



## TAMPA BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS

[WWW.TBAEP.ORG](http://WWW.TBAEP.ORG)

### SHELL KEY PRESERVE BALANCING PRESERVATION WITH PUBLIC USE

Our September meeting will feature Kristen Penny Sommers talking about nesting bird research at Shell Key Preserve. Shell Key Preserve is one of the last undeveloped barrier islands in west-central Florida. At over 2,100 acres, Shell Key Preserve includes a 180-acre barrier island, several mangrove islands, mudflats, sand bars, and seagrass beds. Three state-listed species, the American oystercatcher, least tern, and black skimmer, currently nest on Shell Key and more than 70 species of shore and sea birds use the area during migration and winter months. Because of the particular sensitivity of the shore birds that utilize the island as an important winter stopover point, including piping plover and red knots, the management plan strives to balance public recreational use and the needs of wildlife, particularly shorebirds that rely on the Preserve.

Kristen is a Research Biologist with the Pinellas County Department of Environmental Management's Environmental Lands Division. Kristen acquired a B.S. in Biology from Florida State University and an M.S. in Zoology from the University of South Florida. Her Master's thesis examined the translocation success of a federally-listed species, the sand skink, on restored scrub sites. After graduate school, Kristen worked in private industry for a few years prior to starting with Pinellas County in 2002. Currently, Kristen is the lead ecologist on a handful of studies including nesting success of shorebirds on Shell Key, and the population biology of the state-listed Catesby's lily at Brooker Creek Preserve.

### JULY JOINT MEETING WITH FAEP

Thanks to those who attended our July meeting at the Annual FAEP Membership meeting in Marco Island. The slate of new officers for 2005-2006 was determined at the meeting and TBAEP would like to welcome Amy Wright as the new President of FAEP. The meeting was held on the evening before the Florida Chamber Permitting Short Course began. Thanks also to our very own Tom Cuba who shared an historical perspective on ethics issues that we face everyday as environmental practitioners.

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

Please join us at Pinellas County's wonderful Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center for a very interesting presentation by Kristen Penney Sommers on Shell Key Preserve. Lunch will be provided for a nominal \$10 fee (\$15 non-members), RSVP to [gfeher@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:gfeher@tampabay.rr.com).

### AUGUST 2005

#### Upcoming Meetings!

- **Aug 17 - 4:30 PM**

Heather Faessler

*Alum Injection at Prospect Lake*

At City of Clearwater-Room 111

- **Sept 21 - 12:00 PM**

Kristen Penny Sommers

*Shell Key Preserve: Managing Preservation With Public Use*

Weedon Island Education Center

[www.weedonislandcenter.org](http://www.weedonislandcenter.org)

- **Oct 27 - 5:00 PM**

Happy Hour sponsored by  
TBAEP at the Annual  
Conference on Ecosystems  
Restoration and Creation

#### Looking for a Great Way to get Your Organization Recognized?

TBAEP meeting sponsorships are now available. Your organization or firm can sponsor the food and/or drinks for a monthly meeting and we'll give you lots of credit for a job well done! Come see what you've been missing at the new TBAEP!

TBAEP is committed to developing your professional and personal goals while we as an association strive to provide **you** with a professional organization that represents your interests.

## BETTER BEACH HEALTH !!!!!

U.S. beaches have become more enjoyable places for Americans to play, thanks to improved water monitoring and state and local actions to address sources of pollution. EPA's most recent data on beach closings and advisories show that only 4% of beach days were lost in 2004 due to advisories or closures triggered by monitoring for bacteria. Most of the closures were relatively short in duration. More than 2,700 closings were two days or less, and only 59 closings lasted more than 30 days. The number of beaches monitored has more than tripled - 3,574 in 2004, compared with 1,021 in 1997, the first year EPA began collecting beach-monitoring program data. Of the beaches reported to EPA in 2004, 942, or 26%, had at least one advisory or closing during the 2004 season. The differences are attributable both to greater state participation in the program and also to improved measurement and monitoring made possible by grant money from EPA. For the past five years, EPA has provided nearly \$42 million in grants to 35 coastal and Great Lakes states and territories. EPA expects that Florida will receive \$537,390 in grant funds from a program established by the passage of the BEACH Act in October 2000.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We'd like to welcome these new and returning members to our organization:

**John Bailey**

**William Fehring**

**Vivienne Handy**

**RaNae Nowicki**

Did you know that together we can achieve more? If every TBAEP member introduced the benefits and services of our association to a co-worker, colleague, friend or associate, we would double the resources available to meet the needs of YOU, our member. Not only financial resources, but also human resources, our most important ones.

## **UPCOMING 2005 CONFERENCES**

FES/FICE 89 <sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Conference	August 3-6	Marco Island, FL	<a href="http://www.fleng.org">www.fleng.org</a>
30 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Water Management	September 7-9	Fort Myers, FL	<a href="http://www.mcraeco.com/acowm_conf.html">www.mcraeco.com/acowm_conf.html</a>
2005 FDOT Environmental Management Workshop	October 3-6	Sarasota, FL	<a href="http://www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/news.htm">www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/news.htm</a>
Florida Brownfields Conference	October 9-12	Jacksonville, FL	<a href="http://www.floridabrownfields.org">www.floridabrownfields.org</a>
Ecosystems Restoration and Creations	October 27-28	Tampa, FL	<a href="http://www.hccfl.edu/depts/detp/ecoconf.html">www.hccfl.edu/depts/detp/ecoconf.html</a>
EPA National Brownfields Conference	November 2-4	Denver, CO	<a href="http://www.brownfields2005.org">www.brownfields2005.org</a>
Florida Remediation Conference	November 8-9	Orlando, FL	<a href="http://www.enviro-net.com">www.enviro-net.com</a>
Public Land Acquisition & Management Partnership Conference	November 16-18	Southeast FL (TBA)	<a href="http://www.ser.org/cpc/events.asp">www.ser.org/cpc/events.asp</a>

### **Florida Labor Camp Owner Charged**

Robert Evans, Sr. of Palatka, Florida, Emma Mae Johnson and Nathaniel Davenport have been charged with alleged violations at the Palatka Labor Camp. The camp is a community where farm workers live. Evans was charged with making false claims statements to officials of the Dept. of Labor about the number of workers living at the camp, improperly transporting laborers and allowing the discharge of raw sewage to flow from the camp into Cow Creek which is a tributary of the St. John's River. The dumping of raw sewage into creeks can create a health hazard to humans and wildlife.

### **UPDATE ON KELO V. CITY OF NEW LONDON**

On June 30<sup>th</sup> the House of Representatives passed an amendment to the FY06 HUD appropriations bill that would prohibit the use of HUD funds to "...enforce the judgment of the U.S. Supreme Court in the eminent domain case of Kelo V. New London, decided June 23, 2005." If this language is adopted by the House-Senate Conference Committee, HUD funds could not be used "...to enforce..." the Kelo decision. It is not known if Congress has targeted other budgets for the same or similar restrictions.

National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals *NewsFlash*

## Louisiana Man Convicted of Witness Tampering in Arkansas Endangered Species Case

On July 14, Alfred Craft, of West Monroe, La., was found guilty by a jury on two felony counts of witness tampering in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas in Little Rock. Previously, on March 8, 2005 Craft pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor violation of the Federal Bald Eagle Act and two misdemeanor charges of violating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, admitting that he intentionally lured and killed animals by baiting deer carcasses and sardine cans with Temik, a highly toxic poison that he was not licensed to possess. Also, on April 14, 2005, he went to trial on three counts of witness tampering and one count of violating the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) by illegally using a restricted use pesticide. The first trial ended with a FIFRA conviction and a hung jury on the witness tampering charges. The testimony at trial claimed that Craft admitted to a witness he had been baiting foxes, bobcats, and coyotes on his land with poison-laced sardines, and in the process killed a bald eagle and two other migratory birds. In the witness tampering counts presented at the retrial, the evidence showed that Craft threatened two witnesses and urged them to keep quiet about the investigation to federal authorities and instructed them on "how to testify."

### TBAEP BOARD

**President, Bruce Hasbrouck**

BHasbrouck@FallerDavis.com

**Vice President, Heather Faessler**  
Heather.Faessler@myclearwater.com

**Treasurer, Bill Brammell**  
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**Secretary, Mindy Hogan**  
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**Past President, George Feher**  
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**At-Large Member, Steve Swingle**  
SSwingle@ch2m.com

**Membership Services, Teri Hasbrouck**  
THasbrouck@PinellasCounty.org

## TAMPA BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS

New Member?  Yes  No      Renewal?  Yes  No      Date \_\_\_\_\_

\$40 Chapter Membership *and* FAEP Membership       \$10 Student Chapter Membership

National Association of Environmental Professionals Membership (optional)

\$125 NAEP only Dues      (NAEP Member # \_\_\_\_\_)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (w): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

CEP?  Yes  No

August newsletter

Employment:       Academic       Government       Private

Type of Work:       (1) Environmental Management       (2) Environmental Planning       (3) Environmental Compliance

(4) Biology-Botany, Ecology, Wildlife Management       (5) Engineering

(6) Law       (7) Environmental Consulting       (8) Other

Area of Expertise:       (10) Impact Assessment       (20) Design       (30) Permitting

(40) Monitoring/Analysis       (50) Teaching       (60) Research

(110) Waste Management       (120) Other

Degree(s)/Year \_\_\_\_\_ University \_\_\_\_\_

Questions?  
Contact Teri Hasbrouck  
(Membership Services)  
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THasbrouck@PinellasCounty.org

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Please make checks out to TBAEP