

The Flow

September 2009 Newsletter
Annette Snapp, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Oct 7 - CRCA Board of Directors Meeting
- Oct 22 - Environmental Breakfast
- Oct 23-Nov 1 - Calusa Blueway Paddling Festival
- Oct 23-25 - Fishing Tournament
- Nov 22 - River Ride 2009

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



13TH ANNUAL CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER RIDE

SUNDAY, Nov 22, 2009

START TIME 8:00 TO 8:30 A.M. ALVA, FLORIDA

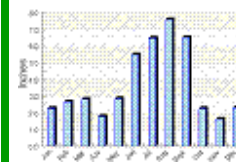
Sign Up Now For the Nov 22 River Ride.

19th Annual Water Conference

Sustainability through an Economic Downturn

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. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Agenda\]](#) [\[Register\]](#)

SW Florida Not Wet Enough?



As SW FL heads toward tourist season, water managers are concerned the area has received below-average rainfall during the rainy season. Page Field received 25.7 inches of rain from May to Aug - 5 inches below normal. Lake O is also below last year. [\[New Press\]](#)

River Ride 2009



It's time to register for this year's River Ride. Distance options are 15, 30, 40, & 62 miles. This year you can register and pay online. The event will start from Caloosahatchee Regional Park on Sunday, Nov 22. [\[Registration Form\]](#) [\[Register Online\]](#)

Transexual Fish



The USGS has documented the rivers where endocrine-active compounds are creating sexually-confused fish. A large percentage of male bass have acquired feminine characteristics. They suspect industrial and pharmaceutical chemicals are the culprit. [\[The Daily Green\]](#)

Higher Sugar Land Prices?



World sugar prices, normally well below US prices, are now close to US prices, partly due to the diversion of corn syrup and sugarcane to ethanol production. Will this affect appraisals of EAA sugar lands for future purchase plans for the Everglades? [\[Palm Beach Post\]](#)

Bridge At Lee-Hendry Line



Two possible locations for a new bridge over the Caloosahatchee are being discussed as a replacement for the old Ft. Denaud swing bridge. One option is on the Hendry-Lee County line and the other farther east. Deadline for input is Sep 25. [\[Details\]](#)

New York Times Series



The New York Times recently published a series titled Toxic Waters. The 3rd article in the series focuses on animals wastes contaminating drinking water supplies. The series shows how water quality issues are very similar throughout the USA. [\[Article 3\]](#) [\[Series Link\]](#) [\[Article 1\]](#) [\[Article 2\]](#)

SCCF Water Issues



The "adaptive protocols" to manage Lake O water levels are critical to the Caloosahatchee, which suffers from insufficient water during the dry season & too much water during the wet season, both conditions fail to sustain healthy seagrasses. [\[Details\]](#)

South Florida Ecosystem



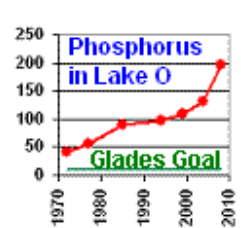
Land acquisition Strategy (LAS) is critical to South Florida Ecosystem restoration efforts. Its purpose is to describe the land acquisition needed for ecosystem restorations that are Federally and/or Non-Federally funded. [\[LAS Draft Report\]](#) [\[Mitigation Map\]](#)

Low Grade On Gulf Cleaning



Florida needs to go back to school when it comes to living up to the federal Clean Water Act. The state was given a D+ on the network's "Clean Up Your Act!" report card grading the five Gulf of Mexico states. [\[Details\]](#)

Lake O Bad & Getting Worse



Water pollution in Lake O has reached new record levels and threatens to get worse, according to EPA data cited by Ann Hauck, president of the Council of Civic Assoc. & Jerry Phillips, director of PEER. [\[PEER Press Release\]](#) [\[Email Report\]](#) [\[xls\]](#) [\[2006 Release\]](#) [\[2009 Release\]](#)

Property Taxes Budget



South Florida water managers approved a \$1.5 billion budget plan that avoids a property tax increase next year while including a half-billion-dollar Everglades restoration land deal with U.S. Sugar Corporation. [\[Sun Sentinel\]](#)

A Changing Watershed



Land development speculation along with citrus canker and citrus greening outbreaks is transforming land use patterns in Hendry County. Citrus acres declined 4% from 2008 to 2009. Hendry County still ranks 1st in number of trees. [\[The Ledger\]](#)

Panther Crossing at River



A petition has been filed with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by the nonprofit Center for Biological Diversity calling for the protection of 4,860 square miles of panther habitat – roughly 3 million acres, much in the Caloosahatchee watershed. [\[Press Release\]](#) [\[Habitat Map\]](#)

Weed Killer Debate



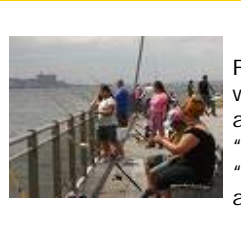
For decades, many people have relied on the popular weed killer atrazine to protect their crops, golf courses and manicured lawns. But atrazine often washes into water supplies and has become among the most common contaminants. [\[New York Times\]](#)

Wexler Report on HAB Hearing



Dan Wexler, water issues lobbyist for PURRE, reported on a Congressional hearing of House Science & Technology Subcommittee on Energy & Environment to draft new legislation titled The Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 2009. [\[Wexler/PURRE Report\]](#)

Boatable Is Not Fishable



FDEP has not given up trying to protect Florida's polluters. They are at it again with a slightly sneakier approach. They are proposing new categories such as "fishable/splashable" and "fishable/unswimmable"...in an effort to avoid cleanups. [\[Clean Water Network\]](#)

Friendly Letter to Feds



Martin County wrote to the Federal Government as a response to the Rivers Coalition lawsuit to stop the Army Corps of Engineers discharges from Lake O, stating that Federal government & Martin County both need to protect waters. [\[Details\]](#)