



# The Flow

John Cassani, Calusa Waterkeeper  
K.C. Schulberg, Executive Director  
Gene Gibson, President

July 2018 Newsletter  
John Capece, Editor

## Events

- **Aug 3: CWK Board Meeting** in Ft. Myers
- **Aug 6: Algae Bloom Health Risks** [Town Hall](#)
- **Aug 14: Toxic Puzzle Screening** at Broadway Palm
- **Aug 25-26: Circus Transformus** at Broadway Palm



[Editorial Disclaimer](#)  
[CalusaWaterkeeper.org](http://CalusaWaterkeeper.org)  
[Facebook](#)

## Toxic Puzzle

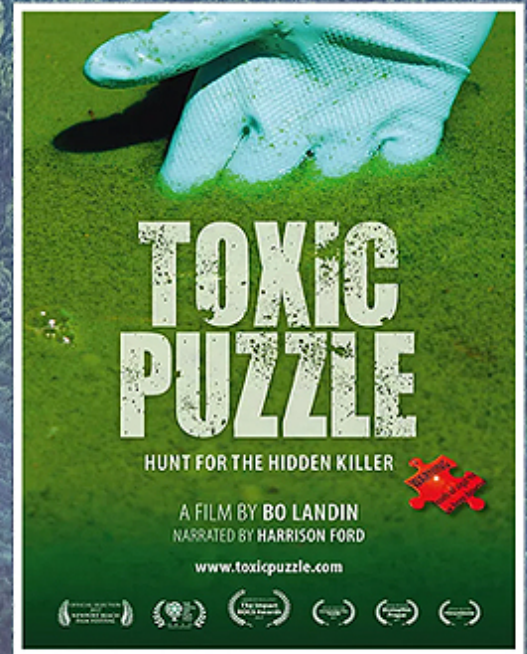
HUNT FOR THE HIDDEN KILLER

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 14TH**  
**DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM**  
**SCREENING 6:00 PM**

Q&A to follow with film contributors  
& John Cassani, Calusa Waterkeeper

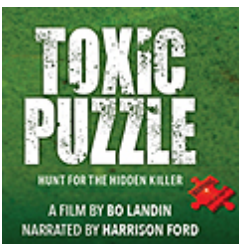
**THE BROADWAY PALM DINNER THEATRE**  
**1380 COLONIAL BLVD., FORT MYERS, FL**

Donation of \$10/Ticket  
**PURCHASE TICKETS AT:**  
[BROADWAYPALM.COM/SHOWS/TOXIC-PUZZLE](http://BROADWAYPALM.COM/SHOWS/TOXIC-PUZZLE)



*Toxic Puzzle documents the links between algae blooms & brain disease.*

## Toxic Puzzle Screening



Join us for the screening of a film by Bo Landin "Toxic Puzzle" Hunt for the Hidden Killer at 6pm on Aug 14 at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theater. Q&A to follow with film contributors, John Cassani and others. Proceeds generously donated to Calusa Waterkeeper and Captains for Clean Water. [\[Flyer\]](#) [\[Purchase Ticket\]](#)

## Algae Bloom Action



The toxic cyanobacteria bloom (blue-green algae) from Lake O to Cape Coral represents decades of failed water policy. Lax enforcement and underfunding has culminated in this harmful algae bloom (HAB) tsunami. Political leaders need to take actions recommended by Calusa Waterkeeper. [\[CWK Call to Action\]](#)

## K.C. Schulberg CWK Executive Director



Noted community organizer and international media specialist, K.C. Schulberg was appointed Calusa Waterkeeper's Executive Director effective July 1, 2018. Schulberg's background merges film, television, marketing and fundraising with hands on civic engagement and community organizing. [\[About K.C.\]](#) [\[Resume\]](#)

## Donate to Calusa Waterkeeper



The 2018 Cyanobacteria Bloom thrust Calusa Waterkeeper into the news like never before. Why? Because its strategic plan implemented early this year prepared CWK to monitor an anticipated algae disaster and alert the public as it unfolded. Your dues & donations support this visionary leadership. [\[DONATE\]](#)

## Toxin Data Alerts Region



Calusa Waterkeeper was the first to alert the Caloosahatchee region to microcystin toxins in the blue-green algae with June 26 data. This forced agencies into action. Then again on July 25, John Cassani sampled and reported even more alarming toxin levels, almost 10,000 times the safe limit. [\[July 25 Toxins Results\]](#) [\[June 25 Results\]](#) [\[June 29 Press Release\]](#)

## Cartoon Confusion: Laugh or Cry?



Artists Cathy Cochrane, Andy Marlette and MacGregor have both expressed commentary and reflected community emotions on the current algae bloom crisis. While cartoons traditionally evoke humor, sometimes the appropriate reactions are tears and anger. [\[Let Them Eat Cake\]](#) [\[Running Mates\]](#) [\[Water Colors\]](#) [\[Lake O Geyser\]](#) [\[Rep. Rooney\]](#) [\[Algae Monster\]](#)



## Bloom Discussion with Bill Nelson



Calusa Waterkeeper John Cassani explained the current Caloosahatchee algal bloom to U.S. Senator Bill Nelson on July 5th in Fort Myers. Also participating in the discussion were Calusa Waterkeeper officers Gene Gibson and John Capece along with other civic group activists and concerned citizens. [\[News-Press\]](#) [\[WINK News\]](#) [\[NBC2\]](#) [\[Video1\]](#) [\[Video2\]](#) [\[Video3\]](#)

## What is an Algae Bloom



Algae is one of the planet's basic building blocks. It lives & grows in nearly every water body to feed the cycle of life. But add pollution — the phosphorus and nitrogen from farm fields and leaky septic tanks — and good turns to bad, fueling explosive blooms. That's when things get really rough. [\[Miami Herald\]](#) [\[John Cassani\]](#) [\[Photo\]](#) [\[Video\]](#)

## Algae Bloom Town Hall



Physician Dr. Parisma Taeb, microbiologist Dr. Jennifer Boddicker, and natural resources manager Annisa Karim will host a town hall on Aug 6 to discuss toxic algae blooms. Why does this keep happening? What can be done about it? Why hasn't anything been done about it? How can we change that? [\[Announcement\]](#) [\[Media Advisory\]](#)

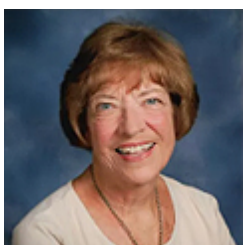
[\[Photo\]](#)

## CWK Rangers Meeting



A full house of Calusa Waterkeeper Rangers gathered at the Calusa Nature Center on July 28 for their monthly Saturday morning meeting. John Cassani commented at the impressive showing and the new faces interested in volunteering and graduating to Ranger status. [\[Photo\]](#)

## Do Not Deplete 20/20 Funds



In a 2016 referendum over 83 percent of the voters of Lee County affirmed their support for the popular Conservation 20/20 program, which is vital to both our fresh water supply and our quality of life. Will the Lee County BOCC honor the will of the people regarding Conservation 20/20? [\[News-Press\]](#)

## Charleston Park Water Unsafe



Finally, many years after being alerted to serious health hazards, the groundwater, that serves as the drinking water supply of of Charleston Park will be tested for pesticides. This is after the water already failed tests for bacteria, radium and other contaminants. This is our Flint, Michigan. [\[News-Press\]](#)

## Comments to SFWMD on MFL Rule



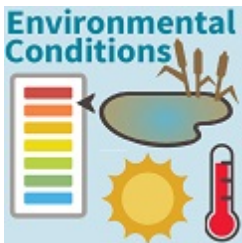
Calusa Waterkeeper John Cassani submitted comments to SFWMD on their proposed new MFL (Minimum Flow & Levels) rule for the Caloosahatchee Estuary. Whereas SFWMD wants to establish 400 cfs as the rule's target flow, history and data show the need is for a minimum of 600 cfs. [\[MFL Comments to SFWMD\]](#)

## Interview with Calusa Waterkeeper



Former Riverwatch/Waterkeeper board member John Scott interviews Calusa Waterkeeper John Cassani on People's Voice Radio. The discussion focused on the massive & historic blue-green algal bloom affecting Lake O and our coastal estuaries as well as cyanobacteria test results by Calusa Waterkeeper. [\[Listen to the Interview\]](#)

## Algal Bloom Causes



Algal blooms happen in warm, still waters with high levels of nutrients like nitrogen or phosphorus. They also occur in rivers fed by fertilizer runoff from agriculture, sewage and industrial discharges, and urban stormwater. Climate change is increasing the frequency and occurrence of blooms. [\[Causes\]](#) [\[Effects\]](#) [\[Drinking Water\]](#) [\[Algal Bloom Info\]](#)

## Blessing of the Waters



Calusa Waterkeeper John Cassani along with CWK rangers attended the Blessing of the Waters event on July 22 at Centennial Park in downtown Ft Myers. Group prayers & blessings were offered for SW Florida's impaired waters. John Heim presented a check for \$700 to CWK on behalf of the group. Thanks! [\[Photo 1\]](#) [\[Photo 2\]](#) [\[Photo 3\]](#)

## Waterkeeper Appeal DEP Grab



Florida's 12 Waterkeeper Alliance programs sent a letter to DEP asking them to abandon their attempts to assume wetland destruction permitting from the federal under the Clean Water Act Section 404(a). The federal government currently protects wetlands because states had failed to do so. [\[FL Waterkeepers Letter to DEP\]](#)

## Drone Documentation by CWK



Calusa Waterkeeper Ranger Jason Pim along with David Anthony have been documenting the algae bloom growth over the course of several weeks. Some of the most recent videos captured by drone show heartbreaking images. Thank you Jason and all the CWK rangers for keeping up the good work! [\[Photo\]](#) [\[Video 1\]](#) [\[Video 2\]](#) [\[Video 3\]](#)

See Calusa Waterkeeper web page for more details on each of the newsletter articles [www.calusawaterkeeper.org](http://www.calusawaterkeeper.org)  
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