

Chemical fertilizers help feed the world – at increasingly steep costs to people and the planet. Less than half of fertilizer spread on fields is taken up by plants. The rest pollutes air and water, contributing to climate change, toxic algae and oxygen-depleted water where life is snuffed out.

The algae blooms fouling water in Florida and killing manatee are driven by fertilizer and its main ingredient, phosphorous. Much of that phosphorous is mined in Florida, adding to its terrible environmental toll in this state.

[A deep dive from the University of Florida on fertilizer](#), its benefits and drawbacks.

LINK: <https://projects.wuft.org/priceofplenty/>

Could that poisoned water be [crippling Florida panthers](#)?

LINK: <https://www.news-press.com/story/news/environment/2023/05/17/panther-illness-scientists-worry-water-issues-may-also-impact-humans/70222583007/>

A better lawn alternative to monoculture grass, how about a mixed mowable species lawn? [What's that?](#)

LINK: <https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/browardco/2023/05/11/the-time-for-mixed-mowable-species-has-come/>

More evidence of the superiority of green/natural infrastructure solutions over gray/man-made infrastructure solutions when it comes to [coastal resiliency in Florida](#).

LINK: https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/florida/stories-in-florida/florida-coastal-resilience/?en_txn1=e.ch_fl.eg.x.gpn.0607.n.sas.loc_fl&en_txn8=NewSch.WJEMSA2306NPNZNZZE06Z00-ZZZZZ-ST00&lu=72cbb21b-3a33-4505-b2f6-1dc548534a04&customer_id=19567367

Did you know the last bird to go extinct in the United States was a Florida bird? Another one here nearly followed it, but has been rescued, with White Oak Conservation in Yulee playing a critical role. I discussed on a recent episode of [my "Welcome to Florida" podcast](#).

LINK: <https://www.stitcher.com/show/welcome-to-florida/episode/episode-154-saving-the-grasshopper-sparrow-303854652>

In Britain, a story of [the de-extinction of an urban plant](#).

LINK: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/may/27/york-groundsels-bloom-again-britain-first-ever-de-extinction-event-natural-england?CMP=share_btn_tw