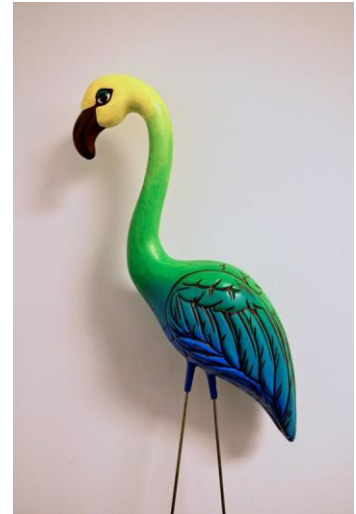


## Flamingos Hit The Road to Urge Residents to “Skip The Fertilizer”

A flock of artistically-painted pink plastic yard flamingoes will land at libraries, museums, arts centers and other venues throughout the Tampa Bay region starting this summer. They are a unique and eye-catching way to remind homeowners to “Skip The Fertilizer” in the summer to protect the waterways that make living here so much fun.

The plastic pink yard flamingo is the iconic mascot of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program’s Be Floridian campaign, which supports local fertilizer laws in Manatee and Pinellas counties and the city of Tampa. These laws ban the use of nitrogen fertilizer from June-September to prevent harmful pollution from washing into Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico during our rainy summers.

This year, 20 artists from New Port Richey to Avon Park gave 24 of our plain pink birds a makeover, painting them in styles from wild to whimsical. Each flamingo has its own name which corresponds to its colorful personality.



**"Sunny" by St. Petersburg artist Holly Dodson**



**Tampa artist Diana Rast with "Fanny"**

The painted flock is now a traveling exhibit called *The Art of Being Floridian*. The exhibit’s first stop is the Safety Harbor Library for the month of July, followed by engagements at the Oldsmar Library, Art Center of Manatee, Largo Cultural Center, Sunken Gardens, Museum of Science and Industry and more.

See our flamingos and learn about the fabulous artists who created them on our [Pinterest gallery](#).

Get updates about exhibit locations and schedules on the [Be Floridian Facebook page](#).

To learn more about Be Floridian and get tips on “Gardening Like A Floridian,” visit [www.BeFloridian.org](http://www.BeFloridian.org)