



# Florida Legislative Session Recap

June 18, 2026  
FSA Annual Conference

[www.florida-stormwater.org](http://www.florida-stormwater.org)



## Today's Overview

- 2026 Session Review.
- Special Sessions Status/Review.
- Focus on *Water-Related Legislation* of interest to local stormwater programs.
- What's Next in 2026/2027.



# FSA Weekly Priority Issues



[www.florida-stormwater.org/legislative](http://www.florida-stormwater.org/legislative)



Florida Stormwater Association

Priority Issues – March 13, 2026

Detailed information on the below and other bills may be found on the FSA [Legislative Page](#).

**Water Management/Land and Water Management (SB 718/HB 479) – Oppose (FAILED)**

Preempts local regulation of water resources and wetlands; SB 718 broadly preempts water-related environmental regulation, HB 479 amended focus on preemption on wetland/upland buffer restrictions.

**Standards for Storm Water Systems (SB 558/HB 239) – Oppose (FAILED)**

Bills require all new stormwater systems to comply with FDOT standards and require independent final inspections by qualified third parties. Bills supersede all local stormwater standards.

**Industries and Professional Activities (HB 607) – Oppose (FAILED)**

Bill reduces or eliminates certain continuing and post-licensure education requirements across multiple professions, including engineers, and transfers licensing to DBPR, dissolving current engineering board.

**Landscape Irrigation (SB 508/HB 611) – Monitor (FAILED)**

Bills create statewide standards and restrictions for landscape irrigation systems, including design requirements, watering schedules, licensing, and prohibitions on inefficient practices.

**Nature-based Solutions for Improving Coastal Resilience (SB 302/HB 1035) – Monitor (PASSED)**

Bills create statewide rules and permits for nature-based coastal resilience projects and require a feasibility study on their effectiveness in reducing flood risk.

**Golf Courses/Golf Course Best Management Practices (SB 544/HB 495) – Monitor (FAILED)**

Bills direct a type two transfer of the Golf Course BMPs Certification program, including all powers, duties, and funds from FDEP to FDACS.

**Land Use Regulations for Local Governments Affected by Natural Disasters (SB 840/HB 1465) – Monitor (FAILED)**

Bills modify the 2025 SB 180 Emergencies bill framework by narrowing applicability to disaster impacted areas and redefining limits on post-hurricane local land use regulations and preemptions.

**Land Use Regulations (SB 218/HB 217) – Monitor (FAILED)**

Defines “impacted local government” to include counties designated for federal disaster assistance. Inhibits governments from imposing new land use restrictions and enforcement processes in disaster-impacted areas.

**Land Use and Development Regulations (SB 208/HB 399) – Monitor (PASSED)**

Limits local government development fees and compatibility determinations for residential projects and directs a study on urban development boundaries.

**Implementation of the Recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force (SB 1386) – Monitor (FAILED)**

Bill provides additional nutrient reduction requirements for BMAP plans and requires owners of certain OSTDS systems to have the systems periodically inspected in an FDEP inspection program.



## The 2026 Florida Legislative Session

- November 2026 election is right around the corner.
- Continuance of the “House Divided”.
- Federal policy influence on state policies.
- Property taxes, property taxes, property taxes.
- “Glitch” bill for 2025 SB 180 Emergencies Bill (?)
- What stormwater related bill would we get this year...

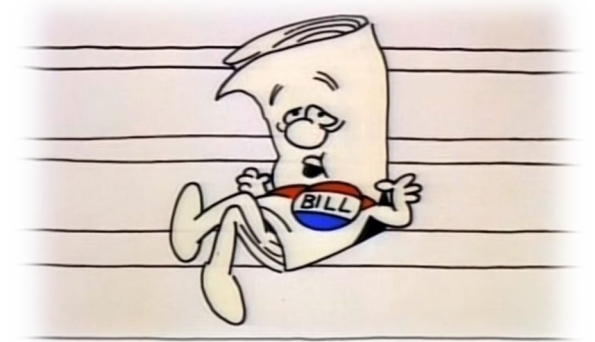




## 2026 Session & Special Sessions

- Interim meetings – Fall 2025
- Regular session kick off January 13, 2026.
- “Sine Die” March 13, 2026.
- Redistricting Special Session – April 2026  
(Best times ever...)
- Budget – May 2026.
- Property Taxes – June 2026
- Session Stats.
  - ~1900 Bills submitted.
  - ~237 bills passed.

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## **The March 2026 FSA Legislative Recap Webinar... Comments/Thoughts *(Yes, we really do read them)***

- **Love the overview!**
- **More on bills that passed & present those 1<sup>st</sup>.**
- **“Discussion/Conversations” on bills, more background.**
- **Special Sessions.**



[https://www.florida-stormwater.org/webinars#webinar\\_archive](https://www.florida-stormwater.org/webinars#webinar_archive)

<https://www.florida-stormwater.org/mo---legislative-page--members-only-?servId=7718>



## 2026 Special Session(s)

- Legislature has requirement to address budget, due July 1, 2026.
- Governor requested special session for redistricting, Artificial Intelligence (AI) reform, and “Medical Freedom”.
  - Legislators did not address AI or Medical Freedom request.
  - Redistricting session end of April (New maps signed by Governor May 4<sup>th</sup>).
  - Lawsuits filed immediately after signature.
- Budget session
  - Started May 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Final budget passed May 29<sup>th</sup>
  - On to Governor for review/approval.





## But wait, there's more...2026 Special Session(s)

- State Property Tax Relief.
- Governor requested special session to address "*Save Our Homes*" Property Tax Elimination Proposal.
  - Exemption on Homestead Property taxation.
  - Limits on eligibility to new FL residents.
- But...
  - Confusion on impacts/implementation.
  - Hefty impacts on local government \$\$.
  - "*Devil is in the details*".



*Florida Association of Counties*

<https://www.fl-counties.com/alert-property-tax-amendment-filed-heres-what-it-says-and-what-to-do/>



## 2026 Priority Issues – Passed Bills

- ✓ **SB 208/HB 399 – Land Use and Development Regulations. Monitor.**  
Senate – McClain/House – Borrero
- ✓ **SB 1510/HB 1417 – Department of Environmental Protection. Monitor.**  
Senate – Massullo/House – LaMarca
- ✓ **SB 302/HB 1035 – Coastal Resiliency/Nature-Based Coastal Resiliency. Monitor.**  
Senate – Garcia/House – Mooney
- ✓ **SB 848/HB 1457 – Stormwater Treatment. Monitor.**  
Senate – Truenow/House – Pittman



## 2026 Priority Issues – Failed Bills

- ✘ **SB 558/HB 239 – Standards for Stormwater Systems. Oppose.**  
Senate – Burgess/House – Grow
- ✘ **SB 718/HB 479 – Water Management/Land and Water Management. Oppose.**  
Senate – McClain/House – Maggard
- ✘ **SB 218/HB 217 – Land Use Regulations. Monitor (Failed)**  
Senate – Gaetz/House – Abbott
- ✘ **SB 840/HB 1465 – Land Use Regulations for Local Governments Affected by Natural Disasters. Monitor.**  
Senate – DiCeglie/House – Andrade
- ✘ **HB 607 – Industries and Professional Activities. Oppose.**  
House – Yarkosky
- ✘ **SB 508/HB 611 – Landscape Irrigation. Monitor.**  
Senate – Truenow/House – Cobb
- ✘ **SB 544/HB 495 – Golf Courses/Golf Course Best Management Practices. Monitor.**  
Senate – Truenow/House – Albert





## Reminder....

- **SB 558/HB 239** (*Standards for Stormwater Systems*) & **SB 718/HB 479** (*Water Management/Land and Water Management*).
- Both presented last year/year before.
- Both would be extremely impactful to stormwater/local government environmental regulations.
- They might be back in some shape or form...

*Feedback is key to working on these issues!!!*





## Few More Thoughts on 2026 Bills...

- **Biosolids Bills – SB 1294/HB 1245; SB 1474/HB 1285; SB 1230/HB 1019; SB 290/HB 433.**
- **SB 1230/HB 1019 (Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances).**
- **Blue Ribbon Projects (SB 354/HB 299).**
- **Tributaries of St. Johns River (SB 1066/HB 981).**





## What to Anticipate Next...

### 2026

- Budget/Taxes/Budget...
- Flood Inventory and Restoration Report (September 1, 2026).
- WQEA Rule (October 1, 2026).
- November election/New administration.

### 2027

- ✓ New administration/New priorities.
- ✓ Stormwater rule compliance.
- ✓ Preemption philosophy.
- ✓ Funding.

# Questions?



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Evaluation Survey - We value your feedback!