

The Flow

January 2011 Newsletter
Dr. Annette Snapp, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Feb 2: [CRCA Meeting](#), 6:30pm Calusa Nature Center, Ft. Myers
- Feb 2: [Designing With Nature](#), 9:00-10:30am Rutenberg Eco Living Center.
- Feb 11-14: [Winter Rendezvous 2011](#)
- Feb 12: [Air Potato Roundup](#), 8:30-10:00am LaBelle Nature Park

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



1st PRIZE
MAD RIVER
14-FT CANOE

Suggested Donation \$2
One Chance
Official Entry Prize Contest

2nd Prize - Estero Bay kayak tour for 4

Prizes donated by
Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc.
and **Estero River Outfitters**

Sponsored by Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association, P.O.B. 2199, LaBelle FL 33975
Marti Daltry, Treasurer



CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER WATCH \$20
River Cruise

A guided cruise on the Caloosahatchee

YOUR TOUR GUIDES

- Margaret England, Hendry-Glades Audubon
- Joe Thomas, LaBelle Heritage Museum
- RaeAnn Wessel, Sanibel-Captiva Conserv

Swamp Cabbage Festival, LaBelle

www.cra.caloosahatchee.org

Attend CRCA events at Swamp Cabbage Festival in LaBelle, Feb 26-27.

Ceitus Barrier Reconstruction



Phil Buchanan commented on the application for reconstruction of the Ceitus Barrier. He says this is a very important issue for our SW Florida environment & a critical environmental issue for Matlacha, Matlacha Pass, and Pine Island, so get involved! [\[Details\]](#)

Environmental Secession from Union



150 years ago Florida fought for the right of states to subjugate the humanity of its people. Florida is today lining up to fight for states' rights to destroy the land and water itself. History will judge harshly the leaders of archaic economic models that are rooted in ignorance and destruction. [\[New FL Legislature Bill\]](#)

Do Nothing...We Insist!

Water Quality Positions
Local - Do Something!
State - Do Nothing!
Feds - Do Something!

This year the FL Legislature is not only attempting to prevent Federal rules from improving Florida water quality, they are also attempting to prevent LOCAL governments (counties & cities) from doing anything effective to improve local water quality. [\[The Fla. Senate\]](#) [\[Bill Text\]](#)

No Sanity Clause in DEP



In rejecting the Cape Coral permit application for the Ceitus Boat Lift, DEP appears to be violating the Second Consent Order (last sentence of section 12a) where DEP says the City is not required to deal with erosion other than at the structure. [\[DEP\]](#) [\[Appeal\]](#) [\[Reaction\]](#) [\[Pine Isl\]](#) [\[Consent Order\]](#) [\[Marx\]](#)

Ray Judah Gets EvCo Award



Lee Co. Commissioner Ray Judah received the 2011 James D. Webb Award at the Everglades Coalition conference in Weston. The award is given every year "to a public official who has made an outstanding contribution to the Everglades." [\[Sand Paper\]](#) [\[Webb Award\]](#)

January Parched Estuary



Rains at the end of January brought the dry season flow back from a low of 293cfs on Jan 25 to a meager 311cfs average since Oct 1. This is 10% below the average at the end of December and represents continued severe stress to the estuary ecosystem. [\[Flow Graph\]](#) [\[Flow Cartoon\]](#) [\[Data\]](#)

Cruise Sponsors Invited



Southwest Florida organizations are invited to sign up as sponsors and participants for the February 26 Riverwatch Swamp Cabbage Cruises (Leadership at 1pm, Educational at 2:30pm). [\[Poster\]](#) [\[Invitation\]](#)

Renewable Energy in Florida



Sierra Club Calusa Group and FGCU Student Government Environmental Initiative invite you to a discussion of Renewable Energy in Florida Past, Present and Future with Michael Sole VP Governmental Affairs, Florida Power & Light on Feb 4 6:30PM at FGCU. [\[Details\]](#)

Save Matlacha Pass



Dr. Aaron Adams urges all Pine Islanders to get involved in stopping the insane dumping of Cape Coral poor quality excess fresh waters on Matlacha. Post and distribute the flyer in your community. Then write an email to DEP expressing your views. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Flyer\]](#)

SCCF Conservation Forum



On Jan 25, 2011 hundreds concerned residents of the islands & neighboring communities joined the SCCF and Everglades Foundation Forum to discuss the status of projects and funding efforts to save the Caloosahatchee and advance Everglades restoration. [\[Captiva Sanibel\]](#) [\[SCCF Web Site\]](#)

Clarifying Issues



Rae Ann Wessel of SCCF in her commentary to Captiva Sanibel clarified a series of issues related to Cape Coral's North Spreader Canal. She said reinstalling the barrier will recreate healthy water treatment and flow which are fundamental factors. [\[Captiva Sanibel\]](#)

Not On The List This Year



Every year, American Rivers generates a list of America's Most Endangered Rivers. Ten rivers are selected each year. The Conservancy, SCCF and CRCA nominated the Caloosahatchee, but it didn't make the 2011 list. It was #7 in 2006. [\[MER Letter\]](#) [\[Call for 2011 MER Nominations\]](#)

Scott Breaks Tradition



Since 1987, every time Florida has sworn in a new governor, one of his first public appearances has been to deliver a speech at the annual Everglades Coalition conference. Scott broke tradition and skipped the four-day conference in Weston. [\[Tampa Bay\]](#)

No Water for Estuary



South Florida water managers held off on imposing tougher watering restrictions, despite concerns about worsening drought conditions. If conditions worsen, emergency watering cutbacks would come before the end of Jan or in Feb, according to SFWMD. [\[Sun-Sentinel\]](#)

Wildlife Refuge Plan



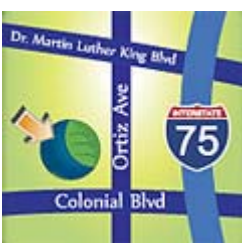
Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar outlined the Obama administration plan to create a sprawling new national wildlife refuge north of Lake O to environmental attendees at the EvCo Conference on Jan 7 who wholeheartedly praised the proposal. [\[Miami Herald\]](#)

Caloosahatchee Salty



Over the past 10 years, high salinity has killed 600 acres of tape grass in the river. Last year, tape grass started coming back, but high salinity is killing it again. Adding to the problem, salinity-resistant algae have covered the few living tape grass plants. [\[News-Press\]](#)

Riverwatch BOD Meeting



The next Riverwatch BOD meeting will be held Wednesday, February 2, 2011 at 6:30 pm at the Calusa Nature Center, 3450 Ortiz Avenue in Fort Myers. We will be meeting in the Iona House. Pizza will be served. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Nature Center Web Site\]](#)

Putnam a Keynote Speaker



Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam delivered keynote speech at the 26th Annual Everglades Coalition Conference stressing importance of partnerships to restore environment. Putnam is the first Ag. Commissioner to participate in this event. [\[southeastagnet.com\]](#)