

The Flow

August 2008 Newsletter
Mary Ruth Prouty, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Sep 10 - CRCA Board of Directors Meeting
- Sep 20 - The 3rd Annual Glades Hendry North American Migration Count 2008
- Sep 22 - Mangrove Symposium
- Oct 25 - Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Festival 2008

For more river news visit the CRCA web site at crca.caloosahatchee.org
Also, you can renew your membership online



Fay's grand tour of Florida dumped 20+ inches of rain in some places.

Billy Creek Groundbreaking



Councilman Warren Wright invites CRCA members and the public to the groundbreaking ceremony for the Billy Creek Filter Marsh Park, on Sat., Sep 6 at 10am. This project will enhance the water quality of Billy Creek and the Caloosahatchee. [\[Design\]](#) [\[Parking\]](#) [\[Invitation\]](#)

Sen. Graham Opinion



Senator Bob Graham has mobilized his Center for Public Service at UF to draft the National Water Restoration Act, which seeks to separate out water quality restoration projects from general WRDA projects. [\[PalmBeachPost\]](#) [\[Graham Center\]](#)

The Vue Rehearing Denied



Unless appealed to the Florida Supreme Court, a ruling by the 2nd District Court of Appeals reverses the circuit court ruling quashing The VUE (Plan A for a 27-story tower partially on Centennial Park property) approved by City of Fort Myers. [\[Court Order\]](#) [\[Analysis\]](#)

NAMC 2008



You are invited to participate in the 3rd annual Glades Hendry North American Migration Count to be held on Saturday Sep 20. For details contact Margaret England at mleighthouse@embarqmail.com or 863-517-0202 (cell), 863-674-0695 (home). [\[Details\]](#)

Getting Over The Ick Factor



Astronauts drink fully recycled water and now the concept is coming down to earth. Los Angeles and San Diego which both rejected potable reuse, have raised the idea once again, as have, for the first time, DeKalb County, Ga. and Miami-Dade Co., Fla. [\[Article\]](#)

Community Meetings



The Governor Office of Tourism, Trade & Economic Development will host a series of meetings in Clewiston, LaBelle, & Moore Haven, Aug 25-28 discussing post-sugar employment and business opportunities. [\[Details\]](#)

Dead Zones Go Global



Dead Zones in coastal waters - regions of ocean so deprived of oxygen that most marine life cannot survive - are spreading worldwide at an alarming pace. This decade alone, dead zones have increased by about a third to 405. [\[Reuters\]](#)

Algae Art Again



Our river again takes on the appearance of a color pallet as an algae bloom paints its waters. The occurrence of algae is now settling into a pattern of multiple blooms each and every year. [\[Photos\]](#) [\[Fort Myers Salinity\]](#)

BRP Management Plan



Babcock Ranch Preserve Management Plan dated July 17, 2008 that was presented at the BOT Cabinet Aides meeting on July 23rd. This plan and its exhibits will be posted at: www.babcockcmp.org. Schedule is available on the upcoming BOT meetings. [\[BRP Schedule\]](#) [\[News Press\]](#)

CWRA Chances are Good



Congress needs to adopt the Clean Water Restoration Act. But with no Florida Republicans co-sponsoring, it will be impossible to override a presidential veto in 2008. With a new presidential, chances for its signature in 2009 are good. [\[The New York Times\]](#)

CRCA & Save Our Creeks



Riverwatch is a member of Save Our Creeks which will meet at Fisheating Creek Campgrounds on Sat, Sep 13 at 10AM to discuss the ecotourism plan for the region, including a 50-mile long canoe trail of international caliber. [\[Invitation Letter\]](#) [\[CRCA Membership\]](#) [\[Fundraising\]](#)

Paddling Festival



Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Festival 2008 is Oct 25 to Nov 2. For the festival publicity and event details/scheduling contact Betsy Clayton, Waterways Program Coordinator at bclayton@leegov.com or 239-433-3855. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Web Site\]](#) [\[Myspace\]](#)

Fay Fills Lake O



Tropical Storm Fay raised Lake O water levels 0.6 ft in a single day to 11.8 ft. On Aug 23 it reached 12.8 ft. Achieving 13.0 feet moves the lake out of drought status. 4 to 12 inches of rain fell on the Lake O basin on Aug 19. [\[Aug 19 Rain\]](#) [\[Lake O\]](#) [\[Week Total\]](#) [\[Track\]](#)

DEP Online Dock Permits



The Florida DEP in coordination with the US Army Corps of Engineers has expanded the existing online self-certification process for certain small, private single-family docks. You can apply and get approval online. [\[Press Release\]](#) [\[Apply Online\]](#)

Change in Rate Structure



Utility revenues are dropping parallel with decreases in water consumption by customers. Lee Smart Growth is suggesting that bonded costs (infrastructure) should be built into the base fee, not into the per gallon fees. [\[Wayne Daltry\]](#) [\[Palm Beach Post\]](#)

Algae - Phosphorus Link



The excess nutrient content of water, both nitrogen and phosphorus, has long been known to trigger algae blooms. Other factors such as temperature and PH can also affect algae blooms. [\[Pubs acs\]](#) [\[Canada.com\]](#)

Offshore Oil Drilling



We are urging everyone to call Rep. Connie Mack and Sen. Mel Martinez, urging them to vote on renewal of the moratorium on offshore oil drilling when Congress reconvenes in Sep and to write letters to the editor as well. Your support is important. [\[Phone Script\]](#) [\[Letter\]](#) [\[Web Site\]](#)

Mangrove Symposium

Mangrove Symposium

Monday, Sep 22
9:00 AM — 2:00 PM
Rutenberg Park
Support Services Facility
6490 South Pointe Blvd
Fort Myers, FL 33919

You are invited to join Mangrove Symposium on Sep 22 from 9am to 2pm at Rutenberg Park, 6490 South Pointe Blvd, Fort Myers. To register contact Pam Abbott: 239-533-7523 or fill out the registration form. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Registration Form\]](#)