

What Amendment 3 Will Mean to Conservation & Water Management

An analysis by Florida Policy Institute - powered by ITEP

Billions in funding lost statewide.

\$353.1M in funding at risk for Conservation & Water Management across Florida over the first 2 years under Amendment 3.

In Florida, local governments like schools, counties, municipalities, and special districts collect property taxes that fund critical public services. Amendment 3 puts these funds at risk. Below you can look at cuts to counties, municipalities, or special districts. Keep in mind, the impact will likely be greater as funding for some services falls within multiple categories.

Conservation & Water Management Facing Funding Loss

FY 2028 IMPACT	FY 2029 IMPACT	OVER FIRST 2 YEARS
-\$126,561,200	-\$226,515,900	-\$353,077,100

Special Districts	County	FY 2028 Impact	FY 2029 Impact	Over 2 Years
South Florida Water Management Distr...	Broward	-\$9.1M	-\$16.6M	-\$25.7M
	Miami-Dade	-\$4.4M	-\$8M	-\$12.5M
	Palm Beach	-\$3.5M	-\$6.6M	-\$10.1M
	Lee	-\$1.9M	-\$3.6M	-\$5.5M
	Collier	-\$1M	-\$2M	-\$3.1M
	Orange	-\$843.5K	-\$1.6M	-\$2.5M
	Osceola	-\$816.7K	-\$1.5M	-\$2.4M
	Saint Lucie	-\$765.2K	-\$1.2M	-\$2M
	Martin	-\$429.1K	-\$781.7K	-\$1.2M
	Monroe	-\$233.2K	-\$454.1K	-\$687.3K
	Polk	-\$108.8K	-\$191K	-\$299.8K

Special Districts (continued)	County	FY 2028 Impact	FY 2029 Impact	Over 2 Years
South Florida Water Management Distr...	Okeechobee	-\$117.9K	-\$181.9K	-\$299.8K
	Hendry	-\$53.1K	-\$84.9K	-\$138K
	Glades	-\$37.9K	-\$54.6K	-\$92.5K
	Charlotte	-\$21.4K	-\$43K	-\$64.4K
	Highlands	-\$17.3K	-\$25.7K	-\$43K
Southwest Florida Water Management...	Hillsborough	-\$5.2M	-\$9.3M	-\$14.5M
	Pinellas	-\$3.9M	-\$6.7M	-\$10.6M
	Pasco	-\$2.7M	-\$4.8M	-\$7.6M
	Sarasota	-\$2.4M	-\$4.5M	-\$6.9M
	Polk	-\$2.2M	-\$3.8M	-\$6.1M
	Manatee	-\$1.9M	-\$3.6M	-\$5.5M
	Hernando	-\$1.4M	-\$2.3M	-\$3.7M
	Sumter	-\$1.1M	-\$2.2M	-\$3.3M
	Charlotte	-\$903.6K	-\$1.5M	-\$2.4M
	Marion	-\$791K	-\$1.3M	-\$2.1M
	Citrus	-\$739.7K	-\$1.1M	-\$1.9M
	Highlands	-\$322K	-\$471.1K	-\$793.1K
	DeSoto	-\$76.1K	-\$118.2K	-\$194.3K
	Levy	-\$49.8K	-\$73.6K	-\$123.4K
	Hardee	-\$44.8K	-\$66K	-\$110.8K
	Lake	-\$4.2K	-\$7.5K	-\$11.7K
Florida Inland Navigation District	Miami-Dade	-\$1.3M	-\$2.3M	-\$3.6M
	Broward	-\$1.1M	-\$1.9M	-\$3M

Special Districts (continued)	County	FY 2028 Impact	FY 2029 Impact	Over 2 Years
Florida Inland Navigation District	Palm Beach	-\$998.1K	-\$1.9M	-\$2.9M
	Duval	-\$473.3K	-\$789K	-\$1.3M
	Brevard	-\$388.7K	-\$675.4K	-\$1.1M
	Volusia	-\$352.6K	-\$603.8K	-\$956.4K
	Saint Johns	-\$277.7K	-\$554.2K	-\$831.9K
	Saint Lucie	-\$217.9K	-\$348.6K	-\$566.5K
	Martin	-\$122.2K	-\$222.6K	-\$344.8K
	Indian River	-\$118.8K	-\$212.4K	-\$331.2K
	Flagler	-\$105.4K	-\$190.1K	-\$295.5K
South Florida WMD Okeechobee	Miami-Dade	-\$4.8M	-\$8.7M	-\$13.5M
	Palm Beach	-\$3.8M	-\$7.1M	-\$10.9M
	Lee	-\$2.1M	-\$3.9M	-\$5.9M
	Orange	-\$913.1K	-\$1.8M	-\$2.7M
	Osceola	-\$883.9K	-\$1.7M	-\$2.6M
	Saint Lucie	-\$828K	-\$1.3M	-\$2.2M
	Martin	-\$464.4K	-\$846.2K	-\$1.3M
	Monroe	-\$252.6K	-\$491.7K	-\$744.3K
	Polk	-\$117.7K	-\$206.7K	-\$324.4K
	Hendry	-\$57.4K	-\$91.9K	-\$149.3K
	Charlotte	-\$23.1K	-\$46.5K	-\$69.6K
	Highlands	-\$18.9K	-\$27.8K	-\$46.7K
Saint Johns River Water Management...	Orange	-\$3.6M	-\$6.5M	-\$10.1M
	Duval	-\$3.1M	-\$5.2M	-\$8.4M

Special Districts (continued)	County	FY 2028 Impact	FY 2029 Impact	Over 2 Years
Saint Johns River Water Management...	Brevard	-\$2.6M	-\$4.5M	-\$7.1M
	Volusia	-\$2.3M	-\$4M	-\$6.4M
	Saint Johns	-\$1.8M	-\$3.7M	-\$5.5M
	Lake	-\$1.9M	-\$3.4M	-\$5.3M
	Seminole	-\$1.8M	-\$3.3M	-\$5.2M
	Indian River	-\$788.9K	-\$1.4M	-\$2.2M
	Clay	-\$825.1K	-\$1.4M	-\$2.2M
	Flagler	-\$700.2K	-\$1.3M	-\$2M
	Nassau	-\$580.4K	-\$1.1M	-\$1.7M
	Alachua	-\$580K	-\$970.5K	-\$1.6M
	Putnam	-\$180.8K	-\$249.5K	-\$430.3K
	Bradford	-\$11.3K	-\$17.8K	-\$29.1K
	Okeechobee	-\$4.6K	-\$7.9K	-\$12.5K
	Osceola	-\$3.3K	-\$4.7K	-\$8K
South Florida WMD Everglades	Palm Beach	-\$1.2M	-\$2.3M	-\$3.5M
	Lee	-\$662.1K	-\$1.2M	-\$1.9M
	Orange	-\$290.9K	-\$567.8K	-\$858.7K
	Osceola	-\$281.8K	-\$533.9K	-\$815.7K
	Saint Lucie	-\$263.6K	-\$422.1K	-\$685.7K
	Martin	-\$148.1K	-\$269.7K	-\$417.8K
	Monroe	-\$80.4K	-\$156.7K	-\$237.1K
	Polk	-\$37.5K	-\$65.9K	-\$103.4K
	Okeechobee	-\$19.5K	-\$30.1K	-\$49.6K

Special Districts (continued)	County	FY 2028 Impact	FY 2029 Impact	Over 2 Years
South Florida WMD Everglades	Hendry	-\$18.2K	-\$29.3K	-\$47.5K
	Charlotte	-\$7.4K	-\$14.8K	-\$22.2K
	Highlands	-\$6K	-\$9K	-\$15K
Northwest Florida Water Management...	Franklin	-\$120.3K	-\$192.8K	-\$313.1K
	Leon	-\$105.5K	-\$174.6K	-\$280.1K
	Escambia	-\$107.4K	-\$163.4K	-\$270.8K
	Santa Rosa	-\$81.5K	-\$140.1K	-\$221.6K
	Okaloosa	-\$82K	-\$134.9K	-\$216.9K
	Bay	-\$65.5K	-\$107.5K	-\$173K
	Walton	-\$52.3K	-\$103.3K	-\$155.6K
	Wakulla	-\$16.7K	-\$27.1K	-\$43.8K
	Gadsden	-\$11.5K	-\$15.7K	-\$27.2K
	Jackson	-\$9.9K	-\$13K	-\$22.9K
	Gulf	-\$6.7K	-\$11.9K	-\$18.6K
	Washington	-\$7.1K	-\$9.9K	-\$17K
	Jefferson	-\$4.1K	-\$6.1K	-\$10.2K
	Holmes	-\$3.1K	-\$4.3K	-\$7.4K
	Calhoun	-\$2.5K	-\$3.1K	-\$5.6K
	Liberty	-\$1.2K	-\$1.6K	-\$2.8K
West Coast Inland Navigation District	Lee	-\$798.4K	-\$1.5M	-\$2.3M
	Sarasota	-\$525.2K	-\$967K	-\$1.5M
	Manatee	-\$408.3K	-\$771.8K	-\$1.2M
	Charlotte	-\$203.3K	-\$350.6K	-\$553.9K

Special Districts (continued)	County	FY 2028 Impact	FY 2029 Impact	Over 2 Years
Suwannee River Water Management Di...	Alachua	-\$638.9K	-\$1.1M	-\$1.8M
	Columbia	-\$310.1K	-\$449.2K	-\$759.3K
	Suwannee	-\$198.6K	-\$277.9K	-\$476.5K
	Bradford	-\$119.3K	-\$175K	-\$294.3K
	Gilchrist	-\$99.7K	-\$148.3K	-\$248K
	Taylor	-\$64.1K	-\$83.3K	-\$147.4K
	Madison	-\$60K	-\$82.3K	-\$142.3K
	Levy	-\$56.3K	-\$81.4K	-\$137.7K
	Hamilton	-\$37.4K	-\$49.7K	-\$87.1K
	Union	-\$38.6K	-\$47.7K	-\$86.3K
	Dixie	-\$40.4K	-\$46.5K	-\$86.9K
	Lafayette	-\$25.6K	-\$34K	-\$59.6K
	Jefferson	-\$11.1K	-\$15K	-\$26.1K
Miami-Dade Environmentally Endange...	Miami-Dade	-\$1.5M	-\$2.8M	-\$4.3M
Hillsborough County Conservation &...	Hillsborough	-\$1.7M	-\$3.1M	-\$4.8M
Polk County Stormwater District	Polk	-\$1.3M	-\$2.2M	-\$3.4M
Lake County Water District	Lake	-\$3.1M	-\$5.5M	-\$8.6M
Lee County Hyacinth Control District	Lee	-\$388.9K	-\$721.6K	-\$1.1M
Lake County Stormwater District	Lake	-\$2.4M	-\$4.2M	-\$6.6M
Volusia Forever	Volusia	-\$2.6M	-\$4.5M	-\$7.1M
Brevard County Environmentally Enda...	Brevard	-\$1.1M	-\$1.8M	-\$2.9M
Collier County Water Pollution Control...	Collier	-\$271.6K	-\$528.9K	-\$800.5K
Conservation Collier	Collier	-\$2.3M	-\$4.5M	-\$6.8M

Special Districts (continued)	County	FY 2028 Impact	FY 2029 Impact	Over 2 Years
South Florida WMD Big Cypress Basin	Collier	-\$1.1M	-\$2.1M	-\$3.2M
Sebastian Inlet District	Brevard	-\$1.3M	-\$2.2M	-\$3.5M
	Indian River	-\$218K	-\$378.1K	-\$596.1K
Central Broward Water Control District	Broward	-\$3.1M	-\$5.9M	-\$9M
Conservation Charlotte Debt	Charlotte	-\$1M	-\$1.8M	-\$2.8M
Saint Lucie County Stormwater District	Saint Lucie	-\$720.5K	-\$1.1M	-\$1.8M
Save Osceola	Osceola	-\$2.2M	-\$4.1M	-\$6.2M
Clay County Land Conservation Com...	Clay	-\$846.9K	-\$1.4M	-\$2.2M
Water Management District 3a	Broward	-\$27.4K	-\$45.5K	-\$72.9K
Lake Region Land Management District	Polk	-\$394.5K	-\$657K	-\$1.1M
Land Acquisition Bond	Indian River	-\$268.3K	-\$480.1K	-\$748.4K
Jupiter Inlet District	Palm Beach	-\$302.9K	-\$605.1K	-\$908K
Navigable Waterways	Sarasota	-\$15.7K	-\$31.5K	-\$47.2K
Pinellas Park Water	Pinellas	-\$1.8M	-\$2.6M	-\$4.4M
Water Management District 4c	Broward	-\$40.7K	-\$67.7K	-\$108.4K
Windermere Water & Navigation Contr...	Orange	-\$216K	-\$463.7K	-\$679.7K
Lake Conway	Orange	-\$240.1K	-\$469K	-\$709.1K
Lake Holden	Orange	-\$72.5K	-\$138.3K	-\$210.8K
Water Management District 2	Broward	-\$109.2K	-\$181.9K	-\$291.1K
Big Sand Lake	Orange	-\$24.2K	-\$52.2K	-\$76.4K
Cedar Key Special District	Levy	-\$36.1K	-\$65.6K	-\$101.7K
Homosassa Special Water District	Citrus	-\$117.4K	-\$200.4K	-\$317.8K
Lake Jessamine	Orange	-\$38.3K	-\$73.4K	-\$111.7K

Special Districts (continued)	County	FY 2028 Impact	FY 2029 Impact	Over 2 Years
Lake Rose	Orange	-\$6.4K	-\$12.9K	-\$19.3K
Little Lake Fairview	Orange	-\$3.1K	-\$6.6K	-\$9.7K
Bass Lake	Orange	-\$6.5K	-\$12.9K	-\$19.4K
Captiva Erosion Prevention District	Lee	-\$3.8K	-\$8K	-\$11.8K
East Naples Bay Std	Collier	-\$20.2K	-\$42.3K	-\$62.5K
Haldeman Crk Maint/Dredg MSTU	Collier	-\$19.9K	-\$37K	-\$56.9K
Lake Irma	Orange	-\$9.7K	-\$19.5K	-\$29.2K
Lake Killarney	Orange	-\$4.3K	-\$8.9K	-\$13.2K
Lake Mary	Orange	-\$24.1K	-\$40.7K	-\$64.8K
Lake Ola	Orange	-\$20K	-\$43.2K	-\$63.2K
Lake Pickett	Orange	-\$77.2K	-\$167.4K	-\$244.6K
Lake Price	Orange	-\$7.2K	-\$15.5K	-\$22.7K
Lake Sui	Orange	-\$3K	-\$6.6K	-\$9.6K
Northeast Hurricane Bay Channel MSTU	Lee	-\$21.2K	-\$39.9K	-\$61.1K
San Carlos Park Improvement	Lee	-\$102.4K	-\$169.1K	-\$271.5K
Sewer Debt	Lee	-\$3.4K	-\$7.5K	-\$10.9K
Town & River Improvement Unit	Lee	-\$20.1K	-\$42.2K	-\$62.3K
Vanderbilt Waterways MSTU	Collier	-\$15.6K	-\$32.7K	-\$48.3K
Victoria Park Drainage MSTD	Collier	-\$6K	-\$10.6K	-\$16.6K
Water Management District 4b	Broward	-\$5.9K	-\$8.1K	-\$14K

Special districts are a limited form of local government with a narrow scope of services (e.g., a library special district, a mosquito control special district, etc.) across a specific geography that may receive additional funding from a county or municipality.

Why the real impact may be larger

It is important to note that funding often overlaps across categories. Special districts have a narrow scope of services and can collect property taxes to fund their activities. Counties and municipalities also collect property taxes and can provide funding for these same services either through a special district or on their own. For example, some communities will have a special library district while others rely on a county or municipality to fund library services.

As another example, some Children's Services and Trusts are funded by a county and not independently. While these programs would not appear as standalone special districts, they are folded into the county's budget.

See the full report

<https://amendment3.floridapolicyinstitute.org/services?cat=WMD>



Endnotes

* Revenue Estimating Conference, "Ad Valorem: Homestead Exemption Increases; Assessment Increase Limitation 10% to 5%. CS/HJR 1F," Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research, July 10, 2026, <https://edr.state.fl.us/content/revenues/reports/tax-handbook/taxhandbook.pdf>.

The state fiscal year starts July 1 and ends June 30. For this reason, a fiscal year overlaps with two calendar years. The next fiscal year begins July 1, 2027, and ends June 30, 2028.

Amounts are rounded to the nearest \$100. Line items where the 'Over 2 Years' amount has an absolute value of less than \$1000 are included in totals, but not shown individually. Items may not sum exactly to totals due to rounding and suppression of small line items. To maintain consistency with the official state estimation methodology for this potential mid-year policy change, these values do not include the significant impact for the second half of fiscal year 2027.