

A hopeful statewide trend in local elections where voters are increasingly dumping incumbent candidates tied to industry, developers, polluters, and environmental ruin. Tiny Milton in the Panhandle [ousted all its commissioners](#) over the single issue of where to place a sewage treatment plant: commissioners wanted it near the Blackwater River, posing grave danger to it, residents didn't.

LINK: <https://floridaphoenix.com/2024/11/21/to-save-a-river-florida-small-towns-activists-oust-every-incumbent/>

As a reminder, Fernandina Beach residents [dumped two incumbents](#) heavily financed by industry who supported a proposed bioethanol production facility there in another contest that amounted to a single-issue race.

LINK: <https://floridaphoenix.com/2024/11/07/florida-beach-town-faces-explosive-fight-over-ethanol-plant/>

And in Orange County, three commissioners who took on candidates backed by developers and the tourism industry – that county's version of King Kong and Godzilla – won running on platforms of [managing growth and sprawl](#). Again, this was THE issue of the contest.

LINK: <https://www.orlandosentinel.com/2024/11/05/big-night-for-environmentalists-as-wilson-semrad-win-orange-county-commission-races/>

This trend, obviously, has not transferred to state or federal elections in Florida where a majority of voters continue casting ballots for culture war issues in support of their political tribalism.

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Rooftop solar installations in Florida have [increased by over 1,000%](#) in the last five years, though the state is currently using only 2% of its solar potential.

LINK: <https://www.theinvadingsea.com/2024/11/19/florida-renewable-energy-rooftop-solar-electric-vehicles-battery-storage-environment-america/>

In New York City, the city council has mandated [a massive expansion of rooftop solar](#) on city-owned buildings.

LINK: <https://amsterdamnews.com/news/2024/10/03/nyc-council-passes-bill-for-solar-panels-on-public-buildings/>

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#### [Did you know:](#)

- U.S. oilfields are producing more crude oil and natural gas than ever before, and production continues to increase steadily.
- 13.4 million barrels per day: Crude oil production from U.S. oil fields in August 2024. In August 2008 it was 5 million barrels per day.
- The U.S. is the globe's leading producer of crude oil, extracting as much crude oil and other petroleum liquids as Saudi Arabia and Russia combined.
- The U.S. is even more methane-dominant, producing 25% of the globe's natural gas.

This is all occurring under a Democratic president, with much of the production coming from federal lands the president could shut down to mineral extraction. This is also occurring under an administration that promised action on climate change and was elected in part due to young voters animated around the climate issue. Young people did not vote for the Democrat the same way in the 2024 presidential election. The above figures are one of many reasons why.

Oh, and for the incoming president who bloviates about “drill, baby, drill” and “energy dominance,” do the above statistics not make it abundantly clear that is already the case in America? Perhaps he’s playing more on people’s ignorance and nationalism than the reality?

LINK: [https://www.landdesk.org/p/on-bidens-energy-dominance?utm\\_source=post-email-title&publication\\_id=258189&post\\_id=152200746&utm\\_campaign=email-post-title&isFreemail=true&r=g2ims&triedRedirect=true&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.landdesk.org/p/on-bidens-energy-dominance?utm_source=post-email-title&publication_id=258189&post_id=152200746&utm_campaign=email-post-title&isFreemail=true&r=g2ims&triedRedirect=true&utm_medium=email)

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Planning a cruise? The Carnival Cruise fleet produces [more annual carbon emissions than the city of Glasgow, Scotland](#).

Travel takes a heavy toll on the environment from carbon emissions to waste, but cruising – aside from private jet travel and yachts – is the worst form of travel on the environment.

LINK: [https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2024/11/carnival-corp-cruises-carbon-emissions-co2-worst-europe/?utm\\_source=mj-newsletters&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=daily-newsletter-11-26-2024](https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2024/11/carnival-corp-cruises-carbon-emissions-co2-worst-europe/?utm_source=mj-newsletters&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=daily-newsletter-11-26-2024)

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You know the Endangered Species Act protects plants as well as animals, right? The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently issued a final rule to protect [the Ocmulgee skullcap](#) as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The Service also designated 6,661 acres of critical habitat for the flower in Georgia and South Carolina.

LINK: <https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/rare-southeast-flower-gets-endangered-species-protection-in-georgia-south-carolina-2024-10-29/>

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If you’re a nerd for the nitty-gritty details of [Everglades restoration](#), here’s one for you about upcoming projects.

LINK: <https://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Media/News-Releases/Article/3924225/jacksonville-district-awards-three-new-contracts-to-restore-americas-everglades/>