

Florida Beacon



From the President's Desk Bruce Hasbrouck

As you can tell from the year-in-review articles in this issue of the Beacon, our chapters have been busy. Your local chapter is the backbone of FAEP and provides numerous opportunities for learning about our great profession and networking. Whether these are luncheon meetings, annual conferences, or evening socials, creating an opportunity for you to attend has been considered. Most meetings are held at the same venue and the same time each month.

Each chapter has focused on providing regular meetings that address many of the current issues that confront Environmental Professionals. These meetings provide a chance to learn and network. Participation is up to you as a member.

During November and December, I was able to represent FAEP on an Action Team for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). The Action Team was considering whether a certification process needs to be developed that would certify wildlife sur-

[Continued on page 4](#)

January 2009



FAEP 2008-2009

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Employment Opportunities

Please visit the following links to review the latest employment opportunities:

- [FAEP](#)
- [NAEP](#)
- [Northwest Chapter](#)
- [Central Chapter](#)
- [Treasure Coast Chapter](#)
- [Florida DEP Careers](#)

In This Issue:

- [FAEP: 2008 A Year in Review](#)
- [A 2008 International Coastal CleanUp](#)
- [DEP Seeks Ideas to Meet Recycling Goals](#)
- [Green Living Tip #4](#)
- [Advertisement Special Offer](#)

Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Air & Waste Management Association's Vapor Intrusion Conference	January 28-30	San Diego, CA
National Ground Water Association's 2009 Ground Water Summit	April 19-23	Tucson, AZ
NAEP 34th Annual Conference: Making Sustainability Happen: Goals, Practices and Challenges	May 3-6	Scottsdale, AZ
Tenth International In Situ and On-Site Bioremediation Symposium	May 5-9	Baltimore, MD

FAEP: 2008 A Year In Review

Central Florida Chapter

Happy Holidays from the Central Florida Chapter! We had a very busy year with several exciting presentations and workshops. Please see the list below for a summary of our luncheon membership meetings:

January - Environmental Considerations for Water Supply at South Florida Water Management District - Chris Sweazy

March - Mayor Crotty's Climate Change Plan - Lori Cunniff, Orange County Environmental Protection Division Manager

May - What are Green Sustainable Buildings, Florida Green Development Standards, and LEED Certification/Standards - Michael M. Houston, Architect, President of the Florida Green Building Coalition and Danny Williams III, P.S.M., LEED AP with BJM Associates, LLC.

July - Legislative Update on Environment and Growth Management Issues - Julie Kendig-Schrader, Greenberg Traurig

September - The benefits of and regulatory requirements for rescuing/salvaging native plants - Marge Holt and Jackie Rolly, Florida Native Plant Society, Tarflower Chapter

In addition, we held two workshops which were a tremendous success and provided for increased membership as well.

In March, 30 CFAEP members attended a two-day Plant-ID Workshop at the Seminole County Environmental Education Center. Dr. Bill Grey, a veteran environmental consultant and Rollins College Professor, was the instructor. The course focused on plant taxonomy and identification techniques in both the classroom and field.

In April 2008, twenty CFAEP members attended the Wetland Delineation Training at the Disney Wilderness Preserve in Kissimmee. Taught by Eric Hickman, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Wetland Evaluation and Delineation Program Administrator, the workshop combined classroom presentations and field activities with an emphasis on hydric soils

We concluded the year with our annual Fall Social at the historic Courtyard at Lake Lucerne in Downtown Orlando. Close to 60 of our members attending as well as several potential new members. Everyone had a wonderful time.

[Continued on page 5](#)



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2008 International Coastal Cleanup

Courtesy of the Treasure Coast FAEP Chapter

Through the collaboration efforts of FAEP, Surfriders, Crossroads Environmental Consultants, Inc., and the South Florida Water Management District, over 600 volunteers made the first International Coastal Cleanup event in St. Lucie County a huge success. On September 20th, volunteers cleaned beaches from the St. Lucie - Martin County line north to Pepper Park. Groups worked tirelessly and gathered an over 2,000 pounds of trash. Volunteers walked miles of beach, dug up and hauled out digging up and hauling out massive amounts of waste from local beaches, including shot gun shells, lumber, aluminum cans, and plastic toys.

The event would not have been so successful without the support of Professor Loehr and the 40 student volunteers from Indian River State College. Several local businesses had a large employee turnout - Riverside Bank, FPL, Starbucks, and Seacoast.

If you are interested in supporting or attending the annual event please contact TCC FAEP Board member, [Jennifer Acevedo](#) with Crossroads Environmental Consultants, Inc.





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GREEN LIVING TIP #4

Saving Water

Did you know each time your toilet is flushed it uses 5 to 7 gallons of water? But you can help. In five minutes you can save 1 to 2 gallons per flush!

Soak the label off a plastic bottle—a small plastic juice bottle or laundry soap bottle works well. Fill the bottle with water, replace the cap and place the bottle in the toilet tank, checking that it doesn't interfere with the flushing mechanism.

You'll now save water with every flush!

Courtesy of the Tampa Bay Chapter of FAEP.

Florida Beacon

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voyers. The Action team consisted of FWC, NFWFMD, US FWS, FDOT, and private sector representatives.

FWC has been concerned that wildlife surveys have not been conducted appropriately and that natural resources have been affected. There are also concerns that some permit applications have created un-necessary delays as a result of improper surveys.

The goal of the Action Team is to determine if there is enough need to recommend moving to a Phase 2 for developing a certification program. A final report will be forthcoming in early 2009.

Quick Legislative News

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SEEKS INNOVATIVE IDEAS TO MEET RECYCLING GOALS --DEP invites comments via new Web forum--

Florida has a new statewide recycling goal and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is asking citizens, interest groups and local governments to come up with new ideas that will help conserve Florida's natural resources. The Energy, Climate Change and Economic Security Act of 2008 (House Bill 7135) signed by Governor Charlie Crist establishes a new statewide recycling goal of 75% to be achieved by 2020. Within the legislation, DEP is directed to develop a program to achieve this goal and submit it to the Legislature for consideration by January 1, 2010.

Understanding that public input will be critical to achieving the goal, DEP has established a new Web forum to gather stakeholder input that could help achieve the 75% goal. The new Web site format is an internet bulletin board system that serves as a discussion platform to share ideas, research and experiences in increasing recycling efforts and diverting more waste from landfills. The Web forum can be accessed by visiting DEP's 75% Recycling Goal Web site at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/recyclinggoal75>.

"As Florida continues to grow, the sheer volume of waste requires more comprehensive and innovative measures to increase the state's recycling rate," said Mary Jean Yon, Director of DEP's Division of Waste Management. "We hope the DEP Web forum will make it convenient to share ideas and debate issues pertaining to recycling."

To be added to the e-mail list for additional information, e-mail DEP at Recycling.Goal@dep.state.fl.us. Public comment may be submitted via e-mail, the Web site, or in person at public meetings.

NAEP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Lean More



Making Sustainability Happen:
Goals, Practices and
Challenges

May 3-6, 2009
Radisson Fort McDowell
Scottsdale, AZ

Florida Beacon

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Northeast Florida Chapter

The Northeast Chapter has historically focused on providing educational and networking opportunities for its members while giving back to the community it serves. This year, the chapter continued with that focus. On the educational side, the Northeast Chapter's monthly meeting topics included sustainability, emergency response, and large-scale cleanup projects. One of the highlights of every year is the Spring Conference. This year the conference theme was "How 'Green' is Your Water" and featured speakers from local utilities, academia, local government, industry, and community groups. The Northeast Chapter finished off 2008 with a bit of magic, provided by local magician Ed Leto, and an opportunity to catch up with fellow environmental professionals at its annual holiday luncheon.

A significant portion of the proceeds from the Northeast Chapter's meetings and events, including the funds provided by generous event sponsors, are given back to the community in the form of scholarships to local college and university environmental programs. At the 2008 Spring Conference, the Northeast Chapter awarded \$1,000 each to the University of North Florida, Florida Community College at Jacksonville, and Jacksonville University. The chapter also partners with a local charity every year at its December holiday party. This year the chapter collected cleaning supplies for Angelwood, an organization that works to improve the lives of children and adults with disabilities and their families.

One of the Northeast Chapter's most important successes in 2008 was the introduction of a new website, www.nefaep.org. The new site puts current and prospective members in touch with what is going on with the chapter as well as providing a one-stop source for membership renewal, meeting information, and chapter contacts. The chapter plans to make further improvements to the website over the next year to make the site a resources and tool for chapter members.

Northwest Florida Chapter

The Northwest Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (FAEP) has concluded another successful year of utilizing its forum to expand the local environmentally minded citizen and professional of on-going research, projects, and activities in the panhandle area. We began and ended the year with several presentations based on the strength and benefits of partnerships. We learned about:

- Gulf Power and the Emerald Coast Utilities Authority (ECUA) having joined their skills and expertise to develop a new facility and provide additional services to the local area;
- A creative holistic approach between FDEP and the St. Joe development which encouraged land management and incorporated regulatory constraints with land improvements to one of the states largest landscape developments;
- The Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership (GCPEP) whereby nine large land managers share resources and skills to manage 1.05 million acres across the western panhandle of Florida and south Alabama and still manage to maintain and accomplish their individual missions; and
- The Longleaf Alliance, which is a seven state partnership assisting both large- and small-scale land owners in re-establishing the longleaf pine ecosystem in the areas which once supported one of the richest and culturally diverse important ecological systems in the southeast.

This year we tried something new and introduced a quarterly evening series, which we co-hosted with the Bay Area Resource Council (BARC), to invite the general public to hear about local research. We heard from several researchers at USEPA about their research in developing modeling tools to follow the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico, and their efforts in tracing nutrients (which play a huge role in this effect) to their origins. We learned about the newest nutrient criteria models and how data are being used to determine nutrient loads for specific waterbodies (think TMDLs). And, we learned about predictive models, the Web-ICE tool which estimates the acute toxicity of a chemical to a taxon (i.e., the

[Continued on page 6](#)

predicted species, genera, or family) without test data from the known toxicity of the chemical to a species with test data (the surrogate).

To continue reading the Northwest Florida chapters year end review in Northwest's January newsletter, [Click here](#) .

South Florida Chapter

The South Florida Chapter (SFAEP) held monthly luncheons January through October with the following presentations; *“Marina Permitting in South Florida”*, *“Coastal Wetlands Rehydration Demonstration Project”*, *“The Brownfield Redevelopment Program in Broward County: A Local Perspective”*, *“Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program, 18 years safeguarding Miami-Dade Natural Areas for this and future generations...”*, *“Overtown: An Unfortunate Woman (Sociocultural effects of transportation projects in an environmental justice community)”*, *“Injury Assessment and Restoration of Coral Reefs within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary”*, *“Integrated Water Resources Planning in Broward County”*, *“Sustainable Communities: Lessons from Nature”*, and *“Modeling Long Term Saltwater Intrusion in Northern Broward County”*.

In November, the SFAEP held its annual conference; *“Clean and Green: Pollution Prevention, Assessment and Remediation”*. At the annual conference the following were elected to the SFAEP Board of Directors: Erik Neugaard (President), Lynette Cardoch (Vice President), Matt Mitchell (Secretary) , Sara Neugaard (Treasurer), Kevin Carter (Past President), Monica O' Chaney, Mark Clark, Diana Rodriguez, Virginia Walsh, Herb Balfour, John Fumero, Eddy Smith, and Mark Scally. A holiday picnic was held on Pelican Island in December.

Southwest Florida Chapter

SWFAEP had a great year. Overall, we held several membership meetings, field trips, and socials. In January, Dr. PJ Deitschel spoke at the membership meeting about her work with the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW). The primary mission of CROW is the rescue, care, rehabilitation, and eventual release back into the wild of sick, injured and orphaned native wildlife. SWFAEP also participated as an exhibitor in the Nature Care Fair held in Pine Island in January to spread the word about FAEP.

SWFAEP teamed up with the Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium in February to help remove exotic plants from the nature center. Several SWFAEP members came out to help clean up the site, and the event was a success! Also in February, the SFWMD lead a tour for SWFAEP of the Picayune Strand Restoration Project in South Florida. This Saturday field trip consisted of three vans full of SWFAEP members led by the SFWMD through the wetland restoration project. In March, SWFAEP participated as an Exhibitor in the Sixth Annual Birdfest at Lakes Regional Park in Fort Myers. SWFAEP held a March Membership meeting, where Caroleen Dineen with Broad and Cassel presented an overview of the FWCC gopher tortoise management plan changes. Also in March, SWFAEP teamed up with the local professional organizations of the planners and engineers and held a social after work hours. This event presented a great chance to network with many local professionals.

In May, SWFAEP held a Membership meeting where Hans Wilson of Hans Wilson & Associates, Inc. spoke regarding START (Solutions to Avoid Red Tide). This organization is dedicated to maintaining and expanding current state and local funding for red tide control and mitigation efforts, increasing public awareness of the risks and concerns of red tides, and to communicate current red tide research. In June, SWFAEP held elections and welcomed returning board members, Renee Kwiat, Teresa Biggs, Erica Maynard, Jenn Evans, Alicia Kruse and Debbie Tyson, and one new board member, Lauren Barber. SWFAEP held a July Membership meeting, where John Iglehart of the FDEP presented an overview of the Cape Coral North Spreader Waterway Issues. The purpose of the presentation was to inform everyone about the major issues and invite participation, with the public and private sector opportunities associated with the project and the Ecosystem Management Agreement (EMA).

[Continued on page 7](#)

FAEP Year In Review Continued...

In September, SWFAEP teamed up with the local engineering professional organization to host a networking social. Also, SWFAEP held a September Membership meeting where Cathy Olsen with Lee County 20/20 lands presented an overview of their land acquisition and management program. Cathy Olsen also volunteered to lead a tour for SWFAEP of the Harnes Marsh Preserve in Lee County in October. Cathy led members on a tour that involved lots of bird watching in the beautiful preserve. In November, SWFAEP held a membership meeting where Joy Hazell with the Lee County Sea Grant Program presented an overview of the work that the Sea Grant program leads in Lee County. Florida Sea Grant's mission is to enhance the practical use and conservation of the state's coastal and marine resources and create a sustainable economy and environment. In December, SWFAEP hosted a holiday party to wrap up the year and celebrate together. SWFAEP would like to thank our membership for helping create another exciting and active year. We appreciate everyone's participation!

Tampa Bay Florida Chapter

The Tampa Bay Chapter had a very productive and successful (calendar) year! Let's start with membership...In December 2007, we had 137 members and by December 1, 2008, we have 173 members on our roster. Another way to look at our membership is that we gained 36 NEW members to our chapter.

Our annual Fall membership appreciation event was held on November 19th, one we have dubbed "Falliday," and was a rousing success. We boosted our membership as a result of this event, gaining new members as well as and renewing existing members.

In addition to this social event, we have begun hosting networking/happy hours once again. In 2008, we hosted two events, each pulling in over 50 happy environmental professionals who visited and networked with each other while munching on appetizers (sponsored by local companies). Our membership and attendees asked that we continue with these events, so we are planning on three or four networking/happy hours for 2009.

Our student chapters are making headway each month. In 2008, the University of Tampa and the Eckerd College chapters held meetings, while the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg campus was voted in as a formal student chapter this year! We continue to support our chapters and are assisting the University of South Florida, Tampa campus with its efforts to start up a chapter in 2009. We received funding from FAEP and have earmarked funds from our TBAEP budget assist with our student chapter efforts. At the "Falliday" event, we held a raffle to raise student chapter funds and gave away a donated round of golf. We hope to pay for student chapter dues and to send as many students as we can to the NAEP annual conference in May.

Other TBAEP successes include a TBAEP service project where we participated in the annual International Coastal Cleanup on September 20th. TBAEP members and their families picked up marine debris and litter on Egmont Key.

Treasure Coast Florida Chapter

This year has been an active one for the **Treasure Coast Chapter**. Our monthly general meetings have attracted many new members drawn by such interesting topics such as a

[Continued on page 8](#)

Florida Beacon

FAEP Newsletter

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2008 Legislative Update, Florida Earth Foundation New Initiatives, Renewable Energy, Lake Worth Lagoon Update, and Florida's Submerged Cultural Resources. We held evening networking events at different locations throughout the year to give our members and contacts a chance to mingle and enjoy themselves outside of the workplace. Our annual Networking Reception was held at the Abacoa Golf Club in Jupiter, where keynote speaker, Paul Souza of US Fish and Wildlife Service, spoke to the attendees about Everglades Restoration and Endangered Species Recovery.

The Treasure Coast Chapter also participated in several great community events, which is something we strongly encourage of our board and our general members. In April, several board and general members volunteered their time to assist with the Palm Beach County Envirothon, a local educational program for high school students. The Treasure Coast Chapter also provided financial support to the Indian River Envirothon. In September many of our members participated in Coastal Cleanups we sponsored throughout the region, including events in Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie Counties. We thank our members and all volunteers for their time and dedication to community environmental events this past year. We give special recognition to Board member Jennifer Acevedo, Crossroads Environmental, for establishing the first coastal cleanup in St. Lucie County.

Elections for our Chapter's 2009 Board of Directors were held in early December. I have passed the presidential "baton" on to Kristin Bennett of TetraTech EC. Kristin has been on the Board for several years and has the experience and skills necessary to lead the organization and further the Chapter's mission and achievements. I have greatly enjoyed my involvement in the Chapter leadership, and send best wishes for a prosperous 2009!

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