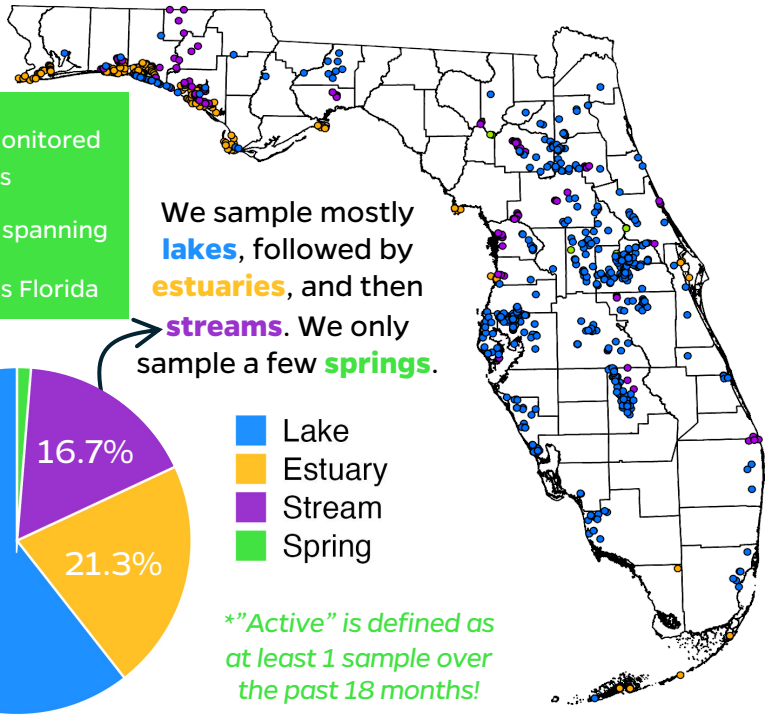
2024 | UF/IFAS Florida LAKEWATCH

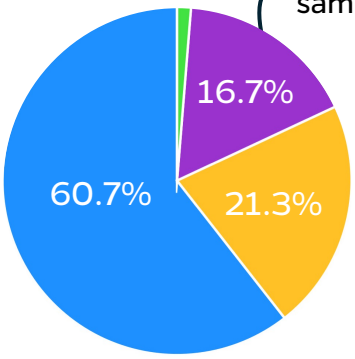
ANNUAL REPORT

WATERBODIES
By the Numbers

627 actively* monitored waterbodies across
47 counties and spanning
750 miles across Florida

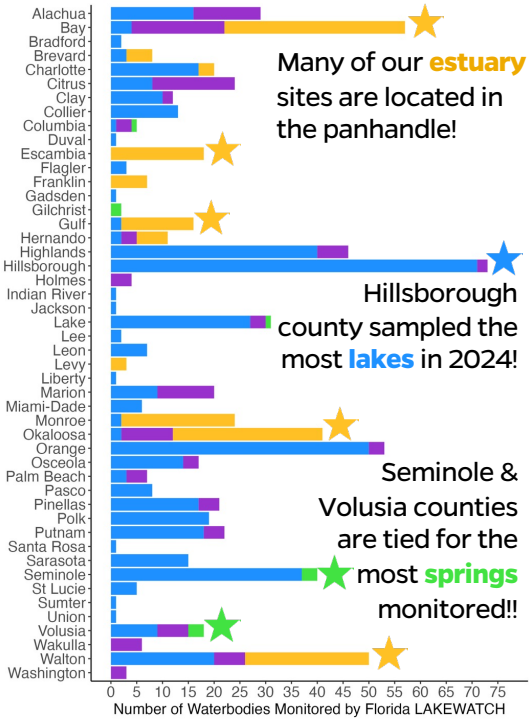


We sample mostly **lakes**, followed by **estuaries**, and then **streams**. We only sample a few **springs**.



- Lake
- Estuary
- Stream
- Spring

*"Active" is defined as at least 1 sample over the past 18 months!



Many of our **estuary** sites are located in the panhandle!

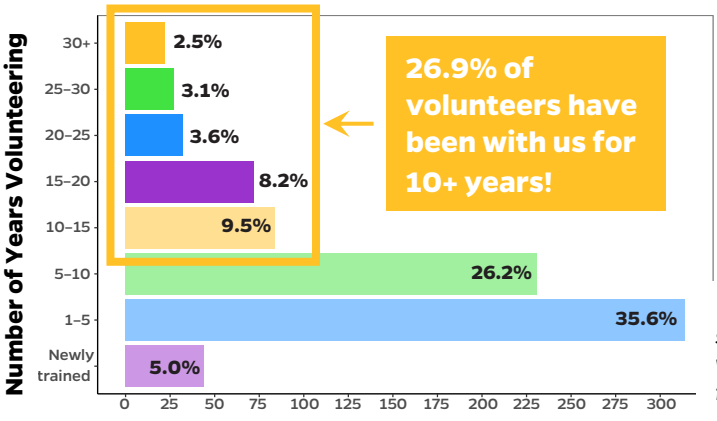
Hillsborough county sampled the most **lakes** in 2024!

Seminole & Volusia counties are tied for the most **springs** monitored!!

VOLUNTEERS
By the Numbers

883 active* volunteers
114 training sessions

← *Volunteer and supporter Jim Bays from Stewards of Our Urban Lakes (SoUL) won the Daniel Canfield award at FLMS in 2024!*



26.9% of volunteers have been with us for 10+ years!

↑ *And our longest serving volunteers won an award in 2024 for their monitoring of Lake Sante Fe! Hear more about Tom and Peggy Prevost here:*

LAB ANALYSES

61,692
Samples analyzed for Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus, Chlorophyll, Color, and Conductivity

DATA SHARING

3,082
Individual waterbody reports created & shared

20
External data shares (across academia, government, and industry)

46,031
Data points added to DEP's Watershed Information Network

2,082,094
Data points in our database

Collectively we published 6 peer-reviewed manuscripts!

EXTENSION METRICS

We hosted

24*
Meetings across FL

106
Recorded questions

533*
Floridians attended

Attendance at our regional volunteer meetings
24%

Photo: Hillsborough/Pasco 2024 regional volunteer meeting

We published* **4** Newsletters

11,548
Emails opened

We wrote (and solicited) **32** Articles

2,238
Articles clicks

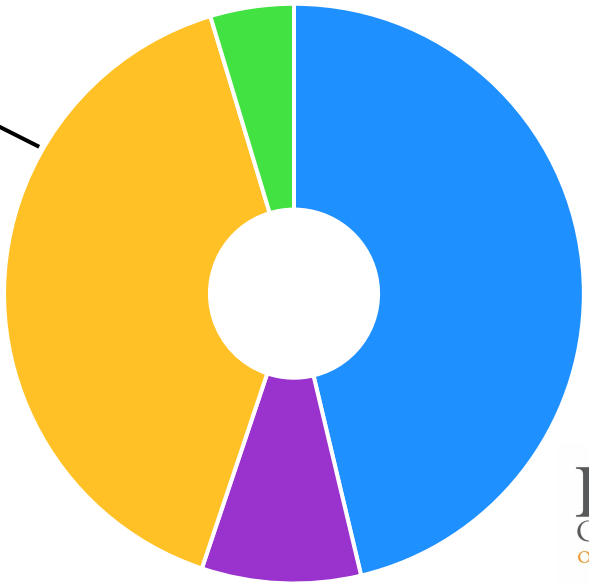
*Includes 14 regional meetings + 10 other outreach events

FINANCIALS

LAKEWATCH saved FL **~$9M** in monitoring costs in 2024!

$1,080,413
2024 LAKEWATCH Budget

46.3% DEP
40.2% UF/IFAS/FFGS
8.8% Counties
4.7% Lab Fees



UF IFAS UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

SCHOOL OF FOREST, FISHERIES, AND GEOMATICS SCIENCES

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Hillsborough County Florida EST. 1834 SM

PASCO COUNTY FLORIDA
OPEN SPACES. VIBRANT PLACES.

PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

13+ Extension Agents
>12 Local programs

CBA Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance
Northwest Florida State College

LCWA Lake County Water Authority

Seminole County Florida's Natural Choice SERV

Santa Fe Lake Dwellers Association, Inc.

Friends of Lake Jackson
to preserve, enhance, & maintain

Nature Coast Water Watch

Friends of Lake Munson Inc

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Bear Lake Preservation Association
Asher, Bear, Little Bear, Cub Lakes

SoUL Stewards of our Urban Lakes

Many thanks to our volunteers, funders, and supporters for enabling another successful year!

↓ The 2024 LAKEWATCH team!