The Department of Environmental Protection's 2024

## Environmental Stewardship Hward

is awarded to the

## HERNANDO COUNTY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Hernando Co. Utilities has been selected as the winner of the Southwest District's 2024 Environmental Stewardship Award. Hernando County has demonstrated proactive and measurable achievements that provide a direct benefit to our environment and that exceed regulatory requirements. The implementation of their Septic Upgrade Incentive Program to remove nitrogen from the Weeki Wachee Basin, water conservation efforts, encouragement of Florida-friendly landscaping, and educational efforts align with DEP's mission to safeguard Florida's natural resources, enhance ecosystems, and reduce environmental impacts. Their efforts are appreciated as they work alongside DEP to

Protect Florida Together.

Kelley Boatwright

Southwest District Director

Kelley M. Bontunight

Pamala Vazquez

Southwest District Assistant Director