



Introduction

IDEAS For Us (IDEAS) is an Orlando-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and accredited NGO of the United Nations. Our mission is to develop ideas, fund action, and scale solutions that solve the world's most pressing environmental and social challenges.

Problem:

Wetlands are among the most endangered habitats on Earth. A UNFCCC report from 2017 predicted that 50% of wetlands on Earth have been altered by human development and **70% of total wetlands are threatened habitats**. Unfortunately, that number is expected to rise due to threats from sea level rise, climate change driven droughts, and human migration. Wetlands provide a host of ecosystem services and over the last 40 years their importance to the water cycle has been heavily documented by the scientific community. Without wetlands, aquifers do not recharge, pollutants are not filtered, and important commercial species like gamefish, migratory birds, and shellfish do not have the habitats needed to complete their life cycles.



Solution:

We at IDEAS, want to combat this problem by **creating planted floating wetlands in residential retention ponds**. This will provide key habitat for native year round and migratory wildlife and also remove nutrient pollution from the body of water. Our two pilot projects conducted in 2015 and 2016 have proven that this method is effective enough at nutrient pollution reduction that the use of harmful algaecides were able to be suspended in our test residential retention ponds. This provides an added budgetary benefit for pond managers as well as removing powerful algaecides from our water table.



Work Plan:

Goal: Create urban wildlife habitat by building artificial floating wetlands in retention ponds.

Objective 1: Educate, engage, and empower residents to take action & Monitor impact of floating urban wetlands

Key Activities:

1. Organize residents to identify site and approve of wetland construction
2. Host a community wetland build day engaging residents, local students, and local businesses to construct the floating artificial wetland
3. Build and publicize data set to demonstrate water quality improvement
4. Hold Bioblitz after 6 months and then again at one year anniversary to document biodiversity increase.



If interested, contact Admin@IDEASForUs.org for full project breakdown

Sponsor an Aquatic Floating Wetland Event = \$4,000
 Become the Aquatic Wetland Sponsor for the Year = \$8,000

Aquatic Floating Wetland Event

Description	Details	Amount
Artificial Floating Wetland Mat	A floating mat holding 100 Native Wetland Plants	\$3,500
Tools & Supplies	Hardware, gloves, plant baskets, etc.	\$300
Educational Signage	Signage to be placed near the shoreline to educate community	\$200
Total		\$4,000

A Year's Worth of Aquatic Floating Wetlands!

Description	Details	Amount
2 Artificial Floating Wetland Mat	A floating mat holding 100 Native Wetland Plants	\$7,000
Tools & Supplies	Hardware, gloves, plant baskets, etc.	\$500
Educational Signage	Signage to be placed near the shoreline to educate community	\$400
Maintenance	Replacement of plants throughout the year	\$100
Total		\$8,000

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