



## TAMPA BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS

### RESTORING WETLANDS IN LOUISIANA

According to an article in *The Wall Street Journal*, Dr. Sherwood Gagliano has proposed re-routing part of the Mississippi River as restoration of wetlands in lower Louisiana. Dr. Gagliano, president of Coastal Environments Inc. and one of Louisiana's foremost experts on coastal restoration issues, believes that by redirecting a third of the river's water for 105 miles, 320 acres of wetlands would be created each year. This "Third Delta Conveyance Channel" would cause the ensuing deltas to expand to a square mile of land for each delta in ten years.

Based on review of aerial photography, Dr. Gagliano's studies show that the current conditions cause the loss of about 25 square miles of wetlands each year. Shifting geological faults, combined with the loss of replenishing sedimentation during annual flooding, has caused the wetlands to subside into the Gulf of Mexico.

"Coast 2050" is the State's first blueprint for coastal restoration. The third delta option became one of the proposals highlighted in a plan drafted by 12 scientists and signed by 14 Federal and State officials in 1998. The plan has generated interest after the extensive flooding left by hurricane Katrina.

Other scientists have offered competing plans. Mr. Kerry St. Pe, Director of the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program has been urging state officials to build a series of pipelines to pump sediments from areas upriver to the depleted marshes. The idea is to dredge sediment from the river bottoms and pump it through lengthy pipelines. The new areas would be planted with native vegetation capable of withstanding hurricanes. A 780-acre test project completed in Port Fourchon, Louisiana withstood the double punch from hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Some of the plantings, live oak, hackberry, and sweet acacia, showed moderate damage, but the marshes held firm.

Go to <http://www.cnn.com/feedback/forms/form1f.katrina.restructure.html>  
To weigh in on the debate on whether coastal wetlands should be restored.

DECEMBER 2005

**Mark your Calendar!**

#### Upcoming Meetings:

- **Dec. 10 - 9AM-12PM**  
**Heather Faessler,**  
**City of Clearwater**  
**Outing to Cooper's Point**
- **Jan. 18 - 11:30AM**  
**TBA**

#### Epicenter at ICOT

- **Feb. 15 - 5:30PM**  
**Student Recruiting**  
***What do Environmental Professionals Really Do?***  
**University of Tampa**
- **Mar. 15 - 11:30AM**

#### Bruce French

*Active Management of Estuarine Water Quality By Regulation of Residence Time*

### WHERE SHOULD YOU CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS?

Find out when the lighted boat parades will brighten the nights or where you can stroll through a winter wonderland - all at one website! Pinellas County is partnering with the cities to market holiday lighted displays and events across the county, there will be holiday fun and excitement for all! You can find details at: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/LightsofPinellas/>

#### NAEP

#### 31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Global Perspectives on Regional Issues:

The Future for Environmental Professionals in the next 30 Years  
April 23-26 Albuquerque, NM

Go to: <http://www.naep.org/>



## DECEMBER OUTING

Join Heather Faessler for a tour of the City of Clearwater's Cooper's Point, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, 9-12, with the Native Plant Society and the St. Pete Audubon Society. The City of Clearwater's Environmental Division recently won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the EPA's 2005 Gulf Guardian National Award Competition. They won for improvements made at Cooper's Point, a 75-acre peninsula located on Old Tampa Bay near the west end of the Courtney Campbell Parkway. The competition is part of the Gulf of Mexico Program, an EPA initiative that works with governments and organizations along the Gulf of Mexico to address environmental issues. Clearwater Engineering Department in collaboration with Keep Pinellas Beautiful and TBAEP has sponsored the Florida Coastal Cleanup Day event for the past two years at this location. Today the site is home to many species of native flora and fauna. Organizations that have helped fund and support the restoration include: SWFWMD, FDEP, TBEP and Pinellas County.

See attached location map

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING AS SMART GROWTH TOOL

The National Association of Counties (NACo), through its Center for Sustainable Communities, surveyed nearly 800 county officials to learn firsthand the challenges they face in creating affordable housing in their communities and what steps need to be taken to assist them in doing so. The resulting report, "Opportunities for County Government and Affordable Housing Challenge," is based on their responses and insights, and provides brief profiles of three counties that have adapted existing tools and created new ones to assure that housing is accessible and affordable to as many citizens as possible. For more information, go to

<http://www.legean.org/html/whatsnew.cfm?id=963>

## UTAH RESTAURANT COMPANY SENTENCED FOR CLEAN AIR ACT VIOLATION

On Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, Wilshire Restaurant Group, Inc., owner of Marie Callender's Pie Shops, Inc., was sentenced for negligently releasing asbestos while replacing the roof of the restaurant in Midvale, Utah. The defendant will pay a \$50,000 fine. The defendant was also ordered to conduct an asbestos survey of its Utah stores, develop an asbestos management plan for the stores and properly train its executives. In addition the company will voluntarily contribute \$50,000 to the Western States Project for use in providing environmental enforcement and investigation training to state and local government personnel in Utah. In early 1999, the defendant's employees at the restaurant noticed the roof was leaking and made temporary repairs. In May, Marie Callender's received several bids to repair the roof. However, the firm that won the contract was not informed by Marie Callender's employees that costs for properly removing asbestos-containing materials were part of the other bids. As a result, the asbestos underlayment was removed without following federal workplace standards, and asbestos fibers were released into the air. Releasing asbestos into the air can lead to the inhalation of fibers which is a cause of lung cancer (mesothelioma).

from EPANEWS

## EPA Announces One Million Pounds of Household Hazardous Waste Collected in the Aftermath of Katrina and Rita

EPA announced on Oct 31, that an estimated one million pounds of household hazardous waste has been collected in Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Household hazardous waste typically consists of cleaning products found in most homes as well as lawn and garden products, pesticides and herbicides, fuels and paints and batteries found in most garages. EPA has worked with local agencies and parishes to establish collection centers in several Louisiana parishes.

from EPANEWS

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

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 human resources, our most important ones. 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.

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

Trudy Killeen  
William Falls  
Luis Diaz

## Pasco County Environmental Lands Management Program

If you're interested in the Pasco County ELAMP you can go their website for the Committee meeting schedule and task force reports at

<http://www.pascocountyfl.net/> and click on Departments, then under Divisions click on Environmental Lands. For further questions you can contact the Program Manager Rene Weisner Brown at [rwbrown@pascocountyfl.net](mailto:rwbrown@pascocountyfl.net)

Their next meeting is on Wednesday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>.

## COMPANY PLANS LARGE WIND PLANT OFFSHORE OF GALVESTON, TEXAS

Galveston-Offshore Wind, LLC is planning to build a 150-megawatt wind power plant about seven miles off the coast of Galveston, Texas. The Texas General Land Office (GLO) has announced that the company, a division of Wind Energy Systems Technology, LLC, has signed a lease agreement for an 11,355-acre area in the Gulf of Mexico. The Corps has given the company its approval to build two meteorological test towers in the lease area, and construction of those towers will begin immediately. The wind power projects depends on good wind resources, as indicated by the test towers, as well as state and federal approvals. The GLO claims the Texas project could be the first offshore wind plant in the nation, but proposed projects off the coasts of Massachusetts and Long Island have a head start. Cape Wind LLC and the Long Island Power Authority proposed those projects and filed permit applications with the Corps, and the Corps has prepared a draft EIS for the Massachusetts project. Go to this link for more info. <http://www.glo.state.tx.us/offshorewind/> from EERE Network News

## PHOTO IDENTIFICATION OF MANATEES

SB104, also known as **Sombrero** has been photographed since the summer of 1996. She was first seen in a small pocket of Palma Sola Bay in Bradenton, Florida and has been seen there nearly every summer since. She typically heads south in the winter months to the Fort Myers Power Plant. The water in the discharge canal of the power plant stays warm even during the coldest of days.

When Sombrero was first observed in 1996 she had only one scar on her upper body. Between the summers of 1997 and 1998 she obtained a set of three scars just above the previous one. These, along with scars she later acquired on her tail and the lower half of her body, make her very easy to identify. Last summer she was seen several times with a young calf. In the southwest region of Florida a calf typically will stay with its mother for two years before heading off on its own. The most recent sighting of Sombrero was on August 29, 2005. She was seen in the same small basin of Palma Sola Bay that she was originally photographed at in 1996. Go to <http://research.myfwc.com/subscriptions/> if you would like to subscribe to the FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute newsletter.

from MyFWC.com



## New Federal Rule Solves Longstanding Florida Wastewater Problem

The EPA has finalized an approach to disposal of wastewater that offers greater protection for underground sources of drinking water and potential savings for wastewater treatment facilities in Florida. The Underground Injection Control (UIC) rule sharply reduces the possibility of contamination from wastewater injected into deep wells.

Facilities may opt for one of several approaches as long as their action brings them into compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. Those that use the UIC method must have industrial pretreatment so that various sources of effluent remove major contaminants before the water enters the wastewater treatment plant. Treatment facilities, in turn, add a secondary level of treatment and then high-level disinfection to inactivate pathogenic organisms. This results in water that meets the same standard as is required by the State of Florida for reuse water applied on lawns, golf courses and similar applications.

The rule is based, in part, on the findings of a comprehensive study called "Relative Risk Assessment of Management Options for Treated Wastewater in S. Florida." It demonstrated the feasibility and cost effectiveness of the approach. Some facilities have been facing prohibitively expensive alternative disposal methods or perhaps closing their operations. For more than 20 years, some Florida municipalities have been using underground injection as an alternative to surface disposal of treated domestic wastewater. These high-technology (Class I) wells have been drilled 1,000-3,000 feet deep. However, evidence has accumulated that some of the wastewater has been migrating into underground sources of drinking water.

EPA has also found that pretreatment programs and prohibitions on wastewater from significant industrial users have prevented contaminants from getting into wastewater in the first place, and that secondary treatment is a critical step in wastewater treatment prior to high-level disinfection. DEP will propose regulations that are at least as stringent as this new federal rule. Facilities in St. Petersburg already meet this standard and improvements to meet the standard at Miami-Dade are underway.

The final rule, will be published in the Federal Register in the near future. The final rule and other supporting information is available at: [http://www.epa.gov/region4/water/uic/class1\\_flrule.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region4/water/uic/class1_flrule.htm)

Tampa BayWatch is Making  
A Splash and You're Invited

Grand Opening  
Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 10AM-2PM  
3000 Pinellas Bayway S., Tierra Verde  
FAMILY FUN!!!  
Enjoy FREE hot dogs, soda and a view  
that will help you understand the  
importance of our local environment!  
Come check out the new  
**Marine and Education Center!**

**William R. and Lenore Mote  
International Symposium**

Florida State University and the  
Mote Marine Laboratory are  
pleased to announce the  
**First Call for Papers**  
*Life History in  
Fisheries Ecology and Management*  
  
November 14-16, 2006  
[www.bio.fsu.edu/mote/](http://www.bio.fsu.edu/mote/)

Would you like to know what the  
average salary is for an  
Environmental Professional in the  
Tampa Bay Region?

Check out our website at  
[www.tbaep.org](http://www.tbaep.org)  
under Announcements

**Pinellas County Preserves**

Now that the weather is great outside, why not check out a couple of our local public preserves?  
They have classes and activities for all ages so get the family together and enjoy the fall season!  
How about taking the older kids on a canoe trip?  
Or discover the creatures of the night with a family-oriented night hike.  
It's all waiting for you at Weedon Island and Brooker Creek.  
Check it out !!!



- |                   |  |                    |  |
|-------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Dec.3,10,17,24,31 | Saturday Guided Hikes  | Dec. 3,10,17,24,31 | Saturday Guided Hikes  |
| Dec. 2            | Weedon Night Life Hike   | Dec. 7,21          | Wednesday Night Walks  |
| Dec. 4            | Photography Hike   | Dec. 4,11,18       | Sunday Guided Hikes  |
| Dec. 7            | Journal of Light: A Photographer's<br>Search for the Soul of Florida | Dec. 3             | Family Cypress Swamp Hike                                      |
| Dec. 8            | Wee-time at Weedon: Fine Feathered<br>Friends: All About Birds       | Dec. 8             | Book Time at Brooker Creek-Nuts to You!                        |
| Dec. 9            | Family Hike Night  | Dec. 10            | Meet the Artist: Charles Rowe                                  |
| Dec. 10           | Guided Canoe Trip  | Dec. 14            | You Don't Have to be a Grinch to be<br>Green-Sustainable Gifts |
| Dec. 11           | Nature Journal Journeys  | Dec. 22            | Book Time at Brooker Creek-Forest<br>Bright, Forest Night      |
| Dec. 16           | Weedon Extended Night Hike   | Dec. 18            | Christmas Bird Count-Volunteers Needed                         |
| Dec. 18           | Weedon 101: History  |                    |  |
| Dec. 22           | Wee-time at Weedon: Owl Babies                                       |                    |  |
| Every Sat. & Sun. | Self-Guided Kayak/Canoe Tours  |                    |  |
| Every Fri.        | Kayaking for Seniors   |                    |  |
| Every Sat. & Sun. | Introduction to Kayak Basics & Safety                                |                    |  |

Call Weedon Island (727-453-6500) or Brooker Creek (727-453-6800) to register for these great activities!  
For times and location go to: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/Environment/pagesHTML/se10.html>

**TBAEP BOARD**

**President, Bruce Hasbrouck**  
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**Vice President, Heather Faessler**  
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Melinda.Hogan@saj02.usace.army.mil

**TAMPA BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS**

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

\$45 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

Dec 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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