



**AGRICULTURAL AND GREEN INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
GREEN SWAMP TOUR**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025 – 9:00 AM**

Colt Creek State Park – 16000 State Road 471, Lakeland, FL 33809

**MINUTES**

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**Committee Attendees**

Alan Jones, Chair, FL Fruit & Vegetable Assoc.  
Brandon Sites, On Top of the World  
Don Rainey, UF/Institute of Food & Ag. Science  
Raulie Raulerson, FL Farm Bureau Federation  
Sal Chillura, FL Nursery, Growers & Landscape  
Shawn Steed, Hills. Co. Extension Services  
Simon Bollin, Hills. Co. Extension Services  
Thomas Cook, On Top of the World  
Vanessa Bauzo, FDACS

**Staff Members**

Brian Starford, OPS, LND, & Res. Monitoring Director  
Jay Hoecker, Water Resources Bureau Chief  
Carole Estes, FARMS Program Manager  
Chris Reed, Land Management Manager  
Mark Maggard, Lead Land Manager  
Chris Green, Lead Land Manager  
Mark Fulkerson, Chief Professional Engineer  
Anne Blanchard, Senior Land Manager

**Minutes Administrators**

Barbara Matrone, Sr. Administrative Coordinator  
Virginia Singer, Board & Executive Services Manager

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) hosted a tour of the Green Swamp for the Agricultural and Green Industry Advisory Committee members and District staff. This half-day tour was led by District staff and provided an overview of the District's conservation lands program, land use changes, agency coordination, natural system restoration and maintenance and the regional significance of the Green Swamp.