

**EXPLORING WHAT'S
NEXT IN THE SOLID
WASTE INDUSTRY**



**2026 SWANA FL WINTER CONFERENCE &
HINKLEY CENTER RESEARCH FORUM**

HARBORING INNOVATION

**FEBRUARY 2-4, 2026
MARRIOTT SANIBEL HARBOUR RESORT
FORT MYERS, FLORIDA**

REGISTER ONLINE AT [HTTPS://CVENT.ME/LVDVA2](https://cvent.me/lvdva2)

Preliminary Schedule of Events

(updated 2.2.26)

Monday, February 2, 2026

Time	Location	Function
12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Everglades Foyer	Registration Desk Open
10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Buckingham Resource Recovery Facility	Lee County Facility Tour <i>Meet in hotel lobby. Must be preregistered to attend. Email info@swanafl.org to sign up.</i>
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Orchid	Board of Directors Meeting <i>All members welcome</i>
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Island & Island Veranda	Welcome Reception <i>Sponsored by Waste Pro</i>
7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Lighthouse Tiki Bar & Grill	YP Social Event <i>For more information, contact Laila Al-Khalaf at (813) 270-0518.</i>

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Time	Location	Function	Speaker
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Everglades Foyer	Registration Desk Open	
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Everglades A & Veranda	Breakfast	

8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Everglades BC	Welcome, SWANA FL Chapter Updates, and Road-E-O Celebration	<i>Jason Timmons, SWANA FL Chapter President</i> <i>Shauwn Clark, Road-E-O Chair, City of Largo</i>
9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Everglades BC	Keynote Session – A Conversation with Waste Pro COO Keith Banasiak	<i>Keith Banasiak, Chief Operating Officer, Waste Pro</i> <i>Mike Fernandez, Waste Pro</i>
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Everglades Foyer	Morning Networking Break	
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Everglades BC	Transfer Station Operations Discussion Panel <i>There is a continuing increase in the development of transfer stations in the State of Florida. There are also technological changes in their design, construction, and maintenance. The goal of this session is to highlight and discuss these changes.</i>	<i>Moderator – Joseph Mizerany, Co-Chair, Collection and Transfer Technical Committee, SWANA FL, Geosyntec Consultants</i> <i>Panelists:</i> <i>Genn Ginn, Solid Waste Director, City of Lakeland</i> <i>Tom Ramsey, Senior Principal, Geosyntec Consultants</i> <i>Roderick Voigt, Executive Vice President, Kokolakis Contracting</i>
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Everglades A & Veranda	Lunch <i>Sponsored by Reworld</i>	
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Everglades BC	Florida Capacity for Waste and Recyclables <i>Recent research has been conducted looking at statewide landfill, waste-to-energy, and materials recovery facility capacity. This panel will discuss the current state-of-the-state from the perspective of their communities on this issue and explore the current issues and challenges facing their communities.</i>	<i>Moderators – Sarah Neely, Senior Consultant, Raftelis</i> <i>Hannah Sackles, University of Florida</i> <i>Panelists:</i> <i>Paul Sacco, Pinellas County</i> <i>David Gregory, Orange County</i> <i>Patrick Carroll, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County</i> <i>Aneisha Daniels, Miami-Dade County</i>
2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Everglades BC	YPs – Engage, Recruit, and Retain	<i>Kelly Millbrandt, SWANA FL Chapter YP Chair, SCS Engineers</i> <i>Laila Al-Khalaf, SWANA FL Landfill Gas and Biogas Co-Chair, SCS Engineers</i> <i>Monica (Hool) Arnett, SWANA FL Chapter YP Chair, CDM Smith</i>

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Everglades Foyer	Afternoon Networking Break	
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Everglades A	Technical Division Roundtables Collection and Transfer	<i>Gene Ginn, City of Lakeland</i>
	Everglades A	Landfill Management	<i>Brent Ross, Integrity Environmental Solutions</i>
	Orchid	Planning and Management	<i>Thierry Boveri and Sarah Neely, Raftelis</i>
	Jasmine	Waste to Energy	<i>Wei Liu, CDM Smith, and Josh Miller, HDR</i>
	Everglades Foyer	Recycling and Special Waste	<i>Mitch Kessler, Kessler Consulting and Shakeel Balroop, Consultant</i>
	Cypress	Landfill Gas and Biogas	<i>Dan Cooper and Laila Al-Khalaf, SCS Engineers</i>
<i>Enjoy Dinner on Your Own</i>			

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Time	Location	Function	Speaker
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Everglades Foyer	Registration Desk Open	
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Everglades A & Veranda	Breakfast	
8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.	Everglades BC	Hinkley Center Research Forum Welcome and Opening	<i>Dr. Timothy Townsend, Executive Director Hinkley Center, University of Florida</i>
8:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Everglades BC	Hinkley Center Research Forum – Session #1 Reducing Contamination in the Recycling Stream through Educational Interventions (Cart- Tagging) and Artificial Intelligence Advancing Materials Circularity in the Florida Curbside Stream	<i>Dr. Jiannan (Nick) Chen, Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida</i> <i>Dr. Malak Anshassi, Assistant Professor, Florida Polytechnic University</i>
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Everglades Foyer	Morning Networking Break	
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Everglades BC	Hinkley Center Research Forum – Session #2 Evaluation of Recycling Options for Sargassum (Seaweed) from a Risk Analysis Perspective Opportunities and Challenges Related to Anaerobic Digestion of Food Waste	<i>Dr. Helena Solo-Gabriele, Professor, University of Miami</i> <i>Dr. Ana Martin-Ryals, Assistant Professor, University of Florida</i>

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Everglades A & Veranda	Lunch	
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Everglades BC	Hinkley Center Research Forum – Session #3 Partitioning of PFAS Between Soil and Water Phases After Land Application of Biosolids and Compost Floating Aquatic Treatment Wetlands for Phytoremediation Pre-Treatment of Municipal Landfill Leachate Employing Saline-Tolerant Plants Natural to South Florida	<i>Dr. Berrin Tansel, Professor Florida International University</i> <i>Dr. Ashley Danley-Thomson, Professor, Florida Gulf Coast University</i>
2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Everglades Foyer	Afternoon Networking Break	
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 pm.	Everglades BC	Educational Sessions Legislative Update FDEP Update	<i>Willie Puz, Legislative and Public Affairs Manager, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County</i> <i>Elke Ursin, Environmental Administrator, Solid Waste Program and Permitting, FDEP</i>