



## Florida Friendly Landscaping (FFL)

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) means using low-maintenance plants and environmentally sustainable practices. Learn how you can have a beautiful landscape that could save you time, energy and money while protecting our future. See the [Florida Friendly Landscaping™ program](#) website for training, contact information and more information about the program. FFL includes locally native plants and compatible non-native plants.

Town of Surfside Code requires a portion of your landscaped area at your home to be Florida Friendly Landscaping. This is a way for Surfside to promote sustainable land use practices to contribute to a healthy Florida!

Town Code:

- Town of Surfside Ordinance No. 22-1729 requires at least 40% of pervious areas (landscaping) to be a Florida Friendly Landscape and 40% of all required trees and shrubs to be an FFL defined species, for all new single family and duplex dwelling.
- 40% of the pervious area of multifamily dwellings must be Florida Friendly Landscaping.
- 50% of the pervious area of all other development uses must be Florida Friendly landscaping.

**Benefits of a Florida-Friendly Landscape** A Florida-friendly landscape can be designed to look the way you want, fit the aesthetics of Surfside, and suit your lifestyle, while being environmentally sustainable.

- Reduced use of water, fertilizer, and pesticides, which saves money
- Properly selected and maintained plants thrive
- Provides habitats for birds, butterflies, and other wildlife
- Helps keep nutrient pollution out of our water
- Can be designed for low maintenance
- Aesthetically pleasing while protecting the environment

**Resources:**

The University of Florida (UF) developed the Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program and they offer many resources to property owners through their website. [Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program - University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences - UF/IFAS \(ufl.edu\)](#)

There is a UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) extension office in every Florida county. They are an amazing resource for information on plants, insects and landscaping. The Miami-Dade's office is here: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/recreation/cooperative-extension.page> Contact their office: [dade@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:dade@ifas.ufl.edu) or 305-248-3311

#### FFL Links for Homeowners

- Home Landscape Guide: [Home Landscapes - Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program - University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences - UF/IFAS \(ufl.edu\)](#)
- Where to purchase native plants locally: <https://dade.fnpschapters.org/nativeplants/nativeplants/obtainnatives/>
- Free landscape Irrigation Evaluations for homeowners: [https://www.miamidade.gov/global/service.page?Mduid\\_service=ser1495121281246222](https://www.miamidade.gov/global/service.page?Mduid_service=ser1495121281246222)
- FAQs: [FAQs - Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program - University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences - UF/IFAS \(ufl.edu\)](#)
- Plant Guide: [low-maintenance-plants.pdf \(miamidade.gov\)](#)
- A free smart phone app: FFL Plants <https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/resources/apps/>