

The Flow

March 2011 Newsletter
Dr. Annette Snapp, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Apr 2: [CREW Wildflower Festival](#), CREW Cypress Dome Trails in Collier County south of Immokalee. 239-657-225 for reservations
- Apr 17: [Everglades Bike Ride](#), Registration deadline is Apr 8. Start/finish in Everglades City. To register call 695-2397.

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



Phil Buchanan talks about Boat Lift issue at the CRCA annual meeting

Annual Meeting Presenters



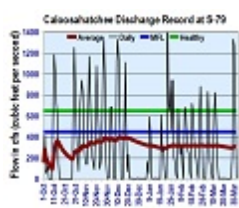
After the CRCA annual business meeting, Betsy Clayton discussed the Calusa Blueway. Phil Buchanan & Nancy Hindenach then updated Riverwatch on the Ceitus Boat Lift controversy. Members took to canoes and kayaks to tour the site and witness impacts.

Officers Election on Apr 6



The new CRCA Board of Directors will meet at the Bridge Street Coffee House at 6:30 pm for the election of the coming year's Riverwatch officers. Everyone is welcome to attend. Members interested in serving as directors are also encouraged to attend. [\[Map\]](#)

Less Water Each Month



At the end of February the average dry season flow to the Caloosahatchee was 321 cfs, far below the 450 considered minimally acceptable. At the end of March it is worse at 310 cfs. It would be in the 290s if not for recent rains. Hope for more rain! [\[Data Web\]](#) [\[Graph\]](#)

Water Restrictions Ordered



New landscape and other irrigation restrictions have been ordered by SFWMD to deal with the ongoing drought. Much of the Caloosahatchee Basin is affected, both agricultural and residential users. The goal is to reduce water use by 15%. [\[Landscape Restrictions\]](#) [\[SFWMD Web Site\]](#)

CRCA Annual Meeting



Matlacha Park was the idyllic setting for the 2011 CRCA Annual Members Meeting where the new board of directors was elected. Riverwatch welcomes new additions to its board: William Crane, Patrick O'Malley & Pete Quasius. [\[Capece Report\]](#)

SFWMD Thwarts Corps Efforts



SCCF chides SFWMD for misrepresenting the Adaptive Protocols in its efforts to prevent Corps of Engineers from sending minimal water flows to the Caloosahatchee during the drought. SFWMD clearly sees the Caloosahatchee health as low priority. [\[Letter\]](#)

We Want Green But Vote Brown



A solid majority of Florida voters say the state's economic progress is tied to the sustainable supply of freshwater and that Everglades restoration is critical to their own well being. So why do they elect people who act oppositely? [\[Details\]](#) [\[Cartoon\]](#)

Florida: \$ for Developers



[\[Bill\]](#) [\[Web Site\]](#)

HB 7129 is a bad bill in which the Florida Legislature seeks "to remove unworkable provisions in the planning process that delay economic development and result in outcomes that hinder urban development." [\[Call to Action\]](#) [\[Growth De-management\]](#)

Civility



A resident of Matlacha that lives near the former Ceitus Barrier states: "Boats are passing by our home right now with folks pointing their angry fingers at us..." This is getting out of hand. The rhetoric needs to be cooled a little. [\[Details\]](#)

Not the Feds or Locals



SB606 & HB457 would repeal laws counties & cities passed to protect against polluting nutrients. So, Florida does not want EPA setting strong rules, nor does it want locals via counties or cities making strong rules. They only want weak state rules. [\[Snook Foundation\]](#)

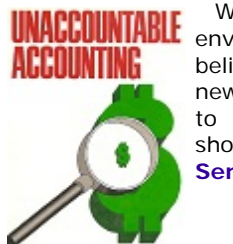
Thank You Scotts Miracle-Gro



[\[Web Site\]](#)

Lawn care products maker Scotts said its lawn maintenance fertilizers used in the U.S. will be phosphorus-free by 2012's end, helping to further reduce water pollution. Scotts began lowering phosphorus levels in its lawn fertilizer products in 2006. [\[Capital Press\]](#)

Eco Disaster Looming



What's driving Florida's return to the environmental dark ages? It's the errant belief among politicians — led by Florida's new governor — that the electorate's unlikely to hold them accountable on anything but short-term job growth actions. [\[Orlando Sentinel\]](#)

12 Bad, 3 Good in Red Tide



Eight agencies meeting in Sarasota unveiled results of the biggest Red Tide study ever. It found that *Karenia brevis* algae contains at least 12 toxins harmful to humans. Red Tide also contains three antitoxins that could provide beneficial effects. [\[Tampa Bay\]](#) [\[Mote Press Release\]](#)

Florida: Let Us Do Nothing!



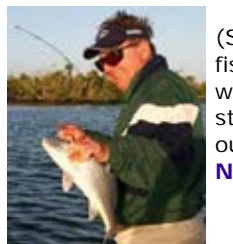
The leave-us-alone attitude in Tallahassee comes through loud and clear in environmental and growth issues. Florida wants the Feds to leave the state alone so the locals can take charge!...so they can deliberately do nothing. [\[Tampa Bay\]](#)

East Coast-West Coast Solidarity



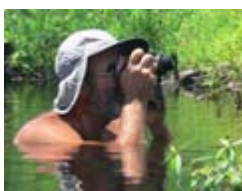
The Martin County Board of County Commissioners urges the SFWMD Governing Board and the US Army Corps of Engineers to give all due consideration to the West Coasts request for environmental water supply consistent with the Caloosahatchee Minimum Flow [\[Details\]](#)

Fishing Licences Away?!



Sen. Joe Negron introduced a bill this year (SB 744) that would deep-six our entire fishing-license structure, fresh and salt water. That would cause huge losses to the state's outdoors infrastructure. So let's iron out the fishing-license wrinkles. [\[Naples News\]](#)

Mark Renz Keeps Innovating



An absolutely spectacular collection of art-enhanced photographs by Mark Renz are on the Florida Time Forgot web site. It includes postcards of the Caloosahatchee and Southwest Florida waters. To order postcards you can email fossilx@earthlink.net. [\[Web Site\]](#)

Future Looks Ominous



We're facing a seriously negative turn of events for Fla's water quality. All of our hard-won gains are being threatened & could crumble under the weight of opposition & uninformed public. We have to return to an activist role & we need your support. [\[PURRE Article\]](#) [\[PURRE Website\]](#)