

# FLORIDA BEACON

**From the President's Desk...**  
**Amy Guilfoyle**



**Florida Association of  
Environmental Professionals**  
**Spring 2016**



Planning for the **2016 FAEP Annual Conference and Training Symposium** is underway! This year's theme is Conference on the Coast and will be hosted by the Southwest Chapter on **September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>** at the Coconut Point Hyatt in **Bonita Springs**. The beautiful Coconut Point Hyatt is located on 26 lush, tropical acres overlooking Estero Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. The hotel was also honoured with Florida Green Lodging's Three Palm eco-friendly certification. The Resort has provided a group discount rate of \$149 per night for not only the nights of the event but also two nights before and after the conference for those who wish to extend their visit and take advantage of what Southwest Florida has to offer.

The Southwest Chapter has planned four excellent tracks (see next page) for the event that are sure to offer something for everyone.

Bring the family and spend your extra days collecting shells on their semi-private beach on the Gulf of Mexico, tee up at the Raptor Bay Golf Course or pamper yourself at Stillwater Spa. Their 5,000 sq. ft. Adventure Pool features a 140-foot corkscrew waterslide leading to their lagoon style pool. You can also hit the Har-Tru clay courts for a game of tennis or kayak through the mangroves and explore the natural terrain surrounding the resort!



If you would like to be involved in this exciting event there are many ways to participate. Please submit abstracts by June 1, 2016 to [Arielle Poulos](#). To become a sponsor, please contact [Tammy Lyday](#). We are looking forward to seeing you in Bonita Springs in September!!

Sincerely,

Amy L. Guilfoyle

FAEP President

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membership!**

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## Next FAEP Board Meeting!!

The next FAEP Board of Directors Meeting  
is May 16 at 12:00 PM.

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

## FAEP 2016 Annual Conference

The Southwest Florida Chapter has been hard at work coordinating with FAEP to plan the 2016 FAEP Annual Conference and Training Symposium. This year's theme is *'Conference on the Coast'* and will be held at the beautiful Coconut Point Hyatt Resort and Spa in Bonita Springs Florida. The Resort is located on 26 lush, tropical acres overlooking Estero Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. The Coconut Point Hyatt was also honored with Florida Green Lodging's Three Palm eco-friendly certification. The Resort has provided a group discount of \$149 per night for not only the nights of the event but also two nights before and after the conference for those who wish to extend their visit and take advantage of what Southwest Florida has to offer.



The Southwest Florida Chapter has also planned four excellent tracks for the event that are sure to offer something for everyone. These tracks include:

- Innovation, Advancement, and Research
- Assessment and Remediation
- Restoration and Conservation
- Agency Discussion Panel

If you would like to be involved in this exciting event there are many ways to get involved. FAEP and SWFAEP are looking for speakers for the tracks listed above, sponsors, and volunteers to help with both the continued planning of the conference and to help facilitate the event. For more information on these opportunities or give a presentation email SWFAEP at [swfaep@gmail.com](mailto:swfaep@gmail.com).

**The 2016 FAEP Annual Conference and Training Symposium is sure to be a great event.  
We will see you there!**



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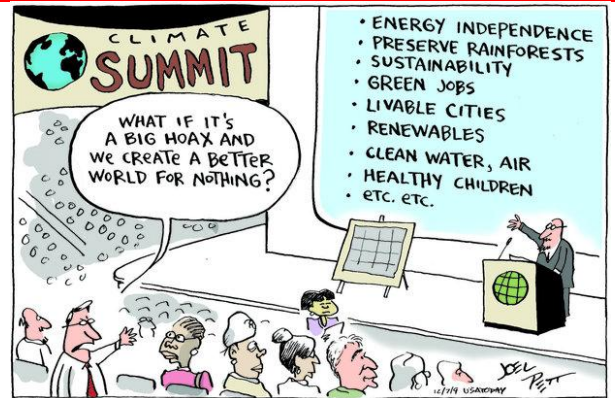
# TED CRUZ'S FAVORITE TEMPERATURE DATA JUST GOT A LOT HOTTER

In a new paper, Carl Mears and Frank Wentz at Remote Sensing Systems (RSS) have revised their data set estimating the temperature of the Earth's atmosphere. At his recent congressional hearing, Ted Cruz presented the RSS data to incorrectly claim that there's been no global warming in more than 18 years.

As noted at the time, RSS had the only data that could remotely support Senator Cruz's argument. Surface and ocean temperatures have warmed, ice has melted, sea levels have risen, species have been forced to migrate, spring has begun earlier, and so on. Even other estimates of the atmospheric temperature, of the same satellite data by scientists at the University of Alabama at Huntsville (UAH), and by weather balloons, indicate that the atmosphere is warming. Ted Cruz cherry picked RSS because it was the lone outlier that seemed to support his preferred argument against the need to take action to mitigate the risks posed by human-caused global warming.

That's no longer the case. In their new paper, Mears and Wentz detail the revised RSS method to account for drift in the time of day at which satellites measure the same location on Earth (known as "diurnal drift"). They applied a method suggested by Stephen PoChedley and colleagues at the University of Washington in an important paper covered by John Abraham last year. As a result, the new version of RSS (v4.0) shows about 60% more warming than the previous version (v3.3) since the record began in 1979. Click [here](#) for the full article.

From the Guardian





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## UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI HOSTS LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS TO EDUCATE THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS

Miami, FLA – March 28, 2016 – Fowler White Burnett is pleased to announce that the University of Miami's undergraduate program in Ecosystem Science and Policy (ECS) hosted Fowler White Burnett Environmental Attorney Howard E. Fox along with environmental regulators from Miami Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). Fox was joined by DERM's Environmental Code Officer, JoAnne Clingerman and DEP's Professional Geologist II, Paul Wierzbicki, who formerly served as FDEP's head of waste cleanup for the Southeast District. Fox presented on his experiences working in the U.S. Senate, the U.S. Department of Justice, FDEP, and in the private sector for Fowler White Burnett. He also discussed environmental enforcement and regulation including how the enforcement process works and the differences between federal, state, and local enforcement.

This collaboration between speakers Fox, Wierzbicki, and Clingerman provided students in the University of Miami ECS program with a "real world" scenario on career opportunities in the environmental field as well as private practice.



Environmental Attorney Howard E. Fox with DERM Environmental Code Enforcement Officer, JoAnne Clingerman and FDEP Geologist Paul Wierzbicki present to students from the University of Miami's Ecosystem Science and Policy program.

## Conference on the Coast

### CALL FOR PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

SWFAEP is honored to host the 2016 Annual Conference and Training Symposium in **Bonita Springs, Sept. 22-23, 2016**. This year's conference will focus on four tracks:

- Innovation, Advancement and Research;
- Assessment and Remediation
- Restoration and Conservation; and
- Agency Updates and Discussion Panel

Presentations related to any environmental topic within Florida are encouraged.

Go [here](#) for the abstract submittal form.

	<b>Southeast Soil &amp; Environmental Service inc</b>	(772) 359-0038 gsawka@juno.com
	<b>Gregory J. Sawka, CPSS Soil Scientist</b>	
	Hydric soil investigations – Training Wetland delineation – Expert testimony Permit facilitation	

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## 5 Upbeat Ideas for a Down Recycling Market

Earth Day is right around the corner and one of the most earth-friendly practices has come under fire recently—recycling. Commodity prices have dropped precipitously (petroleum products nearly 50%) and cities, towns, and counties are asking and being asked, “Is it worth it?” Here are a few ideas to help weather the downturn.

1. **Set a good example** – Does your local government use products made from recycled materials? Work with your purchasing director to prioritize products with significant amounts of post-consumer content to help to grow and diversify the market for recyclables. Let your residents know what you’re up to and your good example may change household purchasing habits as well.
2. **Growing Power** – Take a lesson from this [innovative nonprofit](#) in Chicago that turned food waste, which is the number one ingredient in U.S. landfills, into “healthy, high-quality, safe, and affordable food.” [This presentation](#) covers the system used and the win-win-win social, economic, and environmental benefits that resulted.
3. **Use economic development incentives** – California has created [Recycling Market Development Zones](#). The program offers attractive loans, technical assistance, and free product marketing to businesses that use materials from the waste stream to manufacture their products. Local governments kick-in incentives might include relaxed building codes and zoning laws, streamlined local permit processes, reduced taxes and licensing, and increased and consistent secondary material feedstock supply. In the [RecycleStore](#), you can find anything from floor mats made from recycled tires to food containers from recycled plastic bottles. Similar initiatives in the [city of Austin](#) generated nearly a billion dollars in economic impact last year.
4. **Flip the switch** – While some cities and counties have avoided the political fallout from fee-based trash collection, about 7,000 communities are using Pay-as-You-Throw (PAYT) programs. Research verifies that these programs have increased recycling, helping communities achieve goals set back in the early 2000s. The revenues also can help fund recycling programs by getting folks who landfill most of their household waste, to help pay for increase costs of recycling.
5. **Don’t Stop Believing** – While the costs may not justify the benefits right now, commodity prices fluctuate and will bounce back at some point and the costs of the environmental damage done by greenhouse gases is estimated in this [article](#) to be \$8 billion to \$12 billion per year. As this article points out, after communities have done such great job of getting residents in the habit of recycling, pulling the plug to wait out the downturn is not a good idea.

From: ICMA

## Chicago Farms

Growing Power’s Chicago Projects Office officially opened in February 2002 to manage resource development and the technical assistance needed to assist emerging Community Food Centers and urban and small farm projects in the metropolitan Chicago area. The Chicago office has established projects that have received national recognition and exemplify the mission of the organization. In Chicago, they are currently farming over 12 acres of land within the city!



### Iron Street Farm, established in 2010 – Chicago, IL



An abandoned food hub on the south side of Chicago, Iron Street Farm is a 7-acre farm and warehouse with eight hoop houses for year round production, vermicompost, mushroom production, an apiary and urban pygmy goats. Iron Street Farm is also one of two composting facilities in Chicago, recycling over 450,000 lbs of “waste” each year.

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### **Roosevelt Square Youth Farm, established 2011 – Chicago, IL**

In the heart of Chicago Housing Authority's (CHA) Abla and Roosevelt Square lies their one-acre urban farm, run by neighboring youth. With the assistance of the senior home next door to the farm, teens gauge what to grow based on demand, and sell their produce at an on-site market weekly during the growing season. This farm is a partnership between Growing Power, CHA and After School Matters.



### **Grant Park, "Art in the Farm" Urban Agriculture Potager, established 2005 – Chicago, IL**

In partnership with the Chicago Park District, this "landscaped" urban farm demonstrates how to grow an abundance of vegetables, culinary herbs and edible flowers in a beautiful and productive way. Teens are trained on this site to grow food and give tours to the approximately 10,000 people who walk past this site annually.



## **Austin's Recycling and Reuse Industries Generate \$720 Million in Annual Economic Impact**

The recycling and reuse industries are important contributors to Austin's regional economy, generating \$720 million in economic activity in 2014 and supporting over 2,600 jobs, according to a newly released study commissioned by the City of Austin's Recycling Economic Development Program. In addition, the sector has the potential to grow by over 50 percent to over \$1 billion and 4,200 jobs, according to the study's author.

In 2011, the Austin City Council adopted the Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan which called for the creation of economic development initiatives to support the City's zero waste goal of 90 percent landfill diversion by 2040. As a result, Austin Resource Recovery and the Economic Development Department joined forces to support zero waste business growth through the Recycling Economic Development Program and initiatives such as the redevelopment of the FM 812 landfill into the Austin [re]Manufacturing Hub, the Austin Materials Marketplace, and the Shop Zero Waste initiative. The partnership's latest effort was to measure the current and potential economic impact of the recycling and reuse sectors through a study by TXP, Inc.

The resulting report provides an overview of the local recycling and reuse sector, its current economic impact and the additional impact of bringing local recycling-related manufacturing up to the national average. The report evaluated available state and national data, overall economic trends, local stakeholder input, literature and best practices. The report also offers recommendations on how the City of Austin can effectively support the sector so that its full potential to create jobs and economic opportunity can be realized.

"This report both confirms that zero-waste activities play an important role in our economy and that we have more work to do to maximize this sector's potential economic impact," said Bob Gedert, Director of Austin Resource Recovery. "Despite our green reputation, we lag behind the national average in recycling-related manufacturing and we need to take action to correct that."

"By supporting the recycling and reuse industries, Austin can support the creation of hundreds of jobs for those in our community who are struggling economically, who face employment barriers or who lack a post-secondary degree," said Kevin Johns, Director of the Economic Development Department. "This report offers guidance on how we can move this industry forward and establishes a baseline for measuring our future success."

The full report is available for download [here](#).

From: City of Austin

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## Recycling Is Under Fire. Here's Why We Shouldn't Abandon It

Recycling is under fire.

Even though the economics are tough today, that doesn't mean we should stop recycling, argues Meg Morris.

As commodity prices plummet, opponents are indicting recycling as too impractical and costly. The debate came to a head late last year when *The New York Times* posed the ultimate question: Is recycling worth it?

Its answer: probably not. But most of us working in the waste, recycling, public policy, environmental and health fields would respond with a full-throated, "Yes, it is."

Recycling -- hand in hand with other advanced waste management practices -- plays a vital role in shutting down the true enemy of the environment: landfills.

Go [here](#) for the full article.

From: Greentech Media

### Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Event	Date	Place
Florida Water Resources Conference	April 24 – 27, 2016	Kissimmee, FL
Powder and Bulk Solids	May 3 – 5, 2016	Chicago, IL
Texas Environmental Conference	May 3 – 5, 2016	Austin, TX
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sea Level Rise Summit: Connected Futures From Alaska to Florida, Florida Atlantic University	May 3 – 5, 2016	Ft Lauderdale, FL
Battelle 2016 Chlorinated Conference	May 22 – 26, 2016	Palm Springs, CA
World Environmental and Water Resources Congress 2016	May 22 – 26, 2016	Palm Beach, FL
Society of Wetland Scientists	May 31 – June 24, 2016	Corpus Christi, TX
27 <sup>th</sup> AWMA Joint Florida/Alabama Technical Conference	June 10, 2016	Pensacola, FL
Florida Association of Water Quality 2016 Annual Conference	June 15 – 17, 2016	Naples, FL
Georgia Environmental Conference	August 24 – 26, 2016	Jekyll Island, GA
<b>FAEP 2016 Conference &amp; Training Symposium</b>	<b>September 22 – 23, 2016</b>	<b>Bonita Springs, FL</b>
Florida Remediation Conference	October 6 -7, 2016	Orlando, FL
Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration	October 13 – 14, 2016	Lakeland, FL
AEHS – Soils, Sediments & Energy	October 17 – 20, 2016	Amherst, MA
Southeast Brownfields Conference	October, 17 – 18, 2016	Jacksonville, FL
Clean Gulf	November 1 – 3, 2016	Tampa, FL
Railroad Environmental Conference	November 1 – 2, 2016	Champaign, IL
SAME – Small Business Conference for Construction & Environmental	November 14 – 16, 2016	Atlanta, GA
FLERA Winter Symposium	December 3 – 4, 2016	St. Petersburg, FL
SAME – Industry Day	December 9, 2016	Jacksonville, FL
Battelle 9 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Remediation of Contaminated Sediments	January 9 – 12, 2017	New Orleans, LA
Battelle - Ninth International Conference on Remediation of Contaminated Sediments	January 9 – 12, 2017	New Orleans, LA

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

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## FAEP Group Discount Memberships

Did you know that FAEP provides a discount on our membership 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 renewing 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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¼ Page	\$100	\$375
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1 Page	\$250	\$900

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