

The Flow

September 2008 Newsletter
Marti Daltry, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Oct 2 - Inland Port Site Proposal
- Oct 4 - Matlacha Pass Paddle 2008
- Oct 8 - CRCA BOD Meeting
- Oct 11 - Tarpon Bay Cruise
- Oct 23 - Environmental Breakfast

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



Friends of Billy Creek came together to create Filter Marsh Park.

Yacht Club Beach Contaminated



High bacteria counts caused the closing of the Cape Coral Yacht Club beach. Enterococcus bacteria can come from local waste discharges from boats or from sewage sources in other parts of the river. No other Caloosahatchee beaches are monitored. [\[News Press\]](#)

Critical TMDL Meeting!!!!



Plan to attend the DEP meeting to discuss Caloosahatchee TMDLs on Wed, Oct 1 at the SFWMD office in Ft. Myers. This is extremely important to regional water quality. Come support demands for proper pollution limits. [\[Announcement\]](#)

Not One Damn Drop!



Rural Florida counties react defensively to proposed uncompensated water transfers to urban centers. Despite opposition, a plan for water transfers is expected to resurface at the Council of 100's Florida Water Conference in Orlando, Sep 24-25. [\[St. Pete Times\]](#) [\[Recommendations\]](#) [\[Agenda\]](#)

Bush Proposes More Pollution



A new GAO report to Congress shows that some huge livestock farms produce more raw waste than large cities. In it's typical bizarre logic, the Bush EPA has proposed eliminating waste control rules on big farms and feedlots. [\[Associated Press\]](#) [\[Chicago Trib\]](#)

Appeal to Supreme Court



Riverwatch and other plaintiffs have appealed the recent ruling that asserts CRCA does not have "standing" to challenge the Ft. Myers approval of The Vue, a 27-story tower planned on improperly-sold Centennial Park land. [\[Analysis\]](#) [\[Appeal\]](#) [\[Court Order\]](#)

SCCF River Spotters



This photo taken by Don Doggett at the confluence of Hickeys Creek and the Caloosahatchee river upstream of the WP Franklin Locks clearly highlights the difference between the dark tea colored water common in the upper river system and the turbid (muddy) water washing into the river from the creek. [\[Details\]](#)

Photo by Alis Jordan

Appellate Decision Against EPA



Federal appellate court has rejected a request from EPA to delay the agency's effort to overturn a lower court ruling subjecting water transfers in the Florida Everglades to clean water permit requirements. [\[InsideEPA\]](#) [\[11th Circuit\]](#)

Clearer Rules, Cleaner Waters



Congress needs to move quickly to approve the Clean Water Restoration Act — a bill that would reaffirm the broad federal protections that it intended more than 30 years ago. Both chambers have held hearings, and a lot is at stake. [\[The New York Times\]](#)

Environmental Breakfast



Cynthia Barnett will speak at this year's Eco Breakfast, organized by Audubon of Southwest Florida and the Southwest Florida Council for Environmental Education. This has evolved into the area's premier annual environmental networking event. [\[Details\]](#)

Fish Gasping for Breath



USGS reports that fishes that once were abundant are now disappearing, with nearly 40 percent of all species in jeopardy, according to the most detailed assessment of the conservation status of freshwater fishes in the last 20 years. [\[USGS\]](#) [\[Press Release\]](#)

Caloosahatchee Art & Artists



Caloosahatchee artist Caroline Krieger Comings uses her art to promote Riverwatch efforts to protect the River. Visit the Showdown link, view her latest works, and support her efforts to enhance public awareness through art. [\[Art Showdown\]](#)

Submit Your Recipes



Caloosahatchee Cookbook invites you to share your favorite recipes, including picnic & boating favorites. Include your culinary secrets in the fundraiser cookbook. The sooner you submit, the better your chances of being included. [\[Form\]](#) [\[Online Form\]](#)

Smoking Gun?



Removing Ceitus Boat Lift may have caused the recent die-off. When the spreader canal was properly maintained, runoff flowed through the mangroves & dumped somewhat evenly throughout Matlacha Pass. Not now. [\[Question\]](#) [\[Lock\]](#)

Happy Filter Marsh Day!



City & county leaders and environmentalists, including Friends of Billy Creek cofounder Mary Rawl, came together on Sep 6 in east Fort Myers for the groundbreaking ceremony of what will soon be Billy's Creek Filter Marsh Park. [\[News Press\]](#)

Walton Explains Die-Off



Albert Walton of DEP in Punta Gorda answers an inquiry about an odd die-off in Matlacha Pass after the runoff of Tropical Storm Fay. Rapid salinity changes after a prolonged drought followed by heavy rains is the likely cause. [\[Photo\]](#) [\[Explanation\]](#) [\[Gray Blob\]](#) [\[News Press\]](#)

Tarpon Bay Cruise



On Saturday, October 11, Tarpon Bay Explorers will be holding a fundraiser cruise to benefit the PURRE Water Coalition - right on the water that is threatened by the pollution PURRE is working so hard to solve. Riverwatch will participate. [\[Invitation\]](#)

Good Guided Events



Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program is sponsoring the following paddling events this fall for National Estuaries Days: Matlacha Pass Paddle on Oct 4; and Cape Haze Paddle on Nov 16. [\[Details\]](#)

Inland Port Site Proposal



A joint meeting between Hendry County and the Cities of Clewiston and Labelle on the South Florida Inland Port Project will be held on Oct 2 to discuss merits of the proposed AirGlades & Hilliard sites. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Sites Map\]](#) [\[Panther Areas\]](#)