

FLORIDA BEACON

From the President's Desk Kristin Bennett



As I wrote this, the end of the year was fast approaching and along with it the end of my tenure as President of the FAEP. By the time you read this, I will proudly and happily wear the label of "Past President." It has been two years of learning, planning, implementing, and most enjoyably, working with, meeting and learning from so many great environmental professionals. I thank each and every one of the FAEP Board members, the chapter board members, and the FAEP members for the opportunity to serve as President. All of you make the effort worthwhile.

Recognition must also be given to my employer, **Tetra Tech, Inc.**, for supporting my efforts with the FAEP and NAEP. My supervisors recognize the benefits of being in a leadership position: the opportunity to network with people from around the state and country to learn about upcoming projects and opportunities; to highlight skill sets; and to demonstrate the commitment to service and professionalism that will carry over to every project.

In 2013, the FAEP provided local chapters administrative and financial support. While the FAEP budget is tight, the FAEP did provide funding to all of the local chapters and also assumed the cost for general liability insurance coverage for each of the chapters as well as preparing and paying for the Department of State and Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service registrations and the IRS annual filing. While these activities are not necessarily seen or known by the membership, and therefore the value not fully understood, the members do benefit because by *not* having to focus on administrative matters, the local chapter boards were able to devote their time focusing on the local chapter members and in organizing and presenting a wide variety of education topics, workshops and networking events.

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Florida Association of Environmental Professionals

Winter 2014



FAEP 2014

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NAEP Annual Conference!!!



April 7 - 10, 2014
St. Petersburg, Florida
Online Registration is Now Available
Click on this link

<https://naep.memberclicks.net/2014-conference>

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**

President's Message Continued...

The FAEP also researched (a big THANK YOU to Tim Terwilliger (Arcadis) and Tim Perry (Oertel, Fernandez, Bryant & Atkinson, P.A.)) continuing education requirements for a variety of environmental professionals. Your local chapter provide you with a certificate of participation that you can use when filing your self-reporting requirements (such as for Professional Wetland Scientists, Certified Environmental Professionals, attorneys, and architects). We are working on becoming an approved provider for engineers.

THE NAEP AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

FAEP members have also benefitted from the NAEP Affiliation Agreement. FAEP entered into this agreement in 2010. The Agreement provides for certain benefits and reciprocal obligations. Some of the benefits are tangible, such as discounts on training, while other benefits are not as easily quantified such as having a position on the NAEP Board of Directors. This gives the FAEP the opportunity to have a voice in the direction of the NAEP and also a voice in revisions to the Affiliation Agreement to ensure the appropriate value is received for the Affiliated Agreement fee. Rest assured the FAEP will be well represented at the table when renewal of the Agreement -scheduled for 2015- is addressed.

Through the Agreement, FAEP members receive the following benefits:

- ◆ NAEP Conference Discount - Always a value but particularly so in 2014 when FAEP and TBAEP host the NAEP 2014 Annual Conference in St. Petersburg, April 7-10,
- ◆ NAEP training discount including discount registration for NAEP webinars,
- ◆ Access to NAEP/American Public University and NAEP/Vermont Law School Webinars,
- ◆ Online access to the NAEP E-News that provides information about the NAEP and affiliated chapters,
- ◆ Online access to the NAEP peer-reviewed Environmental Practice,
- ◆ Online access to the NAEP National Desk, a publication of current and national issues affecting the environmental professional. The NAEP National Desk is provided through a licensing agreement with Environment and Energy (E&E) Publishing, LLC (www.eenews.net). E&E's four daily online publications are ClimateWire, EnergyWire, Environment and Energy Daily, Greenwire and E&E News PM. As part of the licensing agreement, E&E Publishing is offering a discount on new subscriptions.

Additional benefits of the NAEP Affiliation Agreement include a discount on general liability insurance for each of the local chapters, online archive service for FAEP documents, and a chapter listing on the NAEP website.

If you have ideas and suggestions for additional NAEP member benefits or Affiliated Chapter benefits please contact me. The NAEP is just beginning discussions on revisions to the Affiliation Agreement and the FAEP will have a seat at the table during those discussions.

IN CONCLUSION

As I sign off this final message as FAEP President, please accept my appreciation and gratitude for the opportunity to serve the FAEP membership. You all have helped me learn and grow both personally and professionally. I encourage you to get involved not only in your local chapter but also in the leadership of the FAEP. New faces and fresh ideas keep the organization interesting and sustainable.

Best wishes for a prosperous and productive 2014.

Respectfully,
Kristin Bennett
Tetra Tech, Inc.

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Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Event	Date	Place
The 4th University of Florida Water Institute Symposium	Feb. 11, 2014	Gainesville, Florida
Public Interest Environmental Conference	Feb. 20-22, 2014	Gainesville, Florida
Florida Floodplain Managers Association	Mar. 26 - 28, 2014	Stuart, Florida
39th Annual NAEP National Conference	Apr. 7 - 10, 2014	St. Petersburg, Florida
Florida Society of Environmental Analysts	May 21 - 23, 2014	Clearwater, Florida
Florida Association for Water Quality Control	June 11 - 13, 2014	Naples, Florida
28th Annual Environmental Permitting School	July 23 - 25, 2014	Marco Island, Florida
Florida League of Cities	Aug. 14 - 16, 2014	Hollywood, Florida

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

5-YEAR RESTORATION PROJECT HELPING BAYOU CHICO

“Once considered one of the most impaired bodies of water in Florida, the health of Bayou Chico is experiencing significant improvements thanks to a five-year restoration project.”

This was the news FDEP announced recently shortly after presenting a report on the progress of the restoration efforts at a Bayou Chico 2nd annual stakeholders meeting.

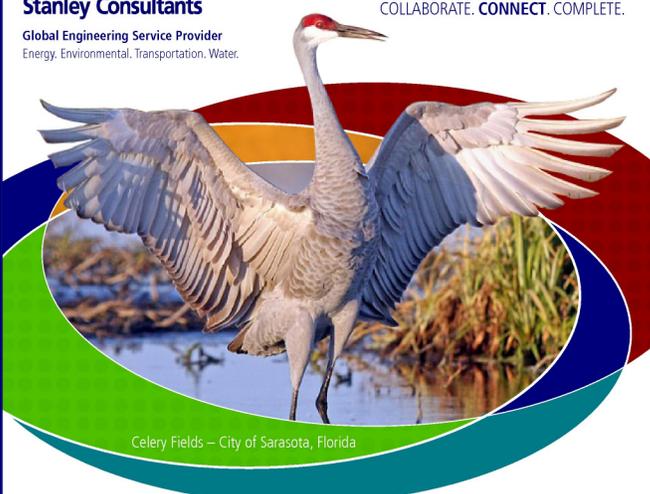
Improvement to the management of stormwater is the second major thrust of the Bayou Chico restoration plan, FDEP officials say. These projects will help reduce untreated runoff carrying pollutants into the water. To date, with the help of \$1 million in funding assistance from the FDEP, Escambia County has invested more than \$6.75 million in the completion of 17 stormwater reduction and treatment projects.

In 2014, Escambia County will receive more than \$750,000 in Section 319 Grant funding from FDEP to construct Phase I of the Beach Haven Stormwater improvements.”

Pensacola News Journal


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Emergency Planning and the Community Right-to-Know Act

Noting that March 1, 2014 TIER II reporting deadline is quickly approaching, Local Emergency Planning Committee District 8 staff will be conducting two workshops consisting of a combination overview of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) regulations/reporting requirements, new reporting requirements for the 2013 reporting year, and E-Plan electronic filing training/ instructions. With the intent of promoting the submittal of all Tier II records electronically through the E-Plan Program, Florida Division of Emergency Management staff will be present to conduct the training. The workshops will be held at the offices of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council/Local Emergency Planning Committee, 4000 Gateway Centre Blvd., Suite 100 in Pinellas Park.

The two workshop dates/times:

Tuesday, February 11, 2014 (1:30 - 4:00 pm)

Wednesday, February 12, 2014 (9:30 am - Noon)

Registration for these workshops is encouraged. To register, please contact John Meyer at 727.570.5151 (ext. 29) or via email johnm@tbrpc.org

**EPCRA: How to Comply
Workshop & Electronic
Filing Instructions**

Workshop attendees will be advised of the EPCRA reporting procedures and, in particular, the requirement for annual facility registration and notification of applicable chemical inventories. An overview of E-Plan will be provided in regard to its functionality, convenience and refinements. E-Plan User Names & Passwords will be assigned. It is noteworthy that regardless of the chosen method for filing, facilities located in the Tampa Bay area are requested to continue to provide copies of such reporting to LEPC District 8 and their local fire departments.

Please recall that the Tier 2 reporting deadline is quickly approaching and remains March 1st.

For more information concerning the Tampa Bay Local Emergency Planning Committee, please visit the LEPC's website (www.tbrpc.org/lepc.) Information concerning the State Emergency Response Commission can be acquired from www.hazmat.floridadisaster.org.

Inspiring Action, Creating Resilience Call for Proposals to Present

Restore America's Estuaries and The Coastal Society are proud to present the first ever Summit that will bring together the Coastal restoration and management communities for an integrated discussion to explore issues, solutions, and lessons learned in their work. The Summit will provide timely and much-needed attention to the challenges and opportunities for coastal and estuarine restoration and management. The summit will also bring together a unique blend of people who are involved in policy, science, strategy, business, and on-the-ground restoration and management.

Coastal communities are increasingly faced with challenging decisions as a result of a host of factors including population changes, coastal development, pollution, climate change, invasive species, economic pressures, and many more. It is critical that the restoration and management realms not only respond effectively but also with a comprehensive approach to policy, planning, and action. The overarching Summit theme, "**Inspiring Action, Creating Resilience**," will explore the many ways in which restoration and management can shape communities and vice versa, identify how to effectively measure and convey these changes and how people and communities can take meaningful action such that they can plan, respond, and prosper in the face of challenges.

For the Summit, the concept of resilience is interpreted broadly and encompasses the myriad of ways that natural and built environments, economies, cultures and societies, can respond to impacts so that they not only persevere but thrive.

For more on the Summit, please visit www.estuaries.org/summit. Deadline for proposals to present is February 28, 2014. The summit will be in Washington DC Nov. 1-6, 2014.

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DEEPWATER HORIZON NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEES TO HOST TWO PUBLIC MEETING IN FLORIDA JAN. 28 AND 29

The Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees will hold two public meetings to solicit public comment on the Draft Programmatic and Phase III Early Restoration Plan (ERP) and Draft Early Restoration Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS).

The first meeting will take place Tuesday, Jan. 28 at the Pensacola Bay Center, 201 E. Gregory St. Pensacola, and the second meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1101 US Highway 231, Panama City. Both meetings will begin with an open house at 6pm CST and the public meeting will begin at 6:30pm.

The Draft Phase III ERP/PEIS describes the third largest round of projects proposed to receive funding from the \$1 billion BP committed to Early Restoration in April 2100, along with a proposed programmatic plan and programmatic EIS for continuing early restoration.

The public comment period on the Draft Phase III ERP/PEIS has been extended from Feb. 4 through Feb. 19. Visit www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov to download an electronic copy of the Plan and to submit comments online. For more information on the State of Florida's oil spill recovery efforts visit www.deepwaterhorizonflorida.com.

DEP Press Release January 23, 2014

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT ANNOUNCES \$130 MILLION INVESTMENT IN SOUTH FLORIDA'S EVERGLADES

Florida Governor Rick Scott announced a \$130 million investment to continue work on restoring the Everglades and South Florida's ecosystem as part of the "It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget."

Governor Scott said, "This \$130 million investment from the "It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget" will fund critical projects that will improve water quality for families and businesses that rely on these natural treasures. These dollars will go towards improving water quality, mitigating impacts of Lake Okeechobee's discharges on our estuaries, and diverting fresh water south to help restore the Everglades."

Less than a year after Governor Scott announced an unprecedented \$880 million long-term Everglades restoration plan, the \$130 million investment for the Everglades and South Florida's ecosystem include \$40 million to speed up completion of the C-44 Stormwater Treatment Area for Martin and St. Lucie counties. In addition, this \$130 million investment includes \$30 million for a three-year installment for the Tamiami Trail project, which will provide necessary water to Everglades National Park, \$32 million in recurring funding as part of the Governor's Everglades Quality Restoration Plan and funds to complete the Kissimmee River restoration project, which will store and clean water heading into Lake Okeechobee.

The major investment comes as many Everglades and South Florida restoration projects have already been permitted and construction initiated to improve water quality and quantity. In recent months, the South Florida Water Management District has begun work on large-scale reservoirs designed to store and ship water to stormwater treatment areas before cleaning and sending it south to Everglades National Park and Florida Bay. At the same time, the FDEP continues to work with local stakeholders on restoration plans for the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Rivers, Indian River Lagoon and Lake Okeechobee.

DEP Press Release January 22, 2014

PASSWORD ADVICE FOR 2014

The 2013 list of worst passwords, influenced by postings from the Adobe breach, demonstrates the importance of not basing passwords on the application or website being accessed.

SplashData has announced its annual list of the 25 most common passwords found on the Internet. For the first time since SplashData began compiling its annual list, “password” has lost its title as the most common and therefore Worst Password, and the two-time runner up “123456” took dubious honor. “Password” fell to #2.

According to SplashData, this year’s list was influenced by the large number of passwords from Adobe users posted online by security consulting firm Stricture Consulting Group following Adobe’s well-publicized security breach.

“Seeing passwords like ‘adobe123’ and ‘photoshop’ on this list offers a good reminder not to base your password on the name of the website or application you are accessing,” says Morgan Slain, CEO of SplashData. SplashData’s list of frequently used passwords shows that many people continue to put themselves at risk by using weak, easily guessable passwords. Some other passwords in the Top Ten include “qwerty,” “abc123,” “111111,” and “iloveyou.”

“Another interesting aspect of this year’s list is that more short numerical passwords showed up even though websites are starting to enforce stronger password policies,” Slain said. For example, new to this year’s list are simple and easily guessable passwords like “1234” at #16, “12345” at #20, and “000000” at #25. SplashData, provider of the SplashID Safe line of password management applications, releases its annual list in an effort to encourage the adoption of stronger passwords. “As always, we hope that with more publicity about how risky it is to use weak passwords, more people will start taking simple steps to protect themselves by using stronger passwords and using different passwords for different websites.”

SplashData’s “Worst Passwords of 2013”:

123456	123456789	123123	1234
Password	111111	Sunshine	Monkey
12345678	1234567	1234567890	shadow
Qwerty	iloveyou	Letmein	Password1
abc123	adobe123	photoshop	princess

The list was compiled from files containing millions of stolen passwords posted online during the previous year. The company advises consumers or businesses using any of the passwords on the list to change them immediately. SplashData suggests making passwords more secure with these tips:

Use passwords of eight characters or more with mixed types of characters. But even passwords with common substitutions like “dr4mat1c” can be vulnerable to attackers’ increasingly sophisticated technology, and random combinations like “j%7K&yPx\$” can be difficult to remember. One way to create more secure passwords that are easy to recall is to use passphrases -- short words with spaces or other characters separating them. It’s best to use random words rather than common phrases. For example, “cakes years birthday” or “smiles_light_skip?”

Avoid using the same username/password combination for multiple websites. Especially risky is using the same password for entertainment sites that you do for online email, social networking, or financial service sites. Use different passwords for each new website or service you sign up for.

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ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT 40TH BIRTHDAY

Protecting Imperiled Animals and Plants Since 1973

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will honor the 40th Anniversary of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) with a year-long commemoration of the law, and the nationwide conservation efforts underway that are protecting America's endangered, threatened, and at-risk species.

The ESA is the most significant piece of endangered species legislation, having prevented the extinction of 99% of the species it protects since its inception in 1973. Co-administered by the USFWS and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the purpose of the ESA is to conserve imperiled species and the habitats upon which they depend. Today, the ESA protects over 1,400 U.S. Species and 600 foreign species.

When congress passed the ESA in 1973, it recognized that our rich natural heritage is of "esthetic, ecological, educational, recreational, and scientific value to our Nation and its people." It further expressed concern that many of our nation's native plants and animals were in danger of becoming extinct. As of January 2013, the USFWS has listed 2,054 species worldwide as endangered or threatened, of which 1,436 occur in the U.S.

The ESA also implements a U.S. participation in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), a 175-nation agreement designed to prevent species from becoming endangered or extinct due to international trade. Except as allowed by permit, CITES prohibits importing or exporting species listed on its three appendices.

You can go to the USFWS website and download cool desktops for your computer: www.fws.gov/Endangered/esa40/desktops.html

Other resources such as coloring pages and a 2014 planner are here: www.fws.gov/Endangered/esa/40/resources.html

Endangered species by the numbers (statistics) can be found here: www.statisticbrain.com/Endangered-species-statistics/ and here: www.allaboutwildlife.com/Endangered-species/Endangered-species-population-numbers/3596

U.S. Fish and Wildlife webpage



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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 organiza-tion. 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 profes-sional development and the FAEP mission:

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Atkins	Escambia County	Johnson Engineering	Passarella & Associates
Biotech Consulting, Inc.	FDEP	HSA, Inc.	PSI, Inc.
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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