Grades 2 - 3
- * Grades 4 - 6

PRIZES:

- 1st Place - \$25
- 2nd Place - \$15
- 3rd Place - \$10

SENIOR

CATEGORIES:

- * Grades 7 - 9
- * Grades 10-12

PRIZES:

- 1st Place - \$50
- 2nd Place - \$30
- 3rd Place - \$20

Submissions and Inquiries:

Hillsborough SWCD

201 South Collins Street, Suite 202
Plant City, FL 33563

Betty Jo Tompkins / Executive Director
813-477-8332
bjt6890@yahoo.com

Visit: HillsboroughSWCD.com



**OPERATION
POLLINATION**



**"Conservation
is everybody's
business."**

HSWCD "BEE" Activity Stations Debut



Word Search

POLLINATION MATTERS!



Fruits, nuts and vegetables of all sorts depend on our perfect pollinators! According to the United States Department of Agriculture, more than 100 crops grown in the United States depend on pollination. Below is a list of 31 such crops. As you search for them and cross them out in the grid on the facing page, think about how much you depend on pollinators for the food you eat and the drinks you enjoy. Then answer the riddle below!

ALFALFA	ALMONDS	APPLES
AVOCADOS	BLACKBERRIES	BLUEBERRIES
CACAO	CHERRIES	COFFEE
CRANBERRIES	EGGPLANTS	FIGS
GRAPES	HAZEL	KIWI
KUMQUATS	LEMONS	LIMES
NECTARINES	NUTS	OKRA
ONION	ORANGES	PEACHES
PEARS	PECAN	PLUMS
RASPBERRIES	STRAWBERRIES	TOMATOES
VANILLA	Use the remaining letters to answer the riddle below:	

"Busy and buzzing about, we're intent on moving pollen about!"



Kids of all ages put markers to paper at the HSWCD "BEE" Your Best Coloring Station at area fairs and festivals. The activity offered another way for HSWCD to promote its two-year "Operation Pollination" initiative, introduced at the 2022 Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge kickoff luncheon and awards ceremony.



Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District Florida



*Thank you, with never-ending gratitude to our Supervisors, Volunteers, Supporters, Friends, Family, and Staff who helped us spread the message that “**Conservation is everybody’s business.**”*

*On the following pages, a look back at some fun moments shared together over the past two years. And to our outgoing supervisors, thank you for your service. **Your passion made a difference.***











Birds

LEAVE PLASTIC BAGS OUT OF YOUR RECYCLING CART

Don't be a PASTORIG!
Average

