

APPENDIX Definitions

Adverse Impact (upon a natural resource): Direct contamination, alteration, or destruction, or that which contributes to the contamination, alteration, or destruction of a natural resource, or portion thereof, to the degree that its environmental benefits are or will be eliminated, reduced or impaired.

Agriculture: The use of land predominantly for the cultivation of crops and livestock including: cropland, pastureland, orchards, vineyards, nurseries, ornamental horticulture areas, groves, confined feeding operations, specialty farms, and silviculture.

Ambient: Circulating or surrounding.

Aquifer: A geologic formation, group of formations, or part of a formation that contains sufficient saturated permeable material to yield significant quantities of water to wells and springs. (See Floridan Aquifer System; Intermediate Aquifer System; and Surficial Aquifer System.)

Aquifer Recharge: The replenishment of groundwater in an aquifer occurring primarily as result of infiltration of rainfall, and secondarily by the movement of water from adjacent aquifers or surface water bodies.

Area of Special Flood Hazard: Any locality that, because of topography, soil limitations or geographic location, is subject to periodic or occasional inundation.

Assimilative Capacity: The greatest amount of a pollutant loading that a water or wetland can receive without violating state water quality standards.

Best Management Practices (BMPs): **A series of guidelines or minimum standards** ~~Management or design criteria~~ adopted for areawide application, ~~typically usually~~ associated with agricultural, ~~horticultural, or commercial forestry pursuits~~ **silvicultural, golf course, and similar operations, designed primarily to prevent soil erosion and water pollution, and to protect certain wildlife habitat values in riparian and wetland areas.**

Bikeway: Any road, path, or way which in some manner is specifically designated as being open to bicycle travel regardless of whether such facilities are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or are to be shared with other transportation modes. This includes bike lanes, wide curb lanes, sidewalks, and local streets.

Biodiversity (Biological diversity): The variety, distribution and abundance of living organisms in an ecosystem. Maintaining biodiversity is believed to promote stability, sustainability and resilience of ecosystems.

Bona Fide Agricultural Purposes: Good faith commercial agricultural use of the land, provided the land is classified for assessment purposes by the property appraiser as “agricultural” pursuant to Chapter 193, Florida Statutes. In determining whether the use of the land for agricultural purposes is bona fide, the following factors may be taken into consideration:

- (1) The length of time the land has been so utilized;
- (2) Whether the use has been continuous;
- (3) The purchase price paid;
- (4) Size, as it relates to specific agricultural use;
- (5) Whether an indicated effort has been made to care sufficiently and adequately for the land in accordance with accepted commercial agricultural practices, including, without limitation, fertilizing, liming, tilling, mowing, reforesting, and other accepted agricultural practices;
- (6) Whether such land is under lease and, if so, the effective length, terms, and conditions of the lease; and
- (7) Such other factors as may from time to time become applicable.

Borrow Activities: See Excavation.

Buffer: ~~The use of naturally occurring vegetation or open space for the purposes of limiting the effects of development on natural systems or the recreational value of natural features.~~ An area of planted or natural vegetation or open space, maintained for various purposes, including reduction of erosion and siltation along surface waters and wetlands, reduction of poaching and wind erosion along roads and field edges, and provision of wildlife travel corridors and habitat.

Champion Trees: Those trees that have been identified by the Florida Division of Forestry as being the largest of their species within the State of Florida or by the American Forestry Association as the largest of their species in the United States. The current list of champion trees in Gainesville and Alachua County is on file in the office of codes enforcement. This list is subject to revision and will be updated yearly.

Class I Waters: Potable water supplies as classified and specified in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

Class II Waters: Shellfish propagation or harvesting water as classified and specified in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

Class III Waters: Waters deemed suitable for recreation, propagation and protection of fish and wildlife as classified and specified in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

Class IV Waters: Agricultural water supplies as classified and specified in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

Clustering: The grouping together of structures and infrastructure on a portion of a development site.

Common Area: Any part of a development designed and intended to be used in common by the owners, residents or tenants of the development.

Common Open Space: All open space, natural areas and recreational areas which are part of a common area.

Compensating Storage: Physical replacement of natural flood water storage volumes that would be displaced in areas of special flood hazard due to development. The volume of compensating storage shall be calculated assuming normal wet season ground water levels.

Cone of Depression: A description phrase relating to the events that occur in an aquifer when withdrawal of well water exceeds recharge.

Confined Aquifer: An aquifer that is bounded above and below by impermeable beds or by beds of distinctly lower permeability than that of the aquifer itself.

Confining Layer: A rock or soil bed that lies above or below an aquifer and that allows very little water to flow through the other layers.

Connected Wetland: A vegetative community which is part of a flowing water system or a runoff system where waters flow through during times of heavy rainfall.

Conservation Area/Land: In the land use category context, this term encompasses both primary and secondary conservation areas and refers to identified natural resource areas on privately owned lands in Alachua County.

Conserve/Conservation: The prudent use of natural resources commensurate with environmental functions.

Creation: A type of mitigation in which persistent wetlands are created through the engineered conversion of non-wetland areas.

Criteria Pollutants: Air pollutants for which National Ambient Air Quality Standards exist. The United States Environmental Protection Agency has set National Air Quality Standards for the following six air pollutants: carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matter, and sulfur dioxide.

Critical: Of special importance, requiring high-priority treatment, usually applied to resource areas of special importance due to their usefulness, hazard, or pending impact from alteration.

Critical Habitat (also called essential habitat): The specific areas that contain biological or physical features upon which a **listed threatened or endangered** species depends. These include feeding, breeding, and nesting areas.

Depression Basins: Natural depression watershed areas which have no positive outfall for surface water runoff except by infiltration as evapotranspiration.

Detention: The collection and temporary storage of stormwater in such a manner as to provide for treatment through physical, chemical or biological processes with subsequent gradual release of stormwater.

Development **Activity: Any man-made change to property including, but not limited to, building or erecting a structure, locating a mobile home, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavating, or drilling operations. Any dredging, filling, excavation, construction of new structures, expansion of existing structures, installation of utilities, roads, personal wireless service facilities, stormwater**

management systems, septic tanks, bulkheading, agricultural activities, land clearing, tree cutting, mechanized vegetation removal and the disposal of solid or liquid waste. Agricultural and silvicultural activities that qualify as bona fide agricultural activities pursuant to Chapter 193, Florida Statutes, and that follow best management practices are exempt from this definition of development activity.

Drainage Basin: A subdivision of a watershed.

Ecological Integrity: The condition of an ecosystem having the biotic communities and physical environment with structure, composition, and natural processes that are resilient, self-sustaining, and able to accommodate stress and change. Its key ecosystem processes, such as nutrient cycles, succession, water levels and flow patterns, and the dynamics of sediment erosion and deposition, are functioning properly within the natural range of variability.

Ecological Value: The value of functions performed by uplands, wetlands, and other surface waters to the abundance, diversity, and habitats of fish, wildlife, and listed species. These functions include, but are not limited to, providing cover and refuge; breeding, nesting, denning, and nursery areas; corridors for wildlife movement; food chain support; and natural water storage, natural flow attenuation, and water quality improvement, which enhances fish, wildlife, and listed species utilization.

Ecosystem: A community of all plants and animals and their physical environment, functioning together as an interdependent unit.

Ecosystem Management: The conservation, restoration or enhancement of, and planning for the maintenance of, parts or whole natural systems inter-related or associated with particular resources. Ecosystem management is an approach to natural resources that integrates ecological, economic, and social principles to manage biological and physical systems in a manner that safeguards the ecological sustainability, natural diversity, and productivity of the landscape. Examples of ecosystem management practices include: using fire to restore longleaf pine forests, leaving buffer zones to protect water quality, and using harvesting techniques that enhance forest productivity and provide critical wildlife habitat.

Endangered species: Species in danger of extinction if the deleterious factors affecting their populations continue to operate. These are forms whose numbers have already declined to such a critically low level or whose habitats have been so seriously reduced or degraded that without active assistance, their survival in Florida is questionable.

Enhancement: A type of mitigation in which there is an engineered increase in one or more values of all or a portion of an existing wetland, surface water, or upland.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas: Areas where natural resource values or hazards play a primary role in land suitability and capability. These include areas with special natural resource characteristics which may be described as fragile and subject to harm with a minimal amount of alteration.

Environmentally Significant Lands: Lands containing natural resources and open space that Alachua County acquires for resource protection and the provision of appropriate resource-based recreation.

Environmental Quality: The character or degree of excellence or degradation in the total essential natural resources of the area as measured by the findings and standards of the physical, natural, and social sciences, the arts and technology, and the quantitative guidelines of federal, state and county governments.

Environmental Stewardship: Care and supervision of natural resources common to all citizens.

EPA Identified Toxic Pollutants: The 188 toxic air pollutants listed in the 1990 amendments to the Federal Clean Air Act that the United States Environmental Protection Agency is required to control.

Excavation: The removal and transport of earth materials (sometimes referred to as "borrow" activities). This definition excludes commercial mining operations (such as limerock and sand mining operations), excavation associated with construction of storm water management facilities, excavation activities governed by the Alachua County Subdivision Regulations, and excavation associated with sod farming and removal activities, and tree farming activities.

Extraction: The removal of soil, sand, mineral, etc. from the earth through mining or excavation (borrow) activities.

Fill: Raising the surface level of the land with suitable soil material.

Flatwood: Broad, nearly level, low ridges of dominantly poorly drained soils characteristically vegetated with open woods of pine and saw palmetto.

Flood or Flooding: The inundation of land by the overflow of a stream basin or depression basin, the accumulation of runoff, or the rise of ground water.

Flood plain: **Any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from a storm of a specified frequency of occurrence. Lowlands adjoining the channels of rivers, streams or other watercourses, or lakes or other bodies of standing water. Includes the floodway and flood fringe.**

Flood plain, 100-year: Areas subject to inundation by a flood having a one-percent (1%) probability of occurrence in any given year. The 100-year flood elevation is the highest elevation of flood waters during the 100-year storm event and is calculated or estimated from the best available information.

Floodway: The channel of a river, **stream**, or other watercourse **and of** the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the **100-year base** flood without cumulatively increasing the **100-year flood water surface** elevation more than **a designated height one (1) foot**.

Floridan Aquifer System: The thick carbonate sequence which includes all or part of the Paleocene to early Miocene Series and functions regionally as a water-yielding hydraulic unit. Where overlaid by either the intermediate aquifer system or the intermediate confining unit, the Floridan contains water under confined conditions. Where overlaid directly by the surficial aquifer system, the Floridan may or may not contain water under confined conditions, depending on the extent of low permeability materials in the surficial aquifer system. Where the carbonate rocks crop out, the Floridan generally contains water under unconfined conditions near the top of the aquifer system; but, because of vertical variations in permeability, deeper zones may contain water under confined conditions. The Floridan aquifer system is present throughout the County in the deepest part of the active ground water flow system. The top of the aquifer system generally

coincides with the absence of significant thicknesses of clastics from the section and with the top of the vertically persistent permeable carbonate section. For the most part, the top of the aquifer system coincides with the top of the Suwannee Limestone, where present, or the top of the Ocala Group. Where these are missing, the Avon Park Limestone or permeable carbonate beds of the Hawthorn Formation form the top of the aquifer system. The base of the aquifer system coincides with the appearance of the regionally persistent sequence of anhydrite beds that lie near the top of the Cedar Keys Limestone.

Florida Scenic Highways Program: Grass-roots effort to heighten awareness of our State's historical and intrinsic resources - cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational, natural and scenic - which collectively, enhance the overall traveling experience. Program participation provides benefits to the community, such as resource preservation, enhancement and protection, as well as community recognition and promotion of tourism and economic development. The program is a partnership between Florida Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Florida citizen groups, businesses, and local governments.

Fragmentation: The loss of connections between natural areas, or the breaking up of habitat into isolated areas.

Functional Connectedness: The characteristic of a natural community that has connections to other natural areas. Wild plants and animals typically require avenues for dispersal to different feeding and breeding sites in order to survive.

Geologic Features: A prominent or conspicuous characteristic of earth materials in the landscape. In Alachua County, prominent geologic features include sinkholes, caves, stream bluffs, escarpments, outcroppings, and springs.

Geophysical: Of or pertaining to the physical properties of earth materials and their chemical composition and transformations.

Glare: The sensation produced by a bright source within the visual field that is sufficiently brighter than the level to which the eyes are adapted to cause annoyance, discomfort, or loss in visual performance and visibility; blinding light. The magnitude of glare depends on such factors as the size, position, brightness of the source, and on the brightness level to which the eyes are adapted.

Greenway: A corridor of protected open space that is managed for conservation, recreation purposes. Greenways follow natural land or water features or abandoned railroad corridors or canals, and link natural reserves, parks, cultural and historic sites.

Groundwater: Water occurring beneath the surface of the ground, whether or not flowing through known or definite channels.

Habitat: The natural abode of a plant or animal **that contains the arrangement of food, water, cover and space required to meet the biological needs of a given species. Different species have different requirements, and these requirements vary over the course of a year. The kind of environment in which a plant or animal normally lives, as opposed to the range, or spatial distribution.**

Habitat Corridors: A naturally-vegetated transportation route for plants and animals that connects larger natural areas. Wild plants and animals typically require avenues for dispersal to different feeding and breeding sites in order to survive.

Habitat Diversity: The variety of habitat features and types in a specific area. Habitat diversity takes many forms: the variety of plants and animals on a site; structural diversity or the vertical arrangement of vegetation from canopy to forest floor; horizontal diversity or the distribution of habitat types across the landscape; and temporal diversity or habitat changes over time. Generally, areas with substantial habitat diversity will support more wildlife species than areas with less habitat diversity.

High Aquifer Recharge Areas: Areas where stream-to-sink surface water basins occur, and areas where the Floridan aquifer system is designated as unconfined or semiconfined in Florida Geological Survey Open File Report 21, "Geologic Interpretation of the Aquifer Pollution Potential in Alachua County, Florida,"

Human-related Resources: Resources or products that are associated with human interaction with the environment, including energy, open space, scenic quality, landscaping/vegetation management, agricultural and silvicultural resources, wildfire hazards, and hazardous materials.

Hydrogeologic: Of or pertaining to the interrelationship of earth materials and processes with water. The movement patterns and chemistry of groundwater are heavily dependent on geology of the area.

Hydroperiod: ~~The annual period of inundation.~~ **Period of time and frequency in which soils, waterbodies, and sites are wet.**

I-75 Corridor Council: Intergovernmental work group that provides guidance to the Florida Department of Transportation on the highway beautification and tourism promotion project established in 1996 for the portion of I-75 that extends from the Georgia state line to Florida's Turnpike in Wildwood.

Impervious Surface: Land surfaces which do not allow, or minimally allow, the penetration of water; included as examples are building roofs and typical continuous concrete and asphalt pavements.

Important Agricultural Areas: The important farmlands that are identified by the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service. These include prime and unique farmlands, and additional farmland of statewide and local importance as described in 7 Code of Federal Regulations 657.

~~Important ecological community - An assemblage of native biota which may be easily recognized because of characteristic species or overall appearance, and which is sustainable through maintenance or ecosystem regulators such as fire to period inundation.~~

Indicator (Key) Species: An organism that occurs only in areas with specific environmental conditions.

Indicators: Quantitative information, or data, tracked over time, designed to provide a comprehensive assessment of trends in community conditions (i.e. environmental quality) to support planning and management decisions affecting the County's future.

Injection Well: A well into which fluids are drained, either by gravity flow or under pressure. The terms deep well and shallow well injection have no real significance relative to the actual depth of a well. Specific depths should be stated. **Deep well injection does not include the return of groundwater used for heat exchange, or the injection of non-contact cooling water from residential and commercial heat pumps, to the aquifer.**

Intermediate Aquifer System: All rocks that lie between the overlying surficial aquifer system and the underlying Floridan aquifer system. These rocks in general consist of fine-grained clastic deposits interlayered with carbonate strata belonging to all or parts of the Miocene and younger Series. In places, poorly-water-yielding to non-water-yielding strata mainly occur; there the term "intermediate confining unit" applies. In other places, one or more low- to moderate-yielding aquifers may be interlayered with relative impermeable confining beds; there the term "intermediate aquifer system" applies. The aquifers within this system contain water under confined conditions. The top of the intermediate aquifer system or the intermediate confining unit coincides with the base of the surficial aquifer system. The base of the intermediate aquifer is the top of the vertically persistent permeable carbonate section that comprises the Floridan aquifer system, or, in other words, that place in the section where clastic layers of significant thickness are absent and permeable carbonate rocks are dominant. Where the upper layers of the persistent carbonate section are of low permeability, they are part of either the intermediate aquifer system or intermediate confining unit, as applicable to the area.

Invasive Species: Imported plant species that are widespread in Florida and have the established potential to invade and disrupt native plant communities; are localized but have a rapidly expanding population or have shown a potential to invade and disrupt native vegetation in other areas or other countries with climates similar to Florida.

Isolated Wetland: ~~cypress domes, shallow marshes, bayheads or other wetlands where no naturally occurring outfall exists.~~ **Any wetland without a direct hydrologic connection to a lake, stream, estuary or marine water.**

Karst Topography: The relief of an area underlain by limestone that dissolves in differing degrees, thus forming numerous depressions or small basins.

Land Application: The act of disposing of sewage effluent and/or sludge on the earth's surface. There are three primary types of land application: (1) overland flow, which includes depository sludge in landfills, (2) rapid rate infiltration, such as in percolation ponds, and (3) slow rate infiltration such as spray irrigation.

Landscape: A geographical mosaic composed of interacting ecosystems resulting from the influence of geological, topographical, soil, climatic, biotic and human interactions in a given area.

Light Pollution: Any adverse effect of manmade light.

Light Trespass: Light falling where it is not wanted or needed, typically across property boundaries.

~~Listed - Refers to those lists of endangered species which are not accompanied by protection legislation, such as rare and endangered species lists compiled by academic or conservation groups.~~

Listed Species: Those species of plants and animals listed as endangered, threatened, rare, or species of special concern by an official state or federal plant or wildlife agency, the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI), or the Florida Committee on Rare and Endangered Plants and Animals (FCREPA). These species are targeted for protection for a number of reasons, e.g. they are in imminent danger of extinction, are rapidly declining in number or habitat, or have an inherent vulnerability to habitat modification, environmental alteration, or human disturbance which puts them at risk of extinction.

Littoral Zone: In reference to stormwater management systems, that portion which is designed to contain rooted aquatic plants.

Management Plan: A plan prepared to address preservation/restoration and management of natural resources. The plan consists of a set of documents, including maps, that describes and depicts the location of areas and natural resources to be preserved, including any protective buffers. The plan identifies specific implementation activities, schedules, and assignments of responsibilities.

Mineral Resource Areas: Areas of active or proposed resource extraction activity and areas containing known valuable mineral resource deposits.

Minimal Impact Activities: Activities that will have no significant adverse impact on the resource. Such activities may include installation of navigational aids marked consistent with the requirements of Section 327.40, Florida Statutes; construction and maintenance of public or private nature trails not more than ten (10) feet in width; installation of docks not in excess of one thousand (1,000) square feet in size, subject to performance standards, and other similar activities.

Mining: The extraction of natural deposits from the earth which are regulated by the State of Florida under Part II of Chapter 211 and Chapter 378, Florida Statutes, and by Alachua County Ordinance 68.

Mitigation: An action or series of actions that offsets adverse environmental impacts. Mitigation may consist of any one or a combination of monetary compensation, or acquisition, restoration, enhancement, or preservation of wetlands, other surface waters or uplands.

Mounding: Filling the area of the absorption field of a septic tank with suitable soil material to raise it above the water table to meet state and local regulations.

Multiple-use Forestry: Managing a forested area to simultaneously provide more than one of the following resource objectives: fish and wildlife, wood products, recreation, aesthetics, grazing, watershed protection, and historic or scientific values.

Native biota - The natural occurrence of species of plants and animals in a specific region. Native biota does not include species that are exotic or introduced by humans and that have become "naturalized".

Native Species: Plants and animals that, based on current knowledge, are known to have been present regionally before the time of documented European contact (~1500 A.D.).

Natural Ecological Communities: An assemblage of **native** plants and animals that is: (1) repeatable in general terms under similar physical conditions over the landscape, (2) capable of self-maintenance, (3) **recognizable can be recognized** as being distinct from adjoining communities, and (4) has not been significantly altered by previous manmade activities. A community can usually be recognized by a few key species of plants. A natural ecological community is one that is important as a reserve of biological diversity.

Natural Resources: Alachua County’s biological, physical, geological and hydrological components of the environment.

Non-native Species: Plants and animals that are not native regionally.

Non-point Source Pollution: Contamination arising from the discharge of wastes to water bodies or to the atmosphere from dispersed sources.

Open Space: Any natural, recreational, or common open areas, either publicly or privately owned, set aside, dedicated, designated, or reserved for the private use or enjoyment of owners or occupants of land adjoining such open space, or for the public at large.

Outstanding Florida Waters (OFWs): Surface waters that have been determined to be worthy of special protection as identified in Section 62-302.700, Florida Administrative Code. In Alachua County, these surface waters include Lochloosa Lake (including Little Lochloosa Lake, Lochloosa Lake Right Arm, and Lochloosa Creek upstream to County Road 20A); Orange Lake up to the U.S. Highway 301 bridge, the River Styx up to Camps Canal, and Cross Creek; and the Santa Fe River System (consisting of the Santa Fe River, Lake Santa Fe, Little Lake Santa Fe, Santa Fe Swamp, Olustee Creek, and the Ichetucknee River south of S.R. 27, but excluding all other tributaries). Also included are waters within state parks and preserves, such as Devil’s Milhopper State Geological Site, the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Historic Site, O’Leno State Park, Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, River Rise Preserve State Park, and San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park.

Overriding Public Interest: Actions required by local, regional, state, or federal government, necessary for the promotion of public safety, health or general welfare, such as clean-up of a spill of hazardous material, removal of exotic species, or fighting wildfires.

Paleontologic: Dealing with the use of past geological periods as known from fossil remains.

Percolation: The downward movement of water through the soil **or geologic features.**

Permeability: The quality of the soil that enables water to move downward through the profile. Permeability is measured as the number of inches per hour that water moves downward through the saturated soil.

Personal Wireless Service Facility (PWSF): Facility for the provision of personal wireless services, as defined by Section 704 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. A PWSF is any facility for the transmission and/or reception of personal wireless services, which may consist of an antenna array, transmission cables, equipment shelter or building, access road, mount, and a guy system.

Point Source Pollution: Contamination arising from direct discharge of wastes to water bodies or to the atmosphere through a pipe, ditch, channel, or other concentrated means.

Pollution: The presence in the outdoor atmosphere, ground or water, of any substances, contaminants, noise or man-made or human-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological, or radiological integrity of air, soil, or water, in quantities or at levels that are or may be potentially harmful or injurious to human health or welfare, animal or plant life, or property, or that does or may unreasonably interfere with the enjoyment of life or property.

Ponding: Standing water on soils in closed depressions.

Prescribed Burn: The controlled application of fire to naturally occurring vegetative fuels, under specified environmental conditions and following appropriate precautionary measures, to achieve specific objectives, such as ecosystem restoration, brush control or reduction of fuel hazards.

Preservation: In the mitigation context, this term refers to the protection of wetlands, surface waters, or uplands from adverse impacts by placing a conservation easement or other comparable land use restriction over the property or by donation of fee simple interest in the property.

Preservation Area/Land: An environmental land use category that consists of publicly owned lands which are intended for use as natural reserves or managed conservation lands for the preservation of natural resources. Preservation areas include lands owned in fee simple or less-than-fee simple title.

Preserve/Preservation: To maintain areas in their natural state in perpetuity; the perpetual maintenance of areas in their natural state.

Productivity (soil): The capacity of a soil for producing a specified plant or sequence of plants under specified management.

~~**Protected – Refers to official Federal, State or international treaty lists which provide legal protection for the rare and endangered species they list.**~~

Public Access: The ability of the public to physically reach, enter or use recreation sites.

Public Facilities: Major capital improvements owned, operated, or maintained by a governmental entity on behalf of the public, including, but not limited to, government buildings, transportation, sanitary sewer, solid waste, stormwater, potable water, educational, parks and recreational, and health systems and facilities.

Public Water Supply Well: A system for the provision of piped water to the public for human consumption which serves at least fifteen (15) service connections used year-round or regularly serves at least twenty-five (25) individuals daily at least sixty (60) days out of the year.

Rare species: Species which, although not presently endangered or threatened as defined, are potentially at risk because they are found only within a restricted geographic area or habitat in the State, or are sparsely distributed over a wider range.

Rarity: The characteristic of a natural community or organism that is imperiled at the state, regional, or local level.

Reclamation: The filling, backfilling, restructuring, reshaping, and/or revegetation within and around a land excavation or filling area to a safe and aesthetic condition.

Recreation Facility: A component of a recreation site used by the public such as a trail, court, athletic field, or swimming pool.

Relief: The elevations of inequalities of a land surface, considered collectively.

Remove or Removal: The actual physical removal of a tree or plant or the effective removal through damaging, poisoning or other direct or indirect action resulting in or likely to result in, the death of a tree or plant.

Restoration: A type of mitigation in which wetlands, surface waters, or uplands are returned from a disturbed or altered condition to a previously existing natural condition to the maximum extent possible.

Retention: The prevention of the discharge of a given volume of stormwater runoff by complete on-site storage.

Reuse: The planned activity or activities that are intended for the land excavation or filling area and/or abutting land after the excavation or filling ceases and reclamation is completed.

Runoff: The precipitation discharged into stream channels from an area. The water that flows off the surface of the land without sinking into the soil is called surface runoff. Water that enters the soil before reaching surface streams is called groundwater runoff or seepage flow from groundwater.

Scenic Corridor: A visual opening along a traveled route, such as a road, waterway, bike path, or pedestrian trail, that allows either glimpses or extended views of built or natural resources having historical or cultural significance or scenic beauty.

Scenic Resources: Shared images of what is special or unique about the County's landscape.

Scenic Road: Any presently existing or future public roadway in the county system having historical or cultural significance or natural beauty as designated pursuant to the Alachua County Scenic Roads Ordinance.

Secondary Treatment: The second step in wastewater processing whereby most of the organic material in sewage areas are broken down to simpler, inorganic molecules. The biological demands of sewage, such as the heavy use of oxygen, are reduced at this step. This kind of treatment is commonly the last step in sewage treatment plants.

Seepage: The movement of water through the soil.

Sheet Flow: The pattern of water movement where large quantities of water move in broad-spread, shallow layers across the ground's surface. This is typical in wetlands, marshes, grasslands, pine flatwoods, and prairies such as Payne's Prairie and the Everglades.

Significant Adverse Impact (upon a natural resource): Direct contamination, alteration, or destruction, or that which contributes to the contamination, alteration, or destruction of a natural resource, or portion thereof, to the degree that its environmental benefits are or will be eliminated, reduced or impaired, such that the activity will cause long term negative impacts on the natural resource.

Significant Geologic Features: Geologic features such as sinkholes, springs, caves, stream bluffs, escarpments, outcroppings, and other karst features.

Significant Habitat: Contiguous stands of natural upland plant communities which have been documented to support, and which have the potential to maintain, healthy and diverse populations of plants or wildlife.

~~Significant Natural Upland Communities - outstanding examples of the twelve ecological community types adapted from the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) Natural Community Classification System. These communities are generally greater than 50 acres in size and warrant protection through preservation or conservation/ management strategies. Other areas have also been identified in the Conservation Element as Protected Areas. These have similar characteristics and are under public ownership. Community types include scrub, sandhill, xeric hammock, upland pine forest, mesic hammock, slope forest, mesic flatwoods, scrubby flatwoods, floodplain forest, baygall, wet flatwoods, and hydric hammock.~~

~~Criteria for identification:~~

- ~~1. size - generally 50 or more acres.~~
- ~~2. shape - of relatively equal dimensions or connected to larger natural systems.~~
- ~~3. location, connectedness - has actual or potential links to wildlife habitats, green space zones, trail systems or other natural areas.~~
- ~~4. completeness of the community - quality of the site's ecological features including the extent that the community has a full complement of species, diversity of habitats, flora and fauna, and degradation of the site.~~

~~Sites identified as "Significant Upland Communities" are shown on Conservation Element Map B1. For further information on the criteria and methods used to identify these areas, refer to the report titled Final Report Comprehensive Inventory of Natural Ecological Communities in Alachua County (Prepared for Alachua County Department of Planning and Development by KBN Engineering and Applied Sciences, 1987).~~

Silviculture: Of or pertaining to commercial forestry. The art and science of producing and tending a forest by manipulating its establishment, composition and growth to best fulfill the objectives of the owner. This may, or may not, include timber production.

Sinkhole: A funnel-shaped depression in the land surface, generally in a limestone region, caused by solution processes and often resulting in connection(s) with subterranean passages and groundwater systems.

Sky Glow: The brightening of the night sky that results from the scattering of artificial visible radiation from the constituents of the atmosphere.

Slough: A broad, slightly depressional, poorly defined drainageway.

Soil: A natural three-dimensional body at the earth's surface. It is capable of supporting plants and has properties resulting from the integrated effect of climate and living matter acting on earthy parent material, as conditioned by relief over periods of time.

Source Separation: The separation of the components of solid waste (glass, metal, paper, chemicals, plastic, kitchen wastes, etc.) at the source of generation before disposal to allow for alternative waste management practices such as reuse, recycling, and energy recovery.

Species of special concern - Species that do not clearly fit into the endangered, threatened or rare categories, yet warrant special attention. Included in this category are: (1) species that, although they are perhaps presently relatively abundant and widespread in the State, are especially vulnerable to certain types of exploitation or environmental changes and have experienced long-term population declines; and (2) species whose status in Florida has a potential impact on endangered or threatened populations in the same or other species outside the State.

Specimen Tree: A tree which has been identified by the County to be of notable interest or high value because of its age, size, species, condition, historic association, or uniqueness.

State Water Quality Standards: Numerical and narrative standards that limit the amount of pollutants that are allowed in waters of the state, as defined by Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

Steep Slope: Any topography having a slope of greater than or equal to 5%.

Stormwater: The flow of water which results from, and which occurs immediately following a rainfall event.

Strategic Ecosystem: Outstanding examples of ecosystems that are intact or capable of restoration and that require conservation or management to maintain important reserves of biodiversity at landscape, natural community and species specific levels. Strategic ecosystems are greater than 20 acres in size and contain one or more natural ecological communities, including but not limited to scrub, sandhill, xeric hammock, upland pine forest, upland mixed forest, mesic hammock, prairie hammock, wet prairie, seepage slope, slope forest, mesic flatwoods, scrubby flatwoods, floodplain forest, baygall, wet flatwoods, and hydric hammock. The natural resources that comprise strategic ecosystems are identified through means including, but not limited to: the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's "Closing the Gaps in Florida's Wildlife Habitat Conservation System" (1994), as supplemented with "Habitat Conservation Needs of Rare and Imperiled Life in Florida" (2000); FDEP's "Statewide Ecological Network," contained in The Greenways System Planning Project (1998); the Florida Natural Areas Inventory; and Golder's "Alachua County Ecological Inventory Project" (1996).

~~**Streambank and Lakeshore Stabilization (SLS) Zones – transitional or buffer zones associated with surface water bodies. These zones are identified by four factors: soil erodibility in the upland zone adjacent to the water management district jurisdictional wetland lines, depth of the groundwater table underlying the upland adjacent to the wetland lines, aquatic and wetland-dependent wildlife habitat requirements associated with maintaining wetland suitability, site specific requirements for water quality and quantity maintenance. Typical examples of SLS zones include floodplain forests and slope forests.**~~

Stream Basins: Watershed areas which drain surface water runoff via streams and channels, both natural and manmade.

Stream Crossing: Transportation and utility crossings of stream basins.

Stream-to-sink Aquifer Recharge Basins: A drainage basin typified by streams discharging into sinkholes and other karst features.

Structure: Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires permanent location on the ground or attachment to something having a permanent location on the ground as well as a mobile home.

Surface Waters: Rivers, streams, creeks, springs, lakes, ponds, intermittent water courses and associated wetlands that hold or transport water on the ground surface.

Surficial Aquifer System: The permeable hydrogeologic unit contiguous with land surface that is comprised principally of unconsolidated to poorly indurated clastic deposits. It also includes well-inundated carbonate rocks, other than those of the Floridan aquifer system where the Floridan is at or near land surface. Rocks making up the surficial aquifer system belong to all or part of the upper Miocene to Holocene Series. It contains the water table and water within it is under mainly unconfined conditions; but beds of low permeability may cause semi-confined or locally confined conditions to prevail in its deeper parts. The lower limit of the surficial aquifer system coincides with the top of laterally extensive and vertically persistent beds of much lower permeability. Within the surficial aquifer system, one or more aquifers may be designated based on lateral or vertical variations in water-bearing properties.

Tertiary Treatment: The third and usually most expensive in a series of processes whereby pollutants such as phosphorous or nitrogen compounds are removed from wastewater. Most sewage treatment plants are only capable of secondary treatment of wastewater.

Threatened Species: Species that are likely to become endangered in the State within the foreseeable future if current trends continue. This category includes: (1) species in which most or all populations are decreasing because of overexploitation, habitat loss, or other factors; (2) species whose populations have already been heavily depleted by deleterious conditions and which, while not actually endangered, are nevertheless in a critical state; and (3) species which may still be relatively abundant, but are being subjected to serious adverse pressures throughout their range.

Toxic Air Pollutants: Also known as hazardous air pollutants, toxic air pollutants are generally defined as those pollutants that are known or suspected to cause serious health problems.

Unconfined Aquifer: An aquifer that has no impermeable layer between the zone of saturation and water table.

Upland Communities: Those non-wetland, non-aquatic areas not subject to regular flooding. These include **but are not limited to:** scrub, sandhill, xeric hammock, upland pine forest, **upland mixed forest,** mesic hammock, slope forest, mesic flatwoods and scrubby flatwoods. For this Element, communities that do not consistently meet legal criteria for protection as a wetland have also been included. These are floodplain forest, baygall, wet flatwoods, and hydric hammocks.

~~Urban area - That property which is located within that area of unincorporated Alachua County which receives thirty-one (31) or more points as determined by the Residential Density Checklist of the Alachua County Land Use Element.~~

~~Urban development - Development which is permitted by the Alachua County Land Use element within the urban area.~~

~~Urban/suburban densities - Two dwelling units per acre (2 DU/acre) or greater.~~

Vertical Drainage: The characteristic of porous soils and rocks whereby water pools only temporarily and cannot form perennial streams on the earth's surface; instead, water flows straight down through soils and rock to an underlying aquifer.

Viewshed: A generally recognizable, noteworthy view that is characteristic of the visual appeal of Alachua County, such as the view of Paynes Prairie.

Water Dependent Facilities: Facilities such as boat ramps, parks, beaches, stream crossings, and other similar facilities which require close proximity to surface waters.

Water Management District: Any flood control, resource management, or water management district operating under the authority of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes. Unless otherwise stated, water management district shall refer to either or both, the St. Johns River Water Management District or the Suwannee River Water Management District.

Watershed: The land area which contributes to the flow of water into a receiving body of water.

Water table: That surface in an unconfined water body at which the pressure is atmospheric. It is defined by the levels at which water stands in wells that penetrate the water body just far enough to hold standing water.

Wellfield Protection Areas: Identified areas surrounding public water supply wellfields which, because of low potentiometric surface of water yielding aquifer units resulting from pumping large amounts of water from these units, are considered critical aquifer recharge areas with significant risk of contamination of public water supply from overlying land uses within the area.

Wetlands: **Those** areas that are inundated **or saturated** by surface water or ground water **at with** a frequency and a duration sufficient to support, and **which,** under normal **conditions circumstances** do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated **or seasonally saturated** soil **conditions.** **Soils present in wetlands generally are classified as hydric or alluvial, or possess characteristics that are associated with reducing soil conditions. The prevalent vegetation in wetlands generally consists of facultative or obligate hydrophytic macrophytes that are typically**

adapted to areas having soil conditions described above. These species, due to morphological, physiological, or reproductive adaptations, have the ability to grow, reproduce or persist in aquatic environments or anaerobic soil conditions. Florida wWetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bayheads, bogs, cypress domes and strands, sloughs, wet prairies, riverine swamps and marshes, hydric seepage slopes, tidal marshes, mangrove swamps and other similar areas. Florida wetlands generally do not include longleaf or slash pine flatwoods with an understory dominated by saw palmetto.

Wildfire: An uncontrolled fire, burning vegetation, structures, or other improvements.

Xeriscape Landscaping: Landscape methods that conserve water and protect the environment through the use of native, drought-tolerant plants and planting techniques. The St. Johns River Water Management District provides seven xeriscape principles which may be referenced at: <http://sjr.state.fl.us/index8.html>.