

# Community Outreach

Waterfront development affects the entire community. The TECHBlue Center is a new research and development platform for construction industry professionals. When TECHBlue opens, the NE Florida and Jacksonville communities will benefit from a *first of its kind waterfront learning facility*. The resources are open to all.

## Local Involvement, Leadership, and Stewardship



### St. Johns Waterway

Good stewardship begins at home. TECHBlue is positioned to lend its expertise to the St. Johns River community. From the St Johns Riverkeepers –

- “In 1998, the St. Johns was designated an American Heritage River, one of only 14 rivers in the entire United States to receive this prestigious national recognition.
- The recorded history of the St. Johns River is among the oldest in the United States.
- The St. Johns River was Florida’s first highway.
- The St. Johns River is the longest river in Florida at 310 miles and one of the few rivers in the United States that flows north, dropping less than 30 feet from its source to its mouth, or about 1 inch per mile.
- The St. Johns River is home to 183 species of fish”

### Education and University Programs

Interaction with current educational programs aid both TECHBlue and community goals. NE Florida benefits from a close proximity to several major universities. Combining marine science with construction and sustainable applications are unique areas of study. Study results offer an arena for a significant impact on water education.



### Green / Blue / Sustainable

Green and sustainable building practices are part of the construction language. TECHBlue proposes BLUE (water) thinking. From the shoreline – out, we assist with BLUE building techniques.

### Niche Industry Leadership

Waterfront development embraces many construction trades and professional disciplines. What happens in Florida affects many national trends with respect to boating and tourist destinations. Combining TECHBlue concepts with specific company sustainable building procedures, will provide local businesses a chance to contribute to industry leadership roles.

### Mentoring

Together with other local mentoring programs, TECHBlue exclusive resources facilitate and assist small business growth for marine construction trades.

### Local Agencies and Permits

The site specific nature of waterfront activity presents an opportunity to use marina sites as Learning Laboratories. TECHBlue provides resources and site parameters which may aid regulators and permit agencies.

### Personal Property Owners

Displays, publications and workshops for property owners. Evaluate waterfront property, shorelines, docks, and BLUE footprints. Help insure an eco-balance when contractors work in the water and coordinate renovation activities with sustainable building techniques.



Clean Water • Clean Marinas • Learning Laboratories

# Waterfront Development No Brainers

The following are common sense to some and may seem too costly to others. All will improve your waterfront operations:

1. **Focus** - Maximize the site, activity and building locations for efficient use of resources.
2. Contact regulatory agencies FIRST - Partnerships, grants and efficiency techniques are abundant. Rumors about new regulations can only be understood by personal contact with local representatives --- it is good business sense!
3. Review EPA Programs and ISO 14001 for possible implementation.
4. Provide for gray water recovery systems.
5. Inspect boat wash down sites, boat storage areas, and maintenance operations --- monitor and document regularly.
6. Utilize free energy audit procedures on all structures.
7. Employ low-voltage lighting systems.
8. Use low-VOC products.
9. Use sustainable landscaping where possible.
10. Provide separate recycle bins.
11. Provide waste material recovery systems where possible.
12. Prioritize solar use.
13. Inspect signage for accuracy and location.
14. Begin an energy monitoring system.
15. Spread the word and network with the sustainable building community.
16. Stay informed and go to the next step --- **Implement something!**

## Navigating [www.cleanwaterfront.net](http://www.cleanwaterfront.net)

**Home** - Introduction, Mission, Links to process

**Evaluation** - Marina Inquiry, Toolkit Table of Contents, Action Plan Outline

**Examples** - Clean Marina projects, Action Plans, Procedures, Reporting

**Resources** - Education, Glossary, News, Publications & Books, Standards, Cost & Budgets, Procedures, Waterfront Footprint, International links

**Contact** - Customer Service. Other Inquiry Forms, Feedback

**Reference Library** - alliance members, contributors, sponsors and clean marina participants.

## Contact

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