

The Flow

November 2009 Newsletter
Dr. Annette Snapp, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Dec 4 - Conference on Sustainability
- Dec 5 - CRCA Riverwatch Holiday Celebration
- Jan 3 - 7th Annual River, Roots & Ruts Trail Run
- Jan 7-10 - 25th Annual Everglades Coalition Conference

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



Caloosahatchee River Ride rest stop at Bob Mason Park in LaBelle

Moore Haven Riverfront Design



With the help of Forest Michael, landscape architect, the Moore Haven Main Street organization is planning a new Riverfront district with restored historic buildings. The city recently rebuilt its riverfront docks in the downtown area. [\[Sketch\]](#) [\[Web Site\]](#)

CRCA Holiday Potluck



The Riverwatch Holiday Celebration will be Saturday, Dec 5 in North Ft. Myers starting at 3:30pm. Join us for campfire, horseshoes & more. Bring a chair and dish to share. RSVP and directions at 239-731-7559. [\[Invitation\]](#)

River, Roots & Ruts Trail Run



The 7th Annual River, Roots & Ruts Trail Run is scheduled for Jan 3 at Caloosahatchee Regional Park in Alva. Registration for the half marathon and 2-person relay is now open online. The run is limited to 300 persons to assure a good time for all. [\[Registration\]](#) [\[Details\]](#)

Historic EPA Settlement



On Nov 16 a federal judge in Tallahassee approved a historic consent decree which requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to set legal limits for the widespread nutrient pollution that triggers harmful algae blooms in Florida waters. [\[Common Dream\]](#)

Cape Coral Fertilizer Ordinance



Stakeholders met in early Nov to address the concerns of some industry representatives regarding SB 494, the landscape fertilizer bill signed by Governor Crist in June. Attendees voiced the needs for more stringent fertilizer management standards. [\[Sierra Club\]](#) [\[Naples News\]](#)

Charge Made Against ECWCD



ECWCD is wisely planning for Lehigh Acres water management needs to protect residents and the Caloosahatchee. But some residents are reluctant to pay the cost. The East County Water Control District (ECWCD) respond to the critics. [\[Lehigh Acres Citizen\]](#)

Chesapeake Bay Cleanup



On Nov 8 the Federal government announced the outlines of a new effort to help restore the seafood and wildlife in the nation's largest estuary: the Chesapeake Bay. It targets the root causes of the trouble: runoff, especially from farm. Everglades actions often follow Chesapeake actions. [\[NPR\]](#)

New S.R. 29 Project Comments



The Florida Dept of Transportation (FDOT) conducted an alternatives public workshop for the new SR 29 Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study Nov 5, 2009 at the LaBelle Civic Center. The State solicited comments through Nov 16. The State may next seek input from SWFRPC before deciding. [\[Southwest Florida Online\]](#) [\[Details\]](#)

John Ruf World Champion



John Ruf won the 44-boat, open fleet contest over 2008 Paralympic Gold Medalist Paul Tingley (CAN) and 2009 IFDS Disabled Sailing World Champion Thierry Schmitter (NED). The 2.4 mR World Championship was held on the Caloosahatchee in Ft. Myers.

[\[US Sailing Team\]](#) [\[Previous posting\]](#)

Water Deal Compromised



The South Florida Water Management district planned to make twice-a-week watering the year-round standard. But water utilities, along with the nursery and landscaping industries, in July persuaded the district's board to instead consider loosening restrictions.

[\[Sun Sentinel\]](#)

Cape Coral Wastewater



The City of Cape Coral this year recycled all of its wastewater, Public Works Supervisor Chuck Pavlos said. The city has come close in the past, but this is the first year the city has reused all of its water. [\[News Press\]](#)

Green Carpet Canals in the Cape



Many Cape Coral canals are completely carpeted by aquatic weeds - the result of excess nutrients in the water. Cape Coral continues to drag its feet on enacting a fertilizer ordinance - a measure they should have adopted years ago. [\[Photo Gallery\]](#)

CRCA Wants a New Boat Lift



At the Nov 3 Riverwatch meeting, CRCA directors voted to recommend reinstallation of the Ceitus Boat Lift on the Cape Coral Spreader Canal & its proper future maintenance. The board judged that the alternatives proposed by Cape Coral and DEP would not guarantee water quality. [\[Previous Discussion on Oct 7\]](#)

Dry Wet Season in Southwest



An average of 42.16 inches of rain falls at Page Field during the wet season; this year's wet season total was 33.42 inches, 8.74 inches below average. Nonetheless, Southwest Florida water supplies are in good shape. [\[News Press\]](#) [\[News Press\]](#)

PURRE Focuses on Local Level



The PURRE Water Coalition is concentrating its attention on the local level. "It's time to focus our efforts on our own backyard, the Caloosahatchee watershed and estuary, particularly in Lee County," said PURRE Chairman Michael Valiquette. [\[PURRE Water Coalition\]](#)

Conference on Sustainability



The University of Florida program of Natural Resources and Sustainability in Lee County is coordinating a conference titled "Managing Climate Change with Sustainable Initiatives" Dec 4, from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, in Fort Myers. The conference will feature many presenters and exhibitors. [\[Details\]](#)

New Manatee Speed Zone



Florida manatees are on the move, seeking warm-water sites to spend the winter. That means boaters must be cautious. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) changes seasonal speed zone signs in mid-November on many waterways.

[\[Wink News\]](#) [\[WZVN-HD\]](#)

Gulf of Mexico News



Research results released recently by the University of Maryland and SCCF was published in the Gulf Of Mexico Alliance (GOMA) newsletter (p.6). Lyngbya is a "hairy looking" Harmful Algae Bloom that remains toxic even after it dies. [\[GOMA Newsletter\]](#)