

The Flow

July 2008 Newsletter
Marti Daltry, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Jul 28 - Greater Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Conference in Naples
- Aug 9 - Save Our Creeks Board and Annual Membership Meeting.
- Aug 13 - CRCA monthly meeting in Ft. Myers at 6:30pm at Perkins Restaurant near I-75 and Hwy 80.

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



CRCA - Riverwatch Board of Directors Meeting, July 9, 2008

Caloosahatchee Riverway



At the July CRCA meeting, Transystems' Forest Michael showed ideas for the Caloosahatchee Riverway project proposal for Glades and Hendry Counties. The concept involves restoring historic Lakes Flirt, Bonnett, and Hicpoochee as well as transforming the design and function of the C-43 West Reservoir.

[[Caloosa Belle](#)] [[Photo Gallery](#)]

Historic Lawsuit Over Algae



Judge R. Hinkle

Three SW FL groups (Sierra Club, Conservancy of SW FL, and Environmental Confederation of SW FL) represented by EarthJustice filed a lawsuit in a Tallahassee federal court requiring EPA to create explicit WQ standards on algae blooms. Current standards for algae and their toxins are vague. [[News-Press](#)] [[Naples News](#)]

BMP Report for Caloosahatchee



Dr. Del Bottcher of Soil & Water Engineering Technology (SWET) recently completed a report on Nitrogen & Phosphorus reduction strategies for the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers. The report will help SFWMD make decisions on BMP implementation. SFWMD is taking comments on the report. [[Report](#)] [[Final Report](#)]

Algae Blooms a Global Problem



Chinese officials mobilized thousands of people to clean up an algae bloom that stretches along their coastline. The algae threatened to impede the Olympic games. People everywhere faces the challenge of nutrient runoff and warming waters and the ecological damage they cause to estuaries & oceans. [[Herald Tribune](#)]

Riverwatch Refiles on The Vue



Riverwatch and others filed for a rehearing of the lawsuit they initially won that halted The Vue tower plans. The ruling favoring the Riverwatch position was overturned by an appeals court on technical issues of standing. Nevertheless, the initial court ruling brings the land title into question. [[Motion](#)] [[News Press](#)] [[Press Release](#)]

SOC Annual Meeting

**SAVE OUR CREEKS
BOARD AND ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Sat, Aug 9th, 10 AM
Fisheating Creek
Campground
Rec. Room**

Save Our Creeks Board and Annual Membership Meeting is on August 9th at 10 am at the Fisheating Creek Campground Rec Room in Palmdale. It's time to elect new officers and Board Members. If you are willing to serve, plan to nominate yourself. For more information call Ellen at 239-992-5455. [[Flyer](#)]

Submit Your Recipes

Favorite Recipes



Caloosahatchee Cookbook invites you to share your favorite recipes, including picnic & boating favorites. Include your culinary secrets in the fundraiser cookbook. The sooner you submit, the better your chances of being included. [\[Form\]](#) [\[Online Form\]](#)

Pine Island Stalwart



Phil Buchanan of Pine Island has been leading the regional coalition of environmental groups challenging Cape Coral dismantling the coastal spreader canal water quality treatment system. Riverwatch expresses its confidence in the efforts of Phil. [\[Letter\]](#)

Is Florida the Sunset State?



South Florida is experiencing an ecological and hydrological meltdown. The Everglades ecosystem now hosts 69 threatened or endangered species, and its rookeries and fisheries have crashed. Massive algal blooms are turning Florida Bay into pea soup. [\[Time.Com\]](#)

Clean Water Act Online Course

*Understanding
the Clean Water
Act*



The goal of the Clean Water Act is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters. The River Network organization has created an online course to teach people all about CWA and its enforcement. [\[RiverNetwork.org\]](#)

Read My Lips...No New Taxes!



Water managers vowed on July 8 to close the \$1.75 billion deal for the U.S. Sugar Corp without hiking taxes on South Florida homeowners, but the big buyout will come at the cost of delay for other Everglades projects. [\[Miami Herald\]](#) [\[Island-Reporter\]](#)

Fallout for Rural Counties



While coastal media focus on the potential environmental benefits of the US Sugar land sale, the rural papers reflect the shock & angst of a population staring into an uncertain future. [\[Hendry Glades Pg 1\]](#) [\[Page 3\]](#) [\[Page 4\]](#) [\[Page 6\]](#)

Collateral Damage



The C-43 West Reservoir project expected to improve water quality in the Caloosahatchee River and along Lee County coastline might not receive more state money needed for construction. [\[News Press\]](#) [\[News Press\]](#)

Spreader Canal Study



In 2003, Jim Beaver and Bob Chamberlain produced a report on the Cape Coral Spreader Canal system, pointing out how development in the watershed has dramatically altered flow into the spreader flowway. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Report\]](#) [\[Web Site\]](#)

Clean Water Act Lawsuit



Earthjustice attorney David Guest filed suit in U.S. Circuit Court in Atlanta to challenge the Bush administration latest attempt to weaken the Clean Water Act they transfer dirty water – from canals contaminated by urban or agricultural pollution. [\[Wctv.tv\]](#)

Lee 4th Worst in State

THE RUSH TO FLUSH
*Call for legislation, planning
and enforcement to protect
Gulf of Mexico from sewage*

**Linda Young
Clean Water Network**

22 of the 80 Lee County sewage plants send sewage into area water bodies, even after warnings from DEP. The violations earned Lee 4th place out of the 67 counties, although this ranking assume other counties fully report their violations. [\[Report\]](#) [\[Table\]](#) [\[Notice\]](#)

Turning Algae to Oil



CRCA battles algae blooms, but algae can be used to clean sewage or agricultural runoff. U.S. scientists suggested companies grow algae biomass for processing and find a cost-effective way to separate algae from water. [\[Herald Tribune\]](#)

Gulf-Atlantic Greenway?



Lee County already has Right of Way for a greenway and blueway to Hendry County. Some now look to the possibility of a corridor all the way from the Gulf to the Atlantic along the Caloosahatchee, Lake Okeechobee and St. Lucie or to Palm Beach. [\[AJC.Com\]](#)