Cape Coral Keeping a Waterfront Wonderland Amidst Urbanization

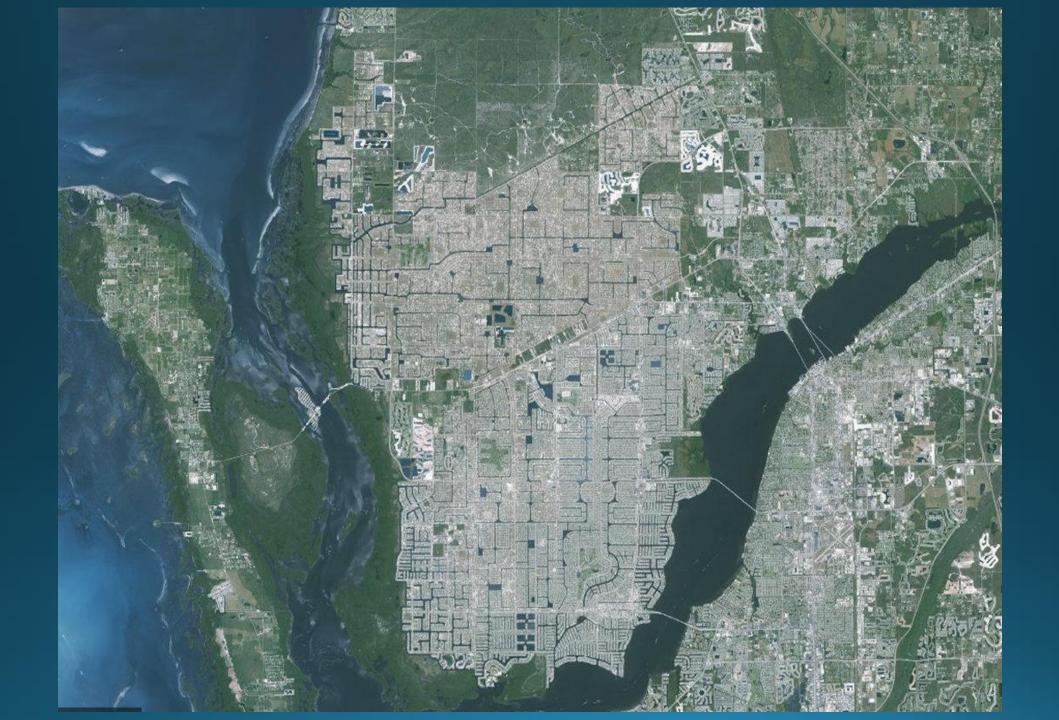
Harry Phillips Cape Coral Environmental Resources Division





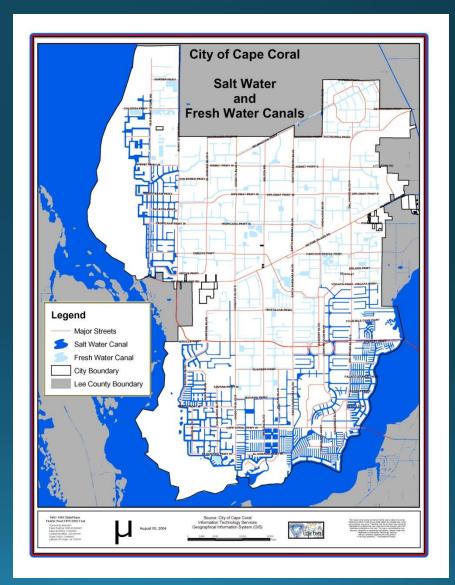


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The Canal System

- Waterfront Property
- Recreation
- Habitat for Wildlife
- Flood Protection
- Stormwater Treatment
- Water for Irrigation



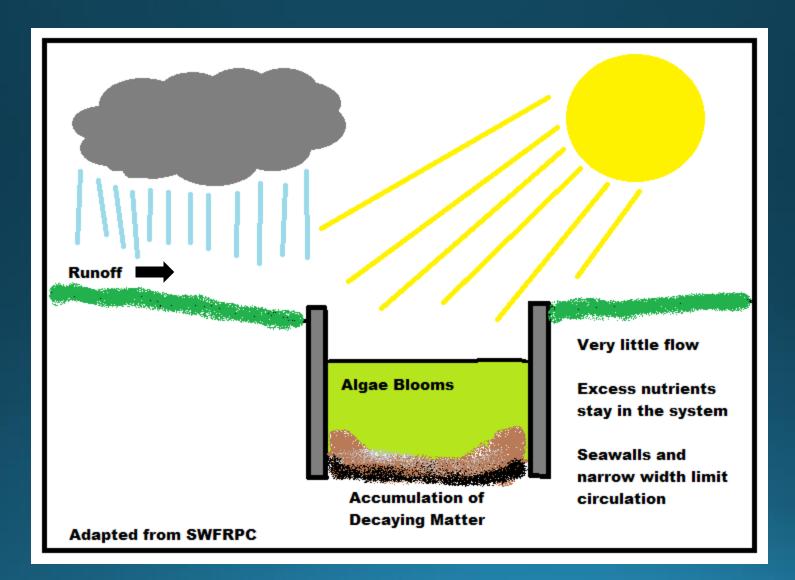
Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (MS⁴)

- 115 Square Miles
- 400 Miles of Canals
- ~300 Freshwater
- ~100 Tidal / Brackish
- Retention
- Dual Water System
- North / South
- **Spreader Waterway System**

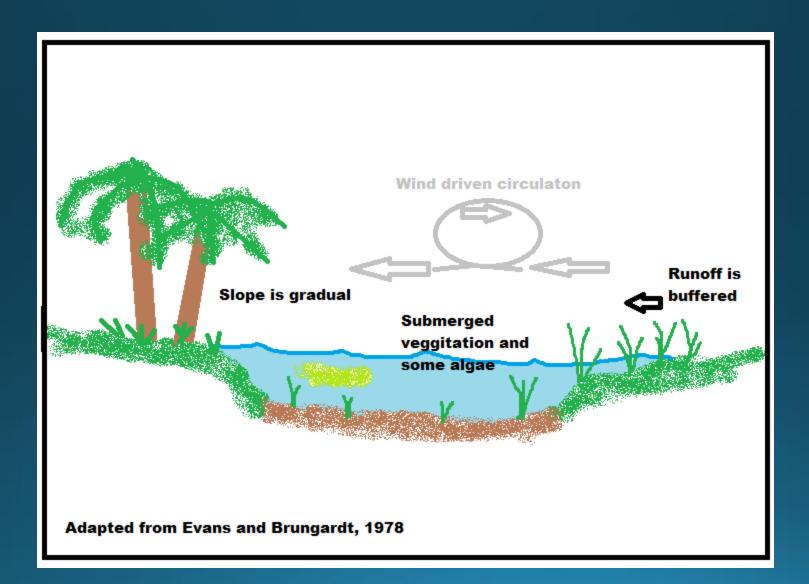




Structure of Man-Made Canal



Natural Systems



Issues with too Many Nutrients

Issues with Fertilizers

Algae, Phytoplankton



City of Cape Coral



Photo credit: Lee County Hyacinth Control District



Issues with too many nutrients



March 2015

Ways to Protect the Canal System and surrounding environment

- Street Sweepers
- Swales
- Catch Basins





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Ways to Protect the Canal System and surrounding environment

- Public Education
- Better Landscape Management
 - Planting Native Plants / Xeriscape
 - Fertilizer Ordinance
 - Watering Restrictions



City of Cape Coral





Tributary Strategies Program

Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program



Rain Gardens and Rain Barrels

 Redirecting a down spout into a subsided planting area or barrel.



Okeechobee IFAS

Canalwatch Volunteer Program





All images City of Cape Coral

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Thank you

