

HOW METHANE EMISSIONS FROM LANDFILLS CONTRIBUTE TO SEA LEVEL RISE AND FLOODING

1. What is methane and why does it matter?

Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas released when food scraps and other organic waste decompose in landfills. It traps more than 80 times more heat than carbon dioxide over 20 years.

2. How do methane emissions from landfills affect sea level rise?

When methane warms the planet, it causes polar ice to melt and oceans to expand, driving sea levels higher. Every city in Broward is vulnerable to sea level rise.

3. How does this lead to more flooding?

Higher sea levels mean that storm surges, king tides, and heavy rains cause flooding more easily. That's why reducing methane emissions from the landfill helps protect our homes, roads, canals, rivers, and drinking water.

4. What can I do to help?

Whether it's recycling correctly, reducing food waste, or backyard composting, we can all do something now to reduce the amount of waste we are sending to the landfill. The new programs presented in the Master Plan will help everyone manage their waste to keep food scraps, yard waste, and recyclables out of the landfill.