

FLORIDA BEACON

From the President's Desk Mary Gutierrez

I hope everyone has been enjoying their summer and are taking time for vacation!

This time around I'll be providing you with a brief update on some activities that have been occurring since the last newsletter.

Please keep an eye out for a membership survey that should be coming your way either by the end of the week or the beginning of next week. Please take the time to respond; we want to know how we're doing. We're already planning for 2015. Chapter Representatives will be discussing with their perspective board what chapter would like to host the 2015 Annual FAEP conference. So if you think your chapter should host, please let a member of your chapter board know. It can take some work, but it is well worth the effort.

We are still working on the board book. We hope to have it completed within the next few months. If chapters don't currently have their own board books, they can use this as a guide to develop one.

The State Environmental Excellence Awards Program and the State Scholarship Program are moving right along. We should have the final documents by September for chapters that might want to participate in the awards ceremony. Ideally, it would be great to have the state awards announced at the 2015 conference.

I met with Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies (FLERA) President Michelle Leigh and Vice-President Keith Wilkins to discuss our continued partnership. FLERA is very much interested in continuing to partner with FAEP. They are interested in joint meetings, speaking at events, and other opportunities you might feel are of benefit. Contact Kristen Hoss, Executive Director, at (248) 933-1069 or executivedirector@flera.org to explore these opportunities.

Thanks to the efforts of Tim Terwilliger, FAEP is now a Licensed Continuing Education Provider for Florida professional engineers. Tim will be providing us with a "how to" list so chapters can offer this membership perk at chapter meetings and events.

Until next time, stay safe.

Respectfully, Mary Gutierrez, Earth Ethics, Inc.



Florida Association of Environmental Professionals

Summer 2014



FAEP 2013

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Next FAEP Board Meeting!!

**The next FAEP Board of Directors Meeting
is August 11th at 12PM.**

**To join the Board meeting via conference call dial:
605-475-4000 (code 607028#)**

**Find out more about FAEP
Member Benefits at our website:
WWW.FAEP-FL.ORG**

**Interested in becoming
a member of FAEP?
Click on [Renew-Join Here](#)**

Governor Scott Announces Almost \$16M Investment for Coast to Coast Connector Project

TALLAHASSEE – Governor Rick Scott today announced the 11 new projects that will be funded this year to help advance the Coast to Coast Connector, which will provide a safe and continuous multi-use trail from the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will invest \$15.9 million to complete 11 phases of separate trail segments in nine counties. This new funding is in addition to the more than \$26 million that has already been invested by the FDOT for the Connector project over the next five years.

Governor Scott said, “This \$15.9 million investment will help to complete 11 sections of the Coast to Coast Connector which will help to bring more tourists to our state, and create jobs for families in our state. Our tourists increasingly desire new ways to explore this beautiful state and the Coast to Coast Connector will do just that as the only trail in America connecting the Gulf to the Atlantic.”

Brevard County

Brevard Co. Line to Aurantia Road - \$5.6 million

Canaveral Ave to Max Brewer Causeway and Max Brewer Causeway to Atlantic Ocean - \$100,000

Hernando County

Suncoast Trail to existing Good Neighbor Trail - \$1 million

Lake County

SR 33 to Silver Eagle Road - \$1.5 million

Lake/Sumter County

Van Fleet State Trail to Villa City Road - \$1.3 million

Orange County

Seg 1 - Hiawassee Rd to Pine Hills Road - \$530,000

Seg 2 - Clarcona-Ocoee Rd to Seminole Co. Line - \$1.1 million

Pasco County

Pinellas/Pasco Co. Line to North of SR 54 - \$460,000

Pinellas County

East Lake Rd/Keystone Rd intersection to the Pinellas/Pasco Co. Line - \$3.9 million

Seminole/ Volusia County

Wayside Park over US 17/92 Bridge and US 17/92 Bridge over Spring to Spring Trail - \$100,000

Sumter County

Withlacoochee State Trail to Van Fleet State Trail - \$350,000

When complete, the Connector is expected to be more than 250 miles and will link communities between St. Petersburg and Titusville into a major destination route that will allow residents and visitors to explore Central Florida by bicycle or foot. An estimated 75% of the trail corridor is already developed and open to the public or funded for construction.

FDOT Secretary Ananth Prasad said, “With the projects announced today, we will be moving forward this year on virtually every gap within the Coast to Coast Connector. FDOT is pleased to play such an instrumental role with our state and local partners to help advance this ambitious trail project. It will provide an exceptional experience and safe transportation route for our residents and visitors.”

FDEP Secretary Herschel T. Vinyard Jr. said, “FDOT continues to be a great partner in the statewide trail effort. We are very excited that the Connector project will be the first of many efforts to complete the Florida Greenways and Trails Priority System.”

Senator Andy Gardiner, Chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development, has been a strong advocate for the Connector and was instrumental in setting aside the new funding.

Continued on page 4

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Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Event	Date	Place
Florida League of Cities	Aug. 14 - 16, 2014	Hollywood, Florida
9th Annual Georgia Environmental Conference	Aug. 20—22, 2014	Jekyll Island Convention Center
Florida Remediation Conference	Oct. 9—10, 2014	Orlando, Florida
Florida Society of Environmental Analysts	Oct. 22—24, 2014	Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
AASHE 2014 Conference & Expo	Oct. 26-29, 2014	Portland, Oregon
Florida Brownfields Association Conference	Oct. 28—31, 2014	Orlando, Florida
NAEP Conference	Apr. 12—17, 2015	Honolulu Hawaii
Florida Water Resources Conference	May 3—5, 2015	Orlando, Florida
Battelle: Third International Symposium on Bioremediation and Sustainable Environmental Technologies	May 18—21, 2015	Miami, Florida

FAEP shares information about conferences pertaining to the environmental professions. The FAEP does not endorse any of the referenced conferences.

6 Green Living Principles Every Household Should Learn

- Your electricity bill tells a lot
Start at home. Use daylight.
- Meals should be well-planned
Reduce obesity, prepare healthy organic foods.
- Make play time more fun
Have fun, playground time everyday.
- Reduce waste
Buy in bulk to reduce packaging waste.
- Transform waste into treasure
Look for second-hand furniture, toys or clothes.
- Grow greens
Grow vegetables or a herb garden.



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Coast to Coast Connector

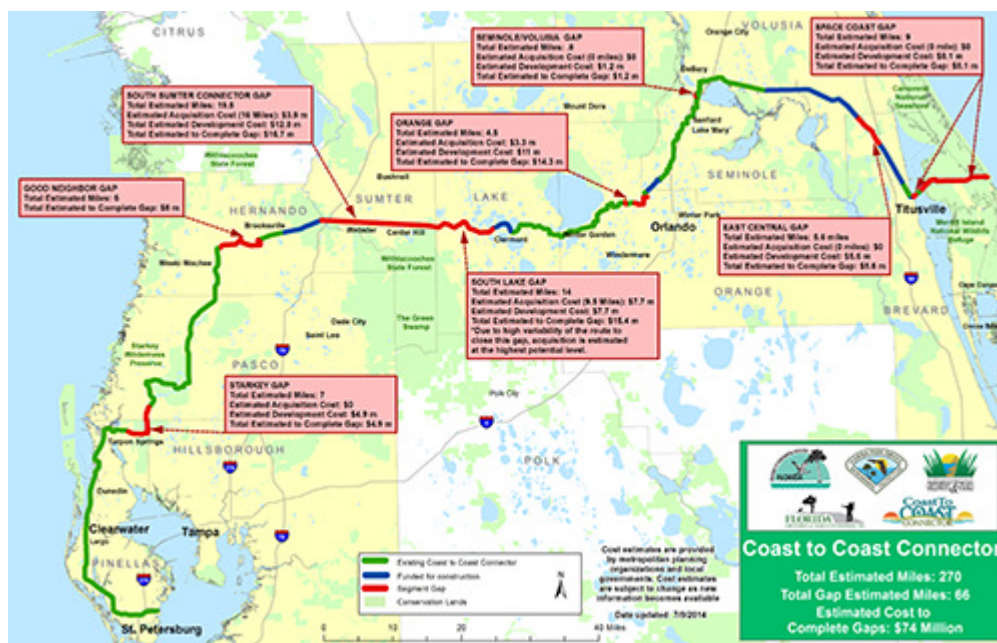
Senator Gardiner said, "It is very rewarding to see the combined efforts of so many come together to help close the gaps in the Coast to Coast Connector. These projects represent a significant step forward for this exciting effort."

The Connector is a collaborative effort of many agencies and organizations, including the eleven Central Florida metropolitan planning organizations that signed a joint resolution last summer making the trail project a regional priority.

Along with more than nine other long distance corridors, the Connector is a state priority in the 2013-17 Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan (Plan), developed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways and Trails, the lead entity for statewide trail planning. The plan outlines the vision for the Florida Greenways and Trails System, defining the role of the system in advancing Florida's economy, tourism, health, transportation, recreation, conservation and quality of life.

President & CEO of VISIT FLORIDA Will Secombe said, "Florida is an incredibly diverse destination with so much more to see and do than our visitors often realize. Stretching from Tampa Bay to the Space Coast, the Coast to Coast Connector will offer a unique opportunity for them to discover some of the Sunshine State's most scenic greenways and trails."

FDOT will supervise development of the remaining Connector gaps, and local governments or other managing agencies will be responsible for operation and maintenance of the completed trail segments.



About Florida State Parks, Greenways and Trails

The Florida Park Service is the proud recipient of three National Gold Medals for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management, making Florida America's first three-time Gold Medal winner. The awards were received in 1999, 2005 and 2013 from the American Academy for Park & Recreation Administration & the National Recreation & Park Assoc.

Florida's 171 state parks and trails inspire residents and visitors with recreation opportunities and scenic beauty that help strengthen families, educate children, expand local economies and foster community pride. With 161 parks, 10 state trails, nearly 800,000 acres, 100 miles of beaches and more than 1,500 miles of multi-use trails, visit soon and often to enjoy Florida's natural treasures. Download the Florida State Parks Pocket Ranger® mobile app, available on iTunes and Android Market, to plan your trip and enhance your experience while visiting.

For more information, visit www.FloridaStateParks.org

DEP Press Release July 21, 2014

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Florida Master Naturalist Program

South Florida Association of Environmental Professionals

The South Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (SFAEP; www.sfaep.org) has teamed with the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP; www.masternaturalist.ifas.ufl.edu) to offer its three core modules and four special topics classes. Offering the FMNP courses helps SFAEP achieve each goal of its established mission statement:

- To promote technical excellence, ethical practice, and community awareness.
- Provide opportunities for individuals and businesses to enhance their growth and career advancement.
- Provide a forum for information exchange and networking with other environmental professionals within South Florida, throughout the state, and across the nation.
- To participate in environmentally related community projects and events within Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe Counties.
- To establish links with local schools, colleges, and universities to educate and recruit promising students and young participants into the environmental professional field.

After completing the three FMNP core modules (which include Coastal Systems, Freshwater Wetlands, Upland Habitats), a student is certified as a Florida Master Naturalist. After also completing the four special topics classes (which include Conservation Science, Environmental Interpretation, Habitat Evaluation, and Wildlife Monitoring), the student is also certified as an Advanced Florida Master Naturalist. The courses are open to all adults regardless of previous experience or educational background.

SFAEP is currently offering the Coastal Module at the Keys Marine Laboratory (KML; www.keysmarinelab.org) on Long Key the weekends of 7/12-7/13 and 8/2-8/3. The course was limited to 18 students due to the capacity of the KML boat used for the coral reef trip and filled. The students include environmental professionals from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Inland Navigation District, Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources and consulting firms; students from Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University and Nova Southeastern University Oceanographic Center; a state college professor; and four guides from nearby Florida Bay Outfitters. The classroom and field presentation were divided among six SFAEP volunteer instructors, and the proceeds from the course registrations will be used to cover course expenses, provide a discount to SFAEP members and support other SFAEP programs.

SFAEP will be offering the Upland Habitats Module at the Mote Tropical Research Laboratory on Summerland Key (<http://mote.org/locations/details/tropical-research-laboratory>) the weekends of 9/6-9/7 and 9/13-9/14, and the Freshwater Wetlands Module at Everglades National Park (<http://www.nps.gov/ever>) the weekends of 11/8-11/9 and 11/15-11/16. Please contact Erik Neugaard at erik.neugaard@rsandh.com for additional information.



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Florida Department of Environmental Protection

DEP Revokes Dan A. Hughes Company's Permits and Files Lawsuit in Collier County

Today, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) took action by revoking all of Dan A. Hughes Company's permits, including the Collier-Hogan well, and filing a lawsuit in Collier County. A copy of the department's complaint can be found [here](#) and Notice of Revocation can be found [here](#).

DEP Secretary Herschel T. Vinyard Jr. said, "As Dan A. Hughes Company continues to publicly denounce the efforts of the department moving forward in a transparent manner, revocation of their permits is the only option that offers the assurance that Hughes will not cause damage to our treasured natural resources. We committed to taking any and all regulatory and enforcement action available to us, and today's actions are proof that DEP honors its commitments."

Dan A. Hughes Company's lack of cooperation with the department is evident through its inadequate response to DEP's nine demands, its failure to meet the requirements of the Consent Order with DEP to date, additional violations at the Collier-Hogan site and disregard for the public's concerns. As a result of its actions, the department believes it is in the public's best interest to permanently revoke the company's permits at the Collier-Hogan and Immokalee sites, and to seek judgment from the court to require the company to uphold its promise to Collier County families.

As Hughes's timeline to meet the department's demands came to an end, it announced it would stop activity in Florida. The reality, however, is that it could go back to production with its existing well whenever it wants. By revoking these permits, Hughes officially loses all authority to operate in Florida, ensuring we protect area families.

The department remains committed to holding Dan A. Hughes accountable for its unauthorized activities. The lawsuit, filed today in Collier County, requests the court's enforcement of the requirements under the Consent Order between the department and Dan A. Hughes Company. The department is also seeking monetary penalties in excess of \$100,000 as a result of the company violating the terms of the Consent Order and other regulations.

DEP Press Release July 18, 2014

DEP Invites Residents, Visitors to "Discover Florida Wild"

FDEP is excited to announce the launch of "[Discover Florida Wild](#)," a web portal allowing residents and visitors to explore a variety of outdoor activities offered by the state all in one place.

"This is a great way to encourage more Florida residents to enjoy the natural resources we work so hard to protect here in the state of Florida," said DEP Secretary Herschel T. Vinyard Jr. "Many state agencies offer unique recreational opportunities and partnering to create a website that helps connect the dots to make enjoying them easier for residents just makes sense."

From hunting and fishing, to picnicking and beachgoing, the "Discover Florida Wild" gateway makes finding outdoor adventures easier than ever. Viewers can plan an adventure into the Everglades, explore the notion of camping at a state park or learn more about visiting one of three National Estuarine Research Reserves. The portal allows visitors to link to state agencies managing more than 700 natural springs, 825 miles of beaches, and 10,000 miles of hiking, paddling, equestrian, and biking trails.

Recreation managers represented on the site include the department's Florida State Parks, Florida Coastal Office and five Florida Water Management Districts, as well as the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Florida Forest Service, a Division of Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

"Florida's state forests provide one million acres of recreation, from hiking and horseback riding to boating and geocaching," said State Forester Jim Karels, director of the Florida Forest Service. "We are proud to be a part of this partnership that allows everyone in Florida to find an activity just right for them all on one great website."

To plan your next adventure and enjoy more of Florida's natural resources, check out www.discoverfloridawild.com

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SMART RUNS HEAD FIRST INTO S-CLASS

Thinking about a new \$13,000-and-up Smart car but wondering about that all-important safety aspect?

Daimler made a point by running the diminutive [redesigned city car](#) head-on into the head-of-state worthy S-Class weighing double, and with much less doubt of its crashworthiness.

The in-house test actually kind of emulated the tough small-overlap test the U.S. Insurance Institute of Highway Safety conducts that saw even the Mercedes-Benz [E-Class revamped in its front crash zone this year](#) because it only fared so well.








In this marketing video, with dramatic music to go along with, the speeds they hit are 50 kilometers per hour (31 mph) and Daimler said “the biomechanical limits” were not exceeded by the crash dummies in the Smart running into a vehicle with twice the mass.

Not said in the video are what injuries would have likely been sustained, but the point is the Tridion safety cell does a lot with a little, literally. Go [here](#) for a video!



From HybridCars.com

HOW WELL DO HYBRIDS DO???

Base MSRP	MPG	HYBRID	PHOTO
\$18,950	53/46	Toyota Prius	
\$25,200	47/47	Ford C-Max Hybrid	
\$24,000	44/44	Honda Civic Hybrid	
\$29,100	43/40	Lexus CT200h	
\$24,995	42/48	Volkswagen Jetta Hybrid	
\$26,270	47/47	Ford Fusion Hybrid	
\$25,800	35/40	Hyundai Sonata Hybrid	

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ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A TRASH CAN?

Walking through Boston earlier this week I came across an unusually large trash receptacle. When I went closer to inspect it (throw out my trash) I noticed that it was compactor designed for sustainability. Besides having a function to compact the trash which would require less pickups, the cans also had solar panels to be self reliant.

BigBelly Solar, the company responsible for these innovative trash cans, was founded in 2003 with “the goal of transforming one of the least efficient and resource-intensive industries on the planet — waste collection. Cities were either collecting too often and wasting fuel and labor while creating CO2 emissions or they were not able to keep up with the demands and overflowing trash cans created litter, health and safety issues.” BigBelly Solar wanted to fix these issues by inventing a smarter, more efficient, method for collecting trash in cities.

The BigBelly Solar compactors are smart and include sensors and a wireless card that tracks the fullness of the compactors. Status updates are sent to the Streets Department so that trash is picked up or fixed when needed.

The city of Philadelphia started replacing traditional cans with BigBelly Solar in 2009 and is now saving 1 million dollars a year. Using trash receptacles that also act as compactors reduced the number of collections needed per week from 17 to 3. This saves money in operational costs and saves in fuel and truck costs.

Though Americans need to cut down on their consumption and the trash they produce, at least BigBelly Solar is providing a more efficient way of handling it. Adopting smarter technologies like BigBelly Solar is a step forward.

From Environmental News Network



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FAEP Group Discount Memberships

Did you know that FAEP provides a discount on our memberships to employers who have 5 or more members? If your company or organization qualifies for the Group Membership you save \$5 on each FAEP new member or re-newing member, lowering the FAEP membership fee from \$40 to \$35 for everyone from your company or organization. If your company or organization is on this list, you are eligible to join or renew at the discounted Group rate. The FAEP Board would like to extend a thank you to the following employers for supporting their employee's professional development and the FAEP mission:

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Corzo, Castella, Carballo, Thompson, Salman	Florida Water Management Districts	Lee County	Scheda Ecological Associates
Cardno Group	GeoSyntec, Inc.	Martin County	Tetra Tech, Inc.
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Size	One Issue	One Year
Biz Card	\$35	\$100
1/4 Page	\$100	\$375
1/2 Page	\$175	\$650
1 page	\$250	\$900

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