

The Flow

August 2007 Newsletter
Marti Daltry, President

Special Events & Meetings

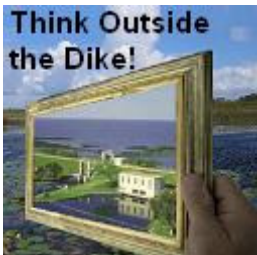
- **Aug 14, LaBelle City Council North Bank Park Workshop (7:00 pm)**
- **Aug 29, DEP Public Workshop on TMDL's (9:30 am)**
- **Sep 5, CRCA Board Meeting (6:30 pm at Perkins, Hwy 80 at I-75)**



Riverwatch day at Hendry House: Landscaping with native plants.

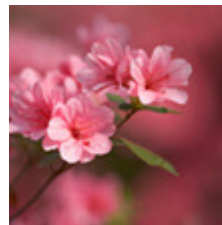
Please check for updates and additional meetings at crca.caloosahatchee.org. Also, you can renew your membership online.

Thinking Outside the Box



CRCA officers spoke at the Aug 8 SFWMD meeting encouraging government to reject old failed practices and embrace new approaches to restore the health of our estuaries and the life it sustains, both human and animal, for future generations. [\[Opinion\]](#)

Hendry House Flowers



Donate \$10 (or more) to the beautification of the LaBelle Hendry House. Riverwatch will be planting new landscaping following the IFAS Florida Yards & Neighborhoods(FYN) designs that feature native plants, low fertilizer inputs and water conservation [\[Hendry House FYN\]](#) [\[Donate\]](#)

WMD Votes Down Backpumping



After contentious public input on Aug 8, the SFWMD Governing Board on Aug 9 voted 4-3 to not resume backpumping into Lake Okeechobee from the Everglades Agricultural Area, a practice that ended in 2001. [\[AP\]](#) [\[SFWMD Vote\]](#) [\[Sun Sentinel\]](#)

Dauray Sides with Reform



Charles Dauray of Estero, the SW Florida member of the SFWMD Governing Board, voted against Lake O backpumping at the Aug 9 meeting. Some were unsure if his vote would reflect water supply or water quality priorities. [\[Who Voted\]](#) [\[News Press\]](#) [\[Editorial\]](#)

Cape Water Action



CWA is a newly formed organization designed to be an educational public outreach to the citizens of Cape Coral and is affiliated with the CRCA-Riverwatch. CWA is conducting its first meeting on November 17, 2007 from 13:00 to 15:00. [\[About CWA\]](#)

[\[Meeting Details\]](#)

CRCA Comments on Babcock



Riverwatch has submitted comments to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on a permit application submitted by Babcock Property Holdings, LLC. [\[CRCA Comments\]](#) [\[NY Times Photo\]](#) [\[Corps Public Notice\]](#) [\[Government Contacts\]](#)

See CRCA web page for more details on each of the newsletter articles <http://crca.caloosahatchee.org/>

Conference Focuses on Drought



The 2007 Southwest Florida Water Resources Conf. and AWRA meeting will be held at FGCU on Nov 16, 2007. Sign up early as a sponsor, exhibitor, or attendee. [\[Conference Website\]](#) [\[Sponsorships\]](#) [\[Registration\]](#)

Algae Bloom. Again!



A relatively unfamiliar type of offensive smelling rotting algae mass appeared recently along the Caloosahatchee estuary and some beach areas of SW Florida. Specialists suspect either *Lyngbya* or *Trichodesmium* might be the cause this algae bloom. [\[Bonita News\]](#) [\[Brown](#)

[Algae Scum\]](#)

Rural Water Supply



SFWMDC is now demanding appropriate growth, with water sources that do not harm the environment, irrespective of cost. This may see the growth plans of rural Hendry County revised to address more stringent water & sewer requirements. [\[Article\]](#) [\[NW Hendry Map\]](#) [\[Objections\]](#) [\[County\]](#) [\[Palm Bch Post\]](#)

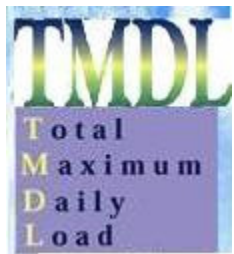
Support Alva Green Center



Area organizations, including CRCA, are supporting a proposal for the Lee County 2020 program to purchase the Corwin property with the help of the Lee County BOCC. Area residents are encouraged to write emails to Lee Commissioners. [\[AutoEmail\]](#)

[\[Addresses\]](#)

DEP Workshop on TMDL



The Florida DEP announces a public workshop to initiate the development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Caloosahatchee Basin. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 29 at 9:30 am in Fort Myers. [\[Meeting Details\]](#)

New FWCC Appointees



Gov. Crist has filled three open seats on the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission with a developer, an attorney and an earthmoving engineer. This disappoints SW FL environmentalist that endorsed John Cassani, a wildlife specialist. [\[News-Press\]](#) [\[St. Pete Times\]](#)

Captiva to Host Coalition



The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation team, including Riverwatch founding member Rae Ann Wessel, will host the 2008 annual meeting of the Everglades Coalition - perhaps Florida's most significant annual environmental event. [\[Announcement\]](#)

LOBO in River Tributaries



Land/Ocean Biogeochemical Observatory (LOBO) which collects and records water-quality in real time 24/7, has started collecting data on Caloosahatchee and its tributaries earlier this week, after being attached to a dock in Tarpon Bay for past month. [\[Article\]](#)

Water Summit Results



SFWMDC held the Water Summit 2007 on July 30, bringing together all those concerned with water issues for a dialogue. Results were mixed and assessments varied. [\[Article\]](#) [\[Glades Co. Notes\]](#) [\[Naples Editorial\]](#) [\[Presentations\]](#)

River Ride 2007



The 11th Annual Caloosahatchee River Ride is the morning of Sunday, Nov. 18. Over 100 riders participated in 2006 and we expect more this year. Plan now to join us for this always enjoyable Riverwatch tradition. Contact us for details. [\[Auto Email\]](#)

Abandoned Boats



The number of barnacle covered, leaky or sunken abandoned boats in the Caloosahatchee increases every year. As the problem keeps on growing with time, this is the first year when boat abandonment will be a criminal offense. [\[Article\]](#)

Bush May Veto WRDA



President Bush has threatened to veto a massive water resources bill that would authorize \$1.8 billion worth of restoration projects in the Florida Everglades and projects on the St. Lucie River. Total national funding for WRDA is \$20 billion. [\[Article\]](#) [\[Letter\]](#) [\[Local Projects\]](#)

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