

JEFF DANTER

Florida State Director



Jeff Danter's tireless work to achieve the mission of The Nature Conservancy was directed to Florida in July 2007 when he took over leadership of the Conservancy's Florida Chapter. As Florida

state director, Jeff heads one of the Conservancy's largest and most successful programs. The Florida Chapter has protected more than 1.2 million acres, advocates and supports public funding for conservation, and influences the management of conservation lands in public and private ownership.

Jeff's previous position was state director of Alabama, where under his leadership the Conservancy more than quadrupled the size of its preserves and increased the number of acres protected statewide by more than 50 percent. The largest land protection deals in state history were made during his five-year tenure, including the purchase of 14,119 acres along the Perdido River and the 21,510-acre Walls of Jericho property that straddles the Alabama-Tennessee state line. He also tripled funds raised from private donors and brought in 10 times the amount of public grant funding that had been previously allocated to conservation in Alabama. Under his direction, the Conservancy re-energized its partnerships with state and federal agencies with great success, including achieving first appropriation of federal dollars to fund national forests in Alabama in a decade. He led efforts to create the Alabama Chapter's first coastal conservation and freshwater programs.

Jeff first joined the Conservancy in 1999 as director of The Nature Conservancy's Disney Wilderness Preserve in central Florida, one of the most successful landscape mitigation projects in the United States. He came from private industry, where he worked in corporate finance for more than nine years. He holds a doctorate in ecological management communications, a master's degree in business administration and a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from The Ohio State University. He co-authored the textbook *Environmental Communications—Theory and Applications for Natural Resource Managers, Engineers and Scientists*, in addition to several articles and agency reports.

His extensive community service background includes fundraising and board service to charitable organizations that have helped students and at-risk teens in his hometown of Columbus, Ohio. While in Alabama, he served on the advisory board of Auburn University School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, the Alabama Forest Resources Center's board of directors and was a member of the Birmingham Rotary Club.

Contact Information

The Nature Conservancy
222 South Westmonte Drive, Suite 300
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
[407] 682.3664
jdanter@tnc.org
nature.org/florida

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.