

The Flow

October 2008 Newsletter
Mary Ruth Prouty, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Oct 25 to Nov 2 - Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Festival 2008
- Oct 29 - NSEMA Stakeholders Meeting
- Nov 7 - 18th Annual Southwest Florida Water Resources Conference
- Nov 23 - Caloosahatchee River Ride 2008

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



Sunday, November 23, Start time 8:00 to 8:30 AM, Alva FL

Hendry/Glades Better for Port



The Everglades Foundation says that placing the proposed inland port facilities in Hendry & Glades Counties is a better alternative to Okeelanta (below South Bay) where it would negatively affect Everglades Restoration. [\[Caloosa Belle\]](#)

Candidate Positions



The election offers a choice that will affect the direction of our national policies on water quality and natural resources management. Take time to learn, compare, decide and vote.

[\[Obama on the Environment\]](#)
[\[McCain on National Heritage\]](#)

Plan Ready, Funding Not



Janet Starnes of SFWMD informed that a plan to clean up the Caloosahatchee River basin was almost ready but finding the money to implement it would be difficult. She noted much of the plan's initial phase could be in place by the beginning of 2010. [\[Naples News\]](#)

CRCA to FL Supreme Court



The Florida Supreme Court has requested a condensed version of the CRCA brief. Andrew Dickman, representing CRCA and others, has appealed the overturning of a lower court ruling that halted construction of the 22-story tower The Vue. [\[Brief\]](#)

A Talk in the Park



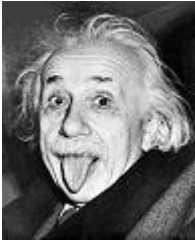
Ralf Brookes held a picnic lunch event to discuss and compare the Presidential Candidates' policies on the environmental and national heritage. Ralf also submitted a letter to CRCA describing Obama's policy on mercury. [\[Florida Waters\]](#) [\[Mercury Editorial\]](#)

Academy Gives EPA an F



The National Academy on Science says that U.S. EPA must fundamentally change its approach to managing stormwater if the country is to reverse the current pace of water pollution. [\[National Academy\]](#) [\[Associated Press\]](#) [\[Report\]](#)

Definition of Insanity....



Einstein said the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. FL lawmakers should consider this when reading the Florida Trend article about beach renourishment in era of sea level rise.

[[The Florida Trend](#)]

Restoring Mangrove Shorelines



Bob Riley has designed a system to help replant estuary river banks and coastal shorelines with native mangroves. The PVC tube gives the new plants a fighting chance to establish themselves against the forces of wind and waves. [[Pic1](#)] [[Pic2](#)] [[Mangrove.org](#)]

Before The Commissioners



Life in our estuaries is in peril due to the excessive freshwater discharges from Lake O, said Martin BOCC in urging the Corps to cease discharges until the Lake level is determined to pose a threat to health & safety.

[[Letter](#)] [[Resolution](#)]

Vanishing Wetlands in Florida



A new book by Craig Pittman and Matthew Waite documents the degradation of Florida's natural resources and provides scientifically sound data of the massive destruction of wetlands that has occurred in the last decade. [[Details](#)]

Monday Water Quality Talks



Rae Ann Wessel, SCCF Natural Resource Policy Director, began a weekly discussion program emphasizing the importance of water quality to not only restore but maintain our major waterways. [[CaptivaCurrent](#)]

The World is Not Their Oyster



In Lake Okeechobee the underwater plants, starved for light by the dirty water that rushed into the lake after Tropical Storm Fay's floods, are in trouble. That's bad news for the fish that hide and breed in the underwater vegetation. [[PalmBeachPost.com](#)]

TMDL meeting



For those who may not have been able to make the last TMDL meeting, below is a link to the presentations, courtesy of Nathan Bailey at DEP. If asked for a password just hit ok and it will launch.

[[Details](#)]

Museum Of Natural History



SW FL is well represented in the outstanding exhibits of the FL Museum of Natural History at UF in Gainesville. Prominent are the displays on estuary science, the Calusa tribe, and local paleontology. It's definitely worth a visit...and it's free. [[mammoth](#)] [[Calusa](#)] [[butterflies](#)] [[Museum www](#)]

Rethinking What We Are Doing



Environmental groups are asking the Corps to include ecosystem valuation in their project cost/benefit analysis. Currently the value of many ecosystem services/benefits falls outside the realm of traditional economic analyses. [[Full Letter](#)] [[Highlights](#)]

Fisheating Creek Celebration



Mark your calendars for an exciting event being planned for Sat, Jan 10th, 2009, at Fisheating Creek Wildlife Management Area. Join the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission as we highlight the colorful history and culture of Fisheating Creek. [[Details](#)]

The Second Biennial Review



The National Research Council Committee on Independent Review of Everglades Restoration Progress (CISRERP) released a report titled Progress Toward Restoring the Everglades: The Second Biennial Review, 2008. It is critical of the pace of progress. [[Report](#)]

Water Congress Finances



The Legislature should restore funding for building reservoirs, desalination plants and other projects that get water from somewhere besides the underground aquifer. State lawmakers cut the \$60-million fund from the budget this year. [[Tampabay.com](#)] [[Consensus](#)] [[The Ledger](#)]