

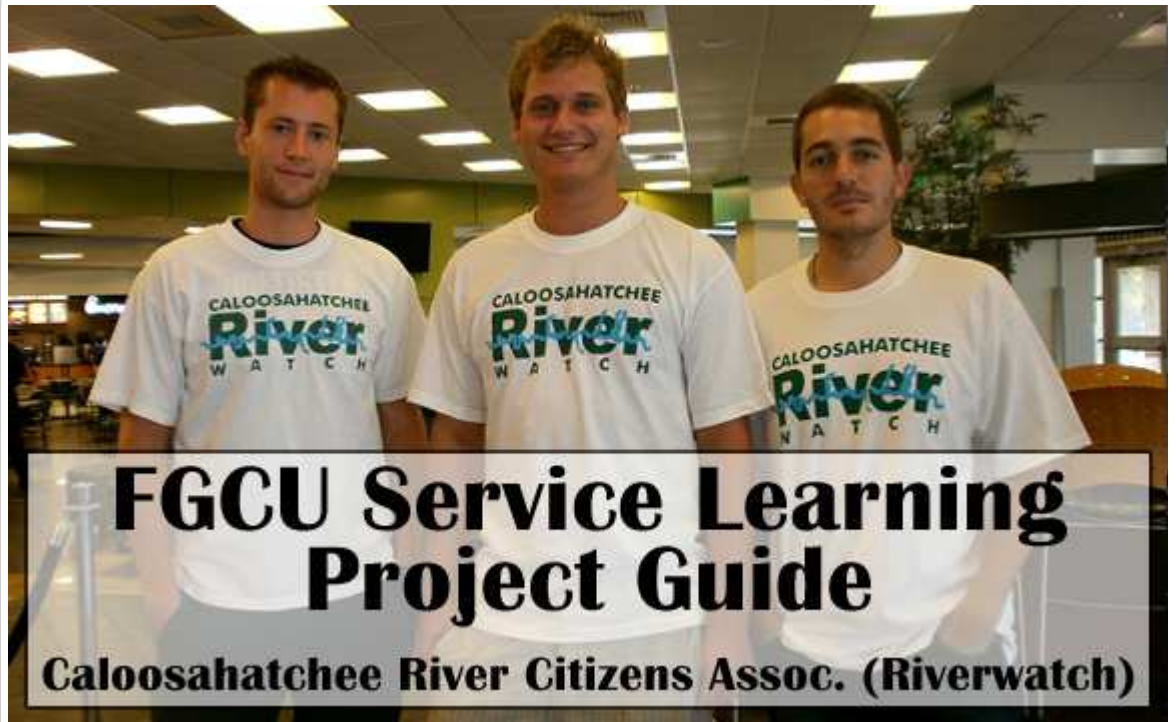
# The Flow

January 2014 Newsletter  
John Capece, Editor

## Special Events & Meetings

- Jan 31: [Water Resources Conference](#) at FGCU, Students \$15
- Feb 5: [CRCA Meeting](#) in LaBelle
- Feb 8, Mar 15, & Apr 19: [Nature Park Clean Up](#)
- Feb 22-23: [Swamp Cabbage Festival](#)
- Mar 22: [Riverwatch Annual Meeting](#)

**Editorial Disclaimer**  
Visit the CRCA web site  
[crca.caloosahatchee.org](http://crca.caloosahatchee.org)  
Join us at [Facebook](#)



*Special edition to inform FGCU students of service learning projects.*

## Online Guide to Student Projects



The online version of Riverwatch's student guide provides links to additional information & photographs describing Service Learning Projects available to FGCU students. Some of these projects can be expanded into internships for qualified students interested in a higher level of participation.  
[\[www.CRCA.caloosahatchee.org\]](http://www.CRCA.caloosahatchee.org)

## FGCU Service Learning Projects



FGCU students complete service learning hours as part of their bachelor's degree. Riverwatch is offering these students several opportunities: LaBelle Nature Park, Water Conference, Website, Oxbows Research, River Ride, Information Tables, Plant IDs, Billy's Creek Clean Up, & Swamp Cabbage Festival.  
[\[Park\]](#) [\[Conference\]](#)  
[\[Website\]](#) [\[Oxbows\]](#) [\[River Ride\]](#)

## Nature Park Plant IDs



Students can help create a system of LaBelle Nature Park plant ID markers with QR codes, web site photos and information pages, revised brochures, and new kiosk posters. It's a big job requiring a team of students. [\[Example Poster\]](#) [\[Current Brochure\]](#)

## Labelle Nature Park



Help maintain the trails and habitats of a small, urban park located next to the Caloosahatchee River in LaBelle. Exotic vegetation threatens to choke out native plants. CRCA hosts a lunch and River discussion after the morning of work in the park. [\[Information\]](#) [\[Website\]](#)

## FGCU Service Learning Fair



CRCA members Mary Rawl, John Capece, & Nargis Abduvohidova along with Intelligentsia exchange students Romain Delhomme (France) & Maria Saebjoernsen (Norway) shared service learning project opportunities with FGCU students at a Jan 24 campus event.

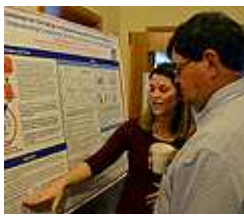
[\[Group Photo\]](#) [\[CRCA Service Learning Guide\]](#)

## Swamp Cabbage Festival



LaBelle hosts the annual Swamp Cabbage Festival celebrating the cabbage palm. Riverwatch will have an exhibit at the festival where students can help pass out River advocacy information, collect signatures and distribute Canoe Contest tickets.

## 23rd Annual Water Conference



Riverwatch is co-hosting the 23rd Annual SW FL Water Resources Conference. The theme is "Sea Level Rise, Fight or Flight" and will explore choices facing our state whether to harden our shorelines or plan a gradual retreat from advancing waters. Students & the general public are also invited. [\[Sponsor a Student\]](#) [\[Conference\]](#)

[\[Register\]](#)

## FGCU Students Help Riverwatch



Jessica Dufresne and Ashley Gegenwarth drove all the way from Collier County to help with removal of invasive exotic plants in the LaBelle Nature Park as part of their FGCU Service Learning activities. All enjoyed lunch and conversations afterward. [\[Jessica & Ashley\]](#)

## Water Conference Organizing



Students can help organize & host the 24th Annual SW Florida Water Resources Conference. Task areas include: marketing, program, competitions, sponsorships, registration, web page, field trip, publication, venue, housing, historian, & photographer. [\[Project Description\]](#)

## Water Conference SOPs



Each student takes responsibility for one conference organizing task. Students also attend the conference to handle their specific task & to participate in the educational activities. Students also create Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) reports to teach future students the conference tasks.

## River Ride Organizing



Riverwatch holds a recreational bike ride around the Caloosahatchee every Nov. Students can help with organizing the annual River Ride, including promoting the event, staffing the registration table, & distributing refreshments at the rest stops.

## CRCA Website



Develop your research, analysis, journalism, and advocacy skills by helping to create content for the Riverwatch web site and monthly newsletter. Students can create news boxes to inform others about river issues. [\[Website\]](#)

## Other River Projects



Students can become creative & develop their own ideas for Riverwatch projects to address important issues of our watershed & estuary and the problems of concern to you. Become the regional leader of tomorrow by being the student leader of today.

## Service Learning Contact



If you want to pursue one of these service learning or internship projects, contact Dr. John Capece by emailing Riverwatch @ Caloosahatchee.org. He will assist you or refer you to other Riverwatch officers managing specific projects. [\[Email Riverwatch\]](#)

## FGCU Information Tables



CRCA members interested in becoming a Riverwatch student leader can set up tables on the FGCU walkways to tell other students about CRCA issues, sign up new members, and recruit project volunteers. Make the FGCU a leader in advocating for our waters!

## Membership



Anyone interested in the conservation, educational & scientific pursuits of CRCA Riverwatch can join the organization. Student membership is \$10. Become active in the issues affecting the Caloosahatchee River and its estuary.

## Organization Mission & Issues



To promote public education on the historical significance, present condition, and future of the River & its watershed. To increase public awareness of the importance of the River to our quality of life. To monitor & work to improve the River's water quality, quantity, & flow characteristics.

## History of the Organization



mission & message.

Created in 1995, CRCA-Riverwatch is dedicated to the protection of the River and its watershed, through education & promotion of the responsible use of the river for the enjoyment of all people. CRCA continues to grow & expands its