

The Flow

November 2008 Newsletter
Marti Daltry, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Nov 28 - SCCF Oxbow River Cruises
- Dec 3 - CRCA Holiday Potluck Dinner
- Dec 6 - Friends of Billy Creek Cleanup
- Jan 10 - Fisheating Creek Celebration
- Jan 11 - River Roots & Ruts Trail Run

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



CRCA-Riverwatch Holiday Potluck Dinner is on Dec 3 at 6:30PM

Five Vie For Open Seat



There are five applicants for the one empty seat on the South Florida Water Management District governing board, as the board moves toward the single biggest step in the multi-billion dollar Everglades rescue. [\[Details\]](#)

Changes at Federal Level



With the changing administration in Washington, all eyes are on who will be appointed to run the Environmental Protection Agency and many other environmental and energy posts. [\[Details\]](#)

New U.S. Sugar Deal



Governor Charlie Crist has announced the details of Florida's revised plans to acquire lands in the Everglades Agricultural Area from the U.S. Sugar Corporation. The deal will be signed in December if approved by U.S. Sugar and the Governing Board of the SFWMD. [\[Details\]](#)

Green Jobs Revive Economy



It is time for the new President and Congress to implement a national policy for green jobs and green energy which will result in a strong economic recovery. We can no longer afford to rely on old strategies for economic recovery. by Marti Daltry. [\[Opinion\]](#)

Smart Cities Save Water



Lee County Smart Growth Director Wayne Daltry works to protect SW FL water quality and rural lands by improving the way urban areas are built and managed. Daltry was involved in the Babcock Ranch, Caloosahatchee watershed plan developed by SFWMD. [\[The News Press\]](#)

PURRE Public Policy Director



PURRE Water Coalition has named Dan Wexler its Director of Public Policy. Wexler has been helping PURRE with state and federal government since 2007. In his new role, Wexler will also coordinate PURRE's public policy goals as we head into a new legislative session. [\[Announcement\]](#)

Amendment 4 Conservation



Passed by an overwhelming 68%, Amendment 4 exempts lands with conservation easements from property taxes & allows lands managed for water and wildlife benefits to be taxed according to use. This will help protect millions of acres. [\[Details\]](#)

Guest opinion: John Cassani



The SFWMD Caloosahatchee River and WPP aimed at cleaning up the Caloosahatchee Estuary is nearing completion. The cost of implementing the first three years of the plan (Phase I) has a \$1.2 billion-to-\$1.8 billion price tag. [\[News Press\]](#)

Damned If You Do,....



Some still don't understand that water conservation isn't to be practiced on an emergency basis, but is a fundamental change in how we landscape & irrigate our homes. SFWMD seeks a long-term transformation in watering habits. [\[Palm Beach Post\]](#)

Green Works Projects



Riverwatch and other groups are appealing to Congress to include Lake Okeechobee dike repairs and other Everglades-related projects in the federal stimulus package to get the economy moving again...and in a better direction.

[\[Draft Letter\]](#)

Parting Shots at Environment



Nov 21 was the deadline for the Bush administration to get rules onto the books before the Democrats arrive...too late to change them. Many of the rules will damage the environment or roll back existing requirements on pollution. [\[NPR\]](#)

Holiday Potluck Dinner



The Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association invites you to join our Holiday Potluck dinner to be held at 6:30pm on Wed, Dec 3, at the Hendry House in LaBelle. Turkey will be provided and everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to share. [\[Hendry House Map\]](#) [\[RSVP\]](#)

FL Senate Required Reading



Setting a new tone, incoming Florida Senate President Jeff Atwater distributed copies of The Swamp to colleagues. The book on Everglades restoration describes environmental challenges of south FL. Atwater's speech puts sustainability as a priority. [\[Speech\]](#)

Watershed Council on MFL



Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) are the rules regulating what minimum amount of water must come down rivers like the Caloosahatchee during the dry season so that the estuary maintains a proper salinity balance. Watershed Council is asking SFWMD to implement an improved MFL for the river and estuary. [\[Letter_1\]](#) [\[Letter_2\]](#) [\[Letter_3\]](#)

Friends of Billy Creek Cleanup



As part of the organization's ongoing effort to restore the creek, Friends of Billy's Creek will hold a cleanup on Sat, Dec 6, from 9am - 12pm. A newly donated kayak fleet and other boats will be available. All citizens, groups, and clubs are invited. [\[Details\]](#)

Oxbow River Cruises by SCCF



Guided by Rae Ann Wessel, popular Caloosahatchee Oxbow and Riverlore Cruises explore the meanders of the historic upriver Caloosahatchee. Cruises are scheduled one Sunday afternoon a month through to May, 10. [\[Reservation Details\]](#)

Argo Ranch Purchase



Purchase of Argo Ranch by Conservation 20/20 program was approved on Nov 18. This will permanently preserve over 1,700 acres of listed species habitat, natural flowway and drinking water supply recharge area west of Babcock Ranch. [\[Application\]](#)

Removal of the Ceitus Boat Lift



The Cape Coral Canal technical committee (NS-EMA Stakeholders) met 8:30AM Oct 29 in the RPC Conference Room. The group considered the merits of mitigation projects for removal of the Ceitus Boat Lift. [\[projects\]](#)