

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD**  
State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** May 15, 2024

**TO:** Indian River Board of County Commissioners

**THROUGH:** Miranda Swanson, MPH 

**FROM:** Julianne, Price, RS

**SUBJECT:** Environmental Health Fee Increase

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Environmental Health Services exist and operate to protect the health of the general public by monitoring and regulating activities that may contribute to the occurrence or transmission of diseases. These services are supported in part by local fees targeted to the consumer of those specific services through the permitting process. Fees are also assessed as a mechanism to encourage compliance with permit requirement conditions. Environmental Health is currently operating at a loss and borrows funds to operate from general revenue.

The previous established Environmental Health Services fee schedule was last adjusted in 2018. The costs for services, such as salaries and materials, necessary to operate continues to increase requiring periodic adjustments to balance or minimize general budget impacts.

The proposed increase in local service fees will allow Indian River County FDOH Environmental Health Services to operate in more sustainable by ensuring fees that are charged cover applicable operation costs. An analysis of fees charged by the surrounding counties was conducted and Indian River was initially in the lower quadrant of the fee scale. With the adoption of the fee increase, the quadrant will change to just above the moderate range. This fee increase would take effect on July 1, 2024.

DOH- Indian River recommends the BCC accept the proposed fee increase to ensure the financial stability of future Environmental Health programs and services.