

As governor of Florida, Rick Scott forbade the official use of the terms “climate change” and “global warming.” Now, five years later, as a senator, [he deems climate change an “important issue.”](#)

I have my opinion on this about-face, you are welcome to yours.

Scott’s tenure as Florida’s governor was highlighted by a spate of notorious anti-conservation, anti-environmental measures including his desire to privatize and build golf courses on Florida’s State Parks (no kidding), declining federal money to build high speed rail and a long list of business, industry and development deregulations all at the expense of nature.

LINK: <https://floridapolitics.com/archives/631617-rick-scott-climate-change>

Audubon Florida put together [a video webinar on the influx of flamingos](#) across the state blown here following the last hurricane.

WATCH: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aU59hGoW6gs>

A fight pitting conservationists and springs advocates against developers and county commissioners in the Panhandle could have a happy ending. Could.

The potential for this is only the result of massive local advocacy and activism on behalf of the conservation community.

LINK: <https://wusfnews.wusf.usf.edu/environment/2023-09-10/wakulla-springs-property-could-soon-be-slated-for-environmental-protection>

[The Trust for Public Land](#) has released a ranking of the Top 100 most populous cities by quality of their parks. One Florida city ranks 15th, but Jacksonville is way, way, way, way down the list.

LINK:

https://www.tpl.org/parkscore?utm_source=digital&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=floridawarmup2023&utm_content=email-2

A trip by Ron DeSantis to Israel early in his reign as governor which violated the state’s Sunshine Law resulted in the use of [an unproven and potentially dangerous chemical](#) being applied to waters around the state.

A story you wouldn’t believe if it were anywhere other than Florida in 2023.

LINK: <https://floridaphoenix.com/2023/09/14/using-chemicals-to-treat-floridas-algae-bloom-problem-is-like-taking-aspirin-for-a-brain-tumor/>

A recent episode of [my “Welcome to Florida” podcast](#) focused on fireflies. Did you know Florida has more species of fireflies than any other state?

LINK: <https://www.pandora.com/podcast/welcome-to-florida/episode-167-fireflies/PE:1306830473>