

# WATER QUALITY SUMMIT



David is Co-Executive Director of the Science and Environment Council, a nonprofit consortium of 35 leading science-based environmental organizations working in Sarasota and Manatee counties. The council, founded in 2001, works to increase science-based environmental understanding, conservation and restoration through collaboration and public engagement in Southwest Florida. In 2018, the council presented a two-day Environmental Summit that highlighted many of our local water quality issues.

David is an ecologist and principal at Shafer Consulting, a Sarasota-based environmental firm focusing on water quality issues, environmental strategic plans and management studies, and communication of science and science-policy issues through technical analysis, outreach and creative design. Clients include

Charlotte Harbor, Sarasota Bay, Tampa Bay, and Mobile Bay National estuary programs as well as local governments and area nonprofit organizations. Shafer has designed and implemented effective water quality outreach campaigns focused on reducing impacts from fertilizer, pet waste, septic systems, sanitary sewer systems and plastics, logging thousands of hours in the community learning how best to communicate these issues.

David received a bachelor's degree in biology from Wabash College, where he was a Lilly Scholar. He earned a Ph.D. from the University of Hawaii in zoology, specializing in ecology.