

# LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS\* OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

# NEWS

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OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

**Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> - 6 pm**

## Spotlight on the Environment: Tackling Climate Change in Palm Beach County



*Katelyn Cucinatta, M.A.*  
Environmental Analyst  
Palm Beach County Office of Resilience



*Rebecca Harvey, M.S.*  
Sustainability Coordinator  
City of Boynton Beach



*Lindsey Roland Nieratka, M.S.*  
Sustainability Manager  
City of Boca Raton

Join us to learn about the results of a climate change vulnerability assessment recently completed by the Coastal Resilience Partnership of Southeast Palm Beach County (CRP), a group consisting of the County and seven jurisdictions along the coast. The CRP studied 12 specific climate change threats in order to provide a baseline understanding of the potential risks to these communities and to identify possible adaptation strategies.

We'll discuss why and how the group formed, summarize the methodology and regional study results, and discuss how these municipalities and the County might move forward based on the findings of this important initiative.

## Panel Presenters



Katelyn Cucinotta is an analyst for Palm Beach County's Office of Resilience with a background in coastal conservation, wildlife policy, renewable energy, and environmental science. Katelyn holds a B.S. in Environmental Science and Policy with a minor in Geospatial Science from the University of South Florida St. Petersburg and an M.A. in Marine and Coastal Studies from Nova Southeastern University. Throughout her studies, Katelyn focused on anthropogenic impacts on the marine environment, climate change, and how to effectively communicate science to inspire others.

After working for the federal government, a non-profit organization, academia, and the corporate sector, Katelyn is thrilled to be putting her knowledge and passion to work in the County she calls home. For the Office of Resilience, Katelyn focuses her efforts on coastal adaptation, developing a countywide Resilience Action Plan, and geospatial studies. She is the County lead on the Coastal Resilience Partnership of Southeast Palm Beach County.



Rebecca became the City of Boynton Beach's first Sustainability Coordinator in 2017. In this role, she leads the City's environmental sustainability and resilience efforts, which include reducing carbon emissions and helping the City and its diverse residents and business owners adapt to the impacts of climate change. Rebecca has 20 years of experience as an environmental researcher and communicator and has published peer-reviewed articles on environmental attitudes, invasive species management, carnivore conservation, and Everglades ecology. She is a California native and holds two Master's degrees in Sociology and Environmental Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is also a trained Climate Reality Leader.

Rebecca has recently updated the City of Boynton Beach's Climate Action Plan with aggressive targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2035 and achieve net zero by 2050. She has also been a driving force in the Coastal Resilience Partnership of Southeast Palm Beach County, a coalition of municipalities working together on climate change adaptation.



Lindsey started with the City of Boca Raton in 2018 as the Sustainability Manager of the newly created Office of Sustainability. Prior to joining the City, Lindsey served on Boca Raton's Green Living Advisory Board and as the Sustainability Coordinator for the City of Hollywood, FL. As the Sustainability Manager for Boca Raton, Lindsey wrote the first Sustainability Action Plan and also conducted the first greenhouse gas inventory. She develops policies and programs for the City and its residents and businesses as they adapt to climate change and become better stewards of their environment.

Originally from Illinois, Lindsey moved to South Florida in 2003 where her career has included field biology, environmental education, and sustainability. Lindsey currently lives in Boca Raton with her family.

[Register Here](#)



## ***HOT TOPIC***

### ***Post-Legislative Session Update***

Please join us in welcoming Ed Chase, Palm Beach County's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Community Engagement, as he provides a summary of the 2021 Legislative Session, the bills that were enacted into law, and their impact on Floridians and Palm Beach County.

***June 16, 2021***

***12:00 PM via Zoom***



***Ed Chase***

Ed Chase has enjoyed a successful career in Palm Beach County politics having served as a district director for several U.S. representatives and as the executive director of the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation. He also served as president and CEO of the Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce, and is a past president and current board member of the Forum Club of the Palm Beaches.

Ed is a 1982 graduate of Palm Beach Gardens High School and a 1986 graduate from the University of Florida where he majored in Political Science.

[Register Here](#)



## ***Conversations with the League***

### ***CULTURAL IMPACT***

#### ***Surviving & Thriving Post Pandemic***

Please join us in welcoming Dave Lawrence, President & CEO of the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, as he discusses initiatives launched during the past three years to provide direct funding to the cultural sector. Dave will [speak](#) about the success of the Artist Innovation Fellowship program and the financial assistance now available to help organizations recover post pandemic.

***July 7, 2021***

***6:00 PM via Zoom***



***Dave Lawrence***

A graduate of DePauw University with a B.A. in Communication, Dave is the former President & CEO of the Arts Council of Indianapolis. He relocated to South Florida in 2018 to serve as the chief arts advocate for the arts and cultural community of Palm Beach County. Dave is an elected member of the United States Urban Arts Federation - comprised of CEOs of arts service organizations for the sixty largest cities. He is a frequent national grant panelist having served throughout the country and for the National Endowment for the Arts.

[Join the Meeting](#)

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