

[Beach renourishment](#) is becoming a way of life in Florida with rising sea levels and stronger storms. This is a practice whereby outsourced sand is deposited on beaches to prevent further erosion, even though erosion is a natural process on beaches.

What is not a natural process on the beach is building condos and homes on them, which begs the question: is beach renourishment being undertaken to protect beaches and coastlines, or is it a billion-dollar taxpayer handout to protect the wealthiest property owners in the state?

LINK: <https://floridaphoenix.com/2024/05/30/sea-level-rise-makes-florida-beach-renourishment-projects-more-frequent-and-expensive/>

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GREAT news in Fernandina Beach where the city's outside counsel has [provided a legal opinion](#) stating that the proposed Rayonier Advanced Materials (RYAM) bioethanol plant would violate both the city's comprehensive plan and Land Development Code.

A well-organized coalition of Fernandina Beach residents have been fighting this project since the idea was first brought up last year. The airborne and waterborne toxic chemicals like sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and chlorine gas which would necessarily be emitted as part of the bioethanol production would severely endanger human health, environmental health and quality of life for miles in every direction, to say nothing of the additional 18-wheeler truck traffic, diesel exhaust, noise and light pollution it would bring to Fernandina.

By no means is this fight over. Rayonier is a powerful, deep pocketed corporation with friends on the city council – Fernandina's mayor Bradley Bean is a Rayonier employee – and in Tallahassee. Making matters worse, the current Florida Department of Environmental Protection – I mean Protection – is totally in the bag for corporations and had already indicated it would approve RYAM's application for the plant.

Stay tuned.

LINK: [https://malednovich0.wixsite.com/mike-lednovich-blog/post/bioethanol-plant-would-violate-city-comprehensive-plan-ldc-outside-legal-council-determines?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=blog.post-promoter&utm\\_campaign=0cb90a66-2832-43fd-b3da-87d83212c2b4&fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR31aElgOHddlu-wLvRIAYD-XPqwCq1obqeiiIAfGGw1VeLUcVgjPq9E\\_aem\\_Acd63Ldq3pHkYRbnkL9ANAuRLQo2C7HPGD3jsgWix6egRRPEVanV5D6EmpJLs1vVD7\\_qN-5E1b7fH6My6FMmi3Ta](https://malednovich0.wixsite.com/mike-lednovich-blog/post/bioethanol-plant-would-violate-city-comprehensive-plan-ldc-outside-legal-council-determines?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=blog.post-promoter&utm_campaign=0cb90a66-2832-43fd-b3da-87d83212c2b4&fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR31aElgOHddlu-wLvRIAYD-XPqwCq1obqeiiIAfGGw1VeLUcVgjPq9E_aem_Acd63Ldq3pHkYRbnkL9ANAuRLQo2C7HPGD3jsgWix6egRRPEVanV5D6EmpJLs1vVD7_qN-5E1b7fH6My6FMmi3Ta)

LINK: <https://fernandinaobserver.com/general/ethanol-opposition-in-full-force-at-packed-meeting/>

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Speaking of Rayonier and the damage it's doing to Nassau County, the real estate developer working to build out the grotesque Wildlight development in Nassau County just east of I-95 in Yulee (the land is owned by Rayonier), was part of a group which "convinced" the state legislature to [prevent Orange County from enacting an anti-sprawl measure](#).

Once again, the Republican-led state legislature, which likes to talk about "home rule," deciding for local municipalities what is and is not OK for them to do, just like with Key West trying to keep the

big cruise ships out, or cities wanting to establish fertilizer bans, or promote solar energy, etc., etc., etc.

LINK: [https://jasongarcia.substack.com/p/lobbyists-for-developers-pushed-florida?utm\\_source=post-email-title&publication\\_id=687064&post\\_id=144869496&utm\\_campaign=email-post-title&isFreemail=true&r=g2ims&triedRedirect=true&utm\\_medium=email](https://jasongarcia.substack.com/p/lobbyists-for-developers-pushed-florida?utm_source=post-email-title&publication_id=687064&post_id=144869496&utm_campaign=email-post-title&isFreemail=true&r=g2ims&triedRedirect=true&utm_medium=email)

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Ways to [ditch plastics from your daily life](#).

LINK: [https://www.greenamerica.org/ways-ditch-plastic-your-daily-life?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=engagingnetworks&utm\\_campaign=Newsletter\\_0524&utm\\_content=Tips+to+Ditch+Plastic+from+Your+Daily+Life](https://www.greenamerica.org/ways-ditch-plastic-your-daily-life?utm_medium=email&utm_source=engagingnetworks&utm_campaign=Newsletter_0524&utm_content=Tips+to+Ditch+Plastic+from+Your+Daily+Life)

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Globally, one of the greatest abusers of the environment is the fast fashion industry. These are clothing manufacturers who pump out hundreds of cheap garments a week, fueling super consumers who shop like they eat.

Fast fashion contributes millions of tons of textile waste every year, much of it dumped on Africa, the production of these clothes requires vast amounts of water and energy, and shipping them around the world requires more fossil fuel consumption still. Oh, and the industry is notorious for its use of slave labor.

If you are an HBO Max subscriber, [a fascinating new documentary](#) about fast fashion brand Brandy Melville touches on these subjects.

Remember, one of the best and simplest actions you can take to protect the planet is BUY LESS STUFF!

LINK: <https://www.hbo.com/movies/brandy-hellville-and-the-cult-of-fast-fashion>

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Good news nationally this week as Vermont became the first state to enact a law requiring fossil fuel companies to [pay a share of the damage caused by climate change](#) after the state suffered catastrophic summer flooding and damage from other extreme weather.

While this seems wild now, it also once seemed wild to mandate tobacco companies pay a portion of the trillions of dollars of public health care costs the use of their products racked up, same goes for the opioid painkiller drug pusher pharmaceutical companies.

Big Oil created this problem and suppressed their research showing what devastating environmental impacts our continued reliance on their product would have, chunks of their billion-dollar profits should be spent cleaning up the mess.

Vermont has a Republican governor who allowed the bill to pass.

LINK: <https://apnews.com/article/vermont-climate-change-superfund-oil-companies-b6565729f23e85eed4d3da44b04ae2e5>