

**FRIENDS  
OF THE  
WEKIVA  
RIVER,  
INC.**



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February 23, 2107

Dear Commissioner Constantine,

The Friends of the Wekiva River strongly supports the proposed fertilizer ordinance the Commission is scheduled to consider on Feb. 28.

This ordinance is a potent and tangible way for the Commission to protect Seminole's irreplaceable water resources, its crown jewel being the Wekiva River. Political entities across the country and across the ideological spectrum are awakening to the urgency of protecting the quantity and quality of America's water.

To be sure, the ordinance does nothing to stop businesses or homeowners from keeping a healthy and attractive landscape, including turf. Instead, it puts into place some common-sense and non-intrusive guidelines that, if anything, will create a greater awareness of how to be a better steward of the resources we all share.

We appreciate the staff's willingness to hear our suggestions to enhance the initial proposal. In truth, we did not get all the changes we had hoped for. But that's the nature and elegance of compromise.

In the end, FOWR believes this ordinance is a critical step in making people aware of the everyday role they have in protecting the environment, not unlike efforts years ago to make recycling a part of our routine.

FOWR understands that education is a key component of this ordinance and our organization pledges to be partners with the county in spreading the word. We feel confident that other area organizations committed to a better environment also will.

We urge you to support this ordinance with your vote and send the message that Florida's Natural Choice is more than just a marketing slogan for Seminole County, it's a statement of commitment by its government and its residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Pottinger', with a long, sweeping underline that extends across the width of the signature.

John Pottinger, President

Friends Of The Wekiva River, Inc.

*Federally recognized 501(c)3 non-profit corporation*

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