Stormwater and Climate Change: Understanding our Challenges

Kelli Hammer Levy, M.S., EnvSP

Pinellas County Environmental Management



Overview

- Stormwater systems generally
- How climate change impacts our stormwater system
- Community impacts
- What can we do about it?





Stormwater Systems

- Stormwater systems may be simple, a drainage ditch that discharges to a stream.
- Stormwater systems may be a complex series of inlets, pipes, ponds, pumping systems, and outfalls.
- The purpose of a stormwater system is to convey water away from developed areas.
- After 1985, water quality treatment was also required.
- Public stormwater systems are regulated under the Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program.

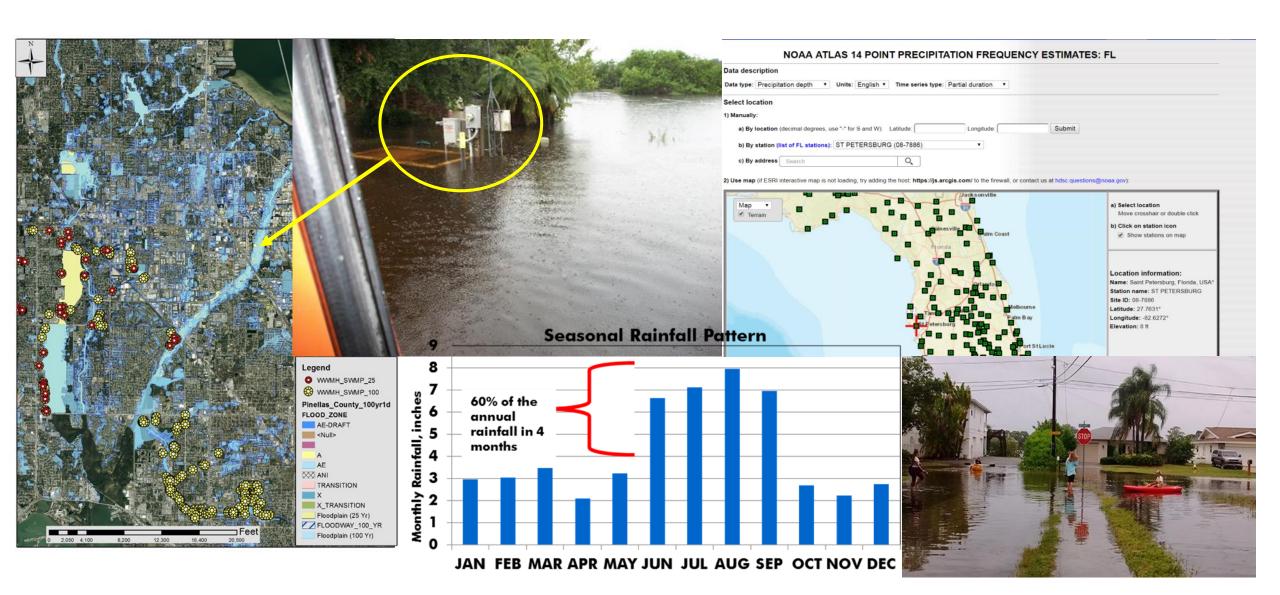


Stormwater and Sea Level Rise





Stormwater and Rainfall Patterns

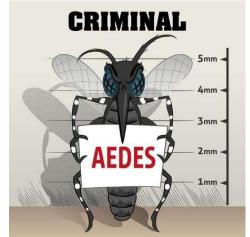


Community Impacts

- Infrastructure
- Access to homes, schools, employment centers
- Economic
- Social
- Environmental

- Public Health
 - Ades aegypti, "the yellow fever mosquito."
 - Can spread dengue fever, chikungunya, Zika, Mayaro and yellow fever viruses, and other disease agents.
 - Thrives in urban areas.
 - Container breeder, depends on standing water for breeding.
 - Bacteria and viruses

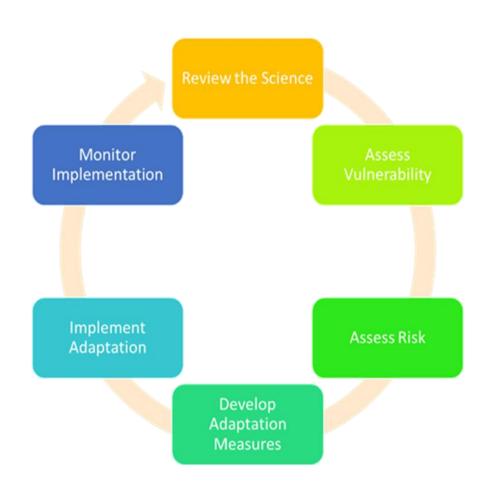






What Can We Do?

- Become informed, listen, and share your story, encourage others to share theirs.
- Be responsive not reactive.
- Fund and implement effective asset management programs especially maintenance.
 - Responsible regulations.
 - Plan for and design resilient communities and public infrastructure.







Klevy@pinellascounty.org

https://www.facebook.com/PinellasEnviroNews