



The Future of Water Supply in Florida – ONE WATER

May 14, 2024

1 PDH

Presenter

Gary Hubbard, PE – City of Winter Haven Water Department

Summary:

Gone are the days that communities implement water supply projects where the only benefit to the community is a source of drinking water. Winter Haven's One Water Master uses integrated water resources management to meet the water resources needs of the community long into the future. Using engineered nature based solutions, the City plans to restore approximately 5,000 acres of historically ditched and drained wetlands to create wetland nature parks with trail systems for the storage of water, serving as a source for aquifer recharge for future water supply, improves flood protection for the region and communities 100 miles downstream to the Gulf of Mexico, helps sustain the local hydrology (lake levels) during periods of drought, improves urban forestry, improves the water quality and the low flow of the Peace River, provide recreational opportunities for the residents of Central Florida, improve the health and wellness of our citizens, provides for additional wildlife habitat and localized increased property values by creating waterfront properties