Improper Disposal of Equestrian Waste

Cypress Grove Community Development District
August 24, 2016 Equestrian Waste Management Meeting
Why It’s A Concern

• Water Quality
  • Health issues related to contamination of surface water and ground water with bacteria, nutrients and toxic chemicals
    • Surface Waters (canals) are used for drainage, irrigation and potable water supply
    • Ground water is used for irrigation and potable water supply
  • Clean Water Act Violations

• Economic
  • Lost revenue from contaminated crops
  • Billions of dollars for surface water restoration
Specific Cases in CGCDD

• **May 2015:**
  PBC Code Enforcement contacted 2 properties accepting equestrian waste material

• **Within one month:**
  Code Enforcement issued notice to both property owners that were in violation of the County's Livestock Waste Ordinance, which requires setbacks and a Nutrient Management Plan

• **Fourteen months later:**
  Both properties are in compliance
Equestrian Waste is a Growing Problem

• It is estimated that yearly 230,000 tons (17,000 dump trucks) of equestrian waste is generated in PBC
• That equates to 218 metric tons (mt) of phosphorus
• STA 1E (5,000 acres) treats 20 mt.
• Treating 218 mt of phosphorus would require 55,000 acres
• FDEP estimates that the cost to meet the state’s surface water quality standards for phosphorus is $25.7 million per 1 mt, or $5.6 billion for 218 mt
• Pay me now or pay me later
Improper Disposal is a Growing Problem

• There is a need for ...
  • more public education, awareness and timely enforcement before the water quality problem escalates
  • more approved disposal sites
  • cooperation amongst all governmental and inter-governmental agencies

• There are technologies that will remove not only the waste from our environment, but also the phosphorus