

The Flow

October 2009 Newsletter
Annette Snapp, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Nov 4 - CRCA Board of Directors Meeting
- Nov 4 - SFWMD Partnering Session
- Nov 20 - SWFL Water Conference
- Nov 22 - River Ride 2009
- Nov 27 - Caloosahatchee River Cruise

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



New Army Engineers Colonel Introduced to the Caloosahatchee

Colonel on the Caloosahatchee



Colonel Alfred A. Pantano, the new District Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, was introduced to the Caloosahatchee on Oct 8 on a field trip with SCCF Natural Resource Policy Director Rae Ann Wessel. Colonel Pantano's interest in water caused him to specifically request this Florida command. [\[Details\]](#)

Cape Coral EMA



The mayor, whose removal of the Ceitus Boat Lift caused an uproar and legal action, says Cape Coral & DEP can fix the problem without replacing the lift. These are the same groups whose paperwork claimed the removal of the lift was a water quality improvement project.

[\[Daily Breeze\]](#) [\[Former Mayor\]](#)
[\[Response\]](#) [\[2008 posting\]](#)

Junior Olympic on the River



Eliot Caple of the Naples Sailing Center was among the winners during the U.S. Junior Olympic - the River Romp - on the Caloosahatchee River in North Fort Myers, Oct 18-17. The event is the second largest youth regatta in Florida and one of 22 Junior Olympic sanctioned events for the 2009-10 season. [\[Naples News\]](#)

Get Your Bikes Ready



Get your bike ready for this year's River Ride! Distance options are 15, 30, 40, 62 miles - allowing the most and less athletic riders to participate. The event will start from Caloosahatchee Regional Park on Sunday, Nov 22. Register by mail, or at the event.

[\[Register online\]](#) [\[Registration Form\]](#)

Caloosahatchee Bridge Options



A new bridge in East of LaBelle is being planned. Options include Birchwood Pkwy in Port LaBelle, the existing SR 29 route through downtown LaBelle, or on Forrey Drive between the two. A public forum is scheduled for Nov 5.

[\[News Press\]](#) [\[Florida DOT Project Site\]](#) [\[Meeting Announcement\]](#)

Oxbow & Riverlore Cruises!



Join SCCF for a riverboat adventure on the Oxbow and Riverlore Cruise, to experience the historic Caloosahatchee. This guided monthly cruise explores the meanders of the historic upriver Caloosahatchee. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Agenda\]](#)

Sea Levels in U.S. East



Sea levels rose as much as 2 feet higher than predicted this summer along the U.S. East Coast, surprising scientists who forecast such periodic fluctuations. The immediate cause of the rise has been solved, but the underlying reason remains a mystery.

[National Geographic] [Gulf stream effect]

Conservancy Letter on RALS



The Conservancy of Southwest Florida submitted a detailed comment letter on the Rural and Agricultural Land Study to the Hendry County Committee, Oct 16. Recommendations focus on the TDR (Transfer of Development Rights) program components.

[RALS Meeting Minute] [Letter]

Chiquita Lock Opened



After a series of tests revealed no problems, the Chiquita Lock opened for business on Oct 14. The lock, which allows thousands of boats to pass through from the Caloosahatchee River to Cape canals each year, broke at the start of October. The lock helps protect the estuary from stormwater runoff.

[News Press]

Clean Water Act Blocked?



At long last, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is agreeing to set legal, enforceable limits on the nutrients that are poisoning Florida's public waters. Now agriculture groups, developers, utilities, and phosphate miners have filed legal challenges to try to force the EPA to back down.

[TCPalm] [St Petersburg Times]

Zip Line Over Alva Park?



A zip line ride for Caloosahatchee Regional Park in Alva could attract more visitors and promote conservation. On Oct 20, a Lee County park advisory board voted 5-2 to recommend to the state a zip line attraction be allowed.

[News Press Oct 20] [News Press Oct 21]

The Inland Port Site?



The Port of Palm Beach board decided Wednesday to wait until Dec. 17 to make a decision, calling for the competing sites to submit business plans to show why they should be chosen. Those plans are due by Dec. 10. An opportunity for Hendry County.

[TCPalm] [PalmBeachPost]

10 County Coalition



Following two presentations, the 10 County Coalition is considering advocating for new SFWMD projects - Lake Hicpochee & Lake Clewiston. The 10 County Coalition Commissioners agreed to have a resolution drafted in support of the integrated restoration of the lakes for their next quarterly meeting. [Memo] [Details]

F.S. Water Resources



The Florida Legislative Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation released an interim report regarding water resources, on Oct 15. This report examines several aspects of the law governing Florida's water resources. It includes the history of Chapter 373 and makes recommendations. [Report]

Algae Bloom Kills Crabs, Fish



Recently, PURRE Public Policy Director Dan Wexler has noticed an abundance of dead crabs and fish on the beach. He asked Rob Loflin, the Director of Natural Resources for the City of Sanibel, about this. The fish and crab kill is attributed to low dissolved oxygen associated with an algae bloom.

[PURRE Water Coalition] [web site]

19th Annual Water Conference



The 19th Annual Southwest Florida Water Resources Conference will be held Nov 20, 2009 at the Royal Palm Yacht Club in Ft. Myers. Dr. Don Duke of FGCU is this year's organizing committee chair. Among the presenters will be Dr Ed Hanlon talking about cleaning farming systems.

[Details] [Agenda] [Register]

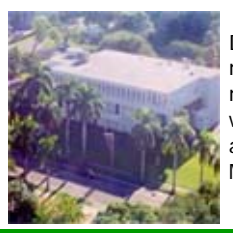
New Designated Uses of Waters



The Clean Water Network of Florida and the Conservancy of Southwest Florida oppose the prospective creation of new designated uses for Florida waters by the Department of environmental protection (FDEP). The changes simply avoid cleaning up the waters.

[Letter to the Commissioners]

SFWMD Partnering Session



The South Florida Water Management District Lower West Coast Service Center management team invites consultants and members of the regulated community who conduct business with their agency to a partnering session, Nov 4, in Fort Myers. [Details] [Web Site]