

# The Flow

July 2007 Newsletter  
Marti Daltry, President

## Special Events & Meetings

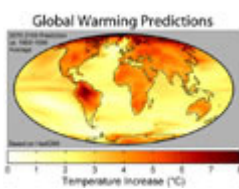
- Jul 30, The 2007 Water Summit (9:00 am - 4:30 pm)
- Sep 24-25, The 2007 River Action Day
- Oct 27, The 2007 Midpoint Paddle Sprint

Please check for updates and additional meetings at [crca.caloosahatchee.org](http://crca.caloosahatchee.org)  
Also, you can renew your membership online.



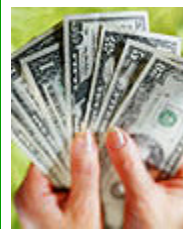
Cape Coral Yacht Club Pier ([www.tropicdiver.com](http://www.tropicdiver.com))

## WOW to Gov. Crist!



There is only one response worthy of the scope and drama of Gov. Charlie Crist's announcement Tuesday on how Florida will react to the global warming crisis that could soon visit our shores. Wow! He laid out a real and specific plan of attack! [\[Article\]](#) [\[Program\]](#)

## Caloosahatchee funding?



SFWMMD officials announced \$3.4 million in funding for 16 projects intended to improve water quality in the Caloosahatchee River and estuary. Stormwater improvements or sewer expansion are examples of projects, where the funds should go. [\[Details\]](#)

## Lake O's dirty depths



Elevated levels of arsenic as well as a rich soup of pesticides and other chemicals were among contaminants found in thousands of truckloads of muck, recently cleaned out of Lake O's bottom. The question is where it will be disposed now. [\[More Information\]](#)

## SolarBee algae control system



Colleen Sugden and Joshua Menghini attended the Riverwatch board meeting on July 11, 2007 and showed a video on the SolarBee water circulation system for preventing blue-green algal blooms. [\[How It Works\]](#) [\[SolarBee\]](#)

## National Council findings



Despite the SFWMMD and Corps dismissing the Plan 6 flow-way as ineffective, the National Research Council (our nation's top scientific review panel) in a dramatic counterpoint to the agencies, established "restoration of flow in the EAA" as one of their top priorities. [\[NRC Comments\]](#) [\[NRC Publications\]](#)

## Farms foul matter



Millions of gallons of mud-choked water from the "first flush" off sugar cane fields roared backward through Clewiston's canal recently, dragging dead turtles, scores of fish and berms of vegetation into drought-starved Lake O. This water will later on end up in Caloosahatchee. [\[Article\]](#)

## North Bank Park



A new LaBelle park in Glades County is under development on the north bank of the Caloosahatchee just east of Hwy 29. Plans include hiking, horseback riding, bird watching, and sites for picnicking. [\[Caloosa Belle\]](#) [\[Aerial Photo Map\]](#)

## NFM sewage plant



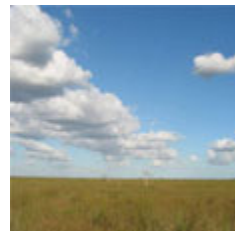
Waterway's Estates Sewage Treatment Plant in North Fort Myers is sitting on the banks of Caloosahatchee. Its infrastructure must be expanded immediately as it is beyond its capacity limits and has been discharging excess nutrients into the river. [\[More Information\]](#)

## New Water Release Plan



The Army Corps of Engineers will hold a series of public hearings to get comments on its new plan for releasing water from Lake Okeechobee. The Fort Myers meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 8, in the Lee County Commission chambers. [\[Article\]](#)

## 2007-08 Budget



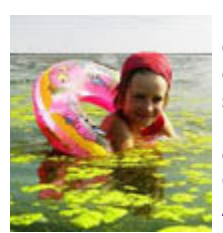
Governor Charlie Crist signed the State's budget for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2007-08, increasing protection for Florida's natural resources and diversifying our energy resources. [\[Details\]](#)

## Rivers Lobby Day in DC



Last year's CRCA president, Mary Rawl, traveled to Washington to lobby on behalf of the Caloosahatchee. You, as a Riverwatch member, are invited to represent us this year. Visit the American Rivers web site to learn more. [\[American Rivers Lobby Day\]](#)

## Take Action Now!



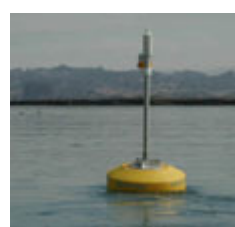
Every year, more than 850 billion gallons of raw or partially-treated sewage is dumped into the waters where we fish, swim and play. To overcome sewage pollution, urge your representative to cosponsor the Raw Sewage Overflow Community Right. Act today! [\[Take Action\]](#)

## Developers in Babcock



What will happen in Babcock Ranch, if a West Palm Beach developer builds a new town just north of the Ranch that exceeds today's state water runoff limit by 45%? Failure to adhere to the required limits could cause uncontrolled flooding and carry an excess of pollutants into Caloosahatchee. [\[Article\]](#)

## LOBO is doing its Thing



An underwater device called LOBO monitors biogeochemical processes and measure nutrients in near-real time. This will help track important processes affecting the health of various water bodies, including the Caloosahatchee River. [\[Article\]](#)

## Contemplating opportunities



UF-IFAS regional extension director, Dr. Charles Vavrina, sees the creation of an Alva Green Learning Center as an opportunity to demonstrate green building & living methods for water and energy conservation. [\[Concept\]](#) [\[Photo Map\]](#) [\[Corwin/Andrys Photo\]](#)

## Impaired waters rule



Environmental groups made new progress this week in their efforts to get Florida's polluted waters cleaned up. The 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta once again ruled largely in favor of Sierra Club, Florida PIRG and Linda Young regarding the EPA's approval of Florida's method of listing impaired waters. [\[Details\]](#) [\[CIR Order\]](#)

## Another threat to Manatees



A governor-appointed commission voted unanimously to move forward with a new manatee management plan — a key step before manatees can be downlisted to "threatened." Under this status less may be done to protect the animals. [\[Bonita News\]](#) [\[News Press\]](#)

## Midpoint Paddle Sprint



"Midpoint Paddle Sprint Race" - canoe and kayak regatta will take place on Saturday, October 27 at 8 am at North Shore Park, 12901 Cleveland Ave, North Fort Myers. To register for Recreational or Competitive races, please click the links below. [\[Register per mail\]](#) [\[Register online\]](#)