

TAMPA BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS

WWW.TBAEP.ORG

NEW STUDENT CHAPTER AT UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

TBAEP is pleased to announce that we have a new student chapter at the University of Tampa. The Organization is called Tampa Bay Association of Environmental Professionals-University of Tampa Student Chapter (TBAEP-UT). They have about 50 active members. It is worth noting the Chapter collaborates with two other organizations- Beta Beta Beta Biological Honors Society, and the Environmental Protection Coalition (EPC). Because most of the members of one organization are members of all three, they hold meetings at the same time.

The officers of TBAEP-UT are:

Jessica Orlando.....Chair
Sarah Bell.....Co-Chair
Megan Flumer.....Student Government Representative

They are starting up a pilot program for recycling in the science building, to determine how often bins will need to be dumped by the facilities staff, how often the city will be picking up the recycling from larger bins, and whether or not separate recycling staff members are needed for a recycling program for the entire campus. Students will also be playing an important role in monitoring the bins.

Some of their other plans for the semester are:

- A series of seminars, including symposia about an Alaskan wildlife photo tour and animal husbandry (specifically sharks) at the Lowry Park Zoo.
- Participating in the Earth Day Paper Bags Project, where paper bags will be decorated with elementary school children and provided to local grocery stores on Earth Day. A vegetarian and organic food Barbeque will be held to increase awareness of Earth Day.
- Community service, specifically the Coastal Clean-up, the Mayor's Beautification Project, and the adoption of a site at McKay Bay Nature Park. Social outings, including a manatee snorkel and camping/Canoe trip

Another Chapter goal is to have some members assist, intern, or job shadow with local environmental professionals. This is probably the biggest way TBAEP can help the chapter. If you would like to assist, please contact Jessica Orlando at JORLANDO@UT.EDU and attend our February meeting at UT (directions attached).

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH NAEP

The National Association of Environmental Professionals has a new and updated web site. They have created a page that provides contacts for internships that are available throughout the U.S. For more information go to our web page at: www.tbaep.org and look under announcements.

FEBRUARY 2006

Mark your Calendar!

Upcoming Meetings:

- **Feb. 15 - 5:30PM**
Student Recruiting
What do Environmental Professionals Really Do?
University of Tampa
- **Mar. 15 - 11:30AM (lunch)**
Bruce French
Active Management of Estuarine Water Quality by Regulation of Residence Time
Pinellas County Economic Development
Epicenter at ICOT
- **Apr. 19 - TBD**

NAEP

31ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Global Perspectives
on Regional Issues:

The Future for Environmental
Professionals in the Next 30 Years
April 23-26 Albuquerque, NM
Go to: www.naep.org



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE NETWORK

New Grants Program to Help Coastal Counties with Marine Habitat Restoration

The National Association of Counties, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Community-based Restoration Program, have announced the creation of a new grant program targeting marine habitat restoration in coastal counties. The Coastal Counties Restoration Initiative will provide financial assistance on a competitive basis to innovative, high-quality, county-led or -supported projects that support wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration projects.

The initiative is currently accepting applications for its first annual grant awards. Grants that are community-based in nature and include partnering with NOAA will be given special consideration. NACo member counties, or public or nonprofit private agencies, institutions, and organizations, educational institutions, and any form of local government working in partnership with a NACo member county are eligible for funding. All applicants must include a letter of support from their chief elected county official. Non-county applicants should ensure that the letter demonstrates a substantial county partnership in the project.

The deadline for applications is February 24, 2006. For more information and application instructions visit <http://fconline/fdncenter.org/pnd/10000120/nfwf>

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.

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

Richard Garrity
Barbara Motte
Polly Ready
Kevin Songer
Scott Davis

Plant Native Species on Florida Arbor Day

In celebration of Florida's Arbor Day, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is encouraging citizens to protect the State's natural woodlands, hardwood hammocks and mangrove forests by planting native trees like the sabal palm, Florida's state tree. Late winter is the ideal time for planting native species in the state, making Florida's Arbor Day several weeks earlier than the national observance.

"By planting native trees on Arbor Day, Floridians are helping control the spread of invasive plant species that could impact our natural environment," said DEP Secretary Colleen M. Castille. "Trees provide a number of benefits, including wildlife habitat and cleaner air. Participating in Arbor Day allows us to give back to the state's environment and our local communities."

Created by Julius Sterling Morton, Arbor Day was first celebrated in Nebraska in 1872. The idea quickly spread to neighboring states and is now recognized in countries worldwide. In 1970, President Richard Nixon proclaimed the last Friday in April as National Arbor Day, and all 50 states participate in Arbor Day celebrations. The Florida Legislature in 1945 designated the third Friday in January as the state's Arbor Day.

Florida is home to a number of invasive trees including the Australian pine, chinaberry and Brazilian pepper. Invasive, non-native plants inhabit almost 15 percent of Florida's public conservation lands and waterways, decreasing native biodiversity and affecting an eco-tourism economy valued at more than \$7.8 billion annually. Throughout the past five years, Governor Jeb Bush has tasked a multi-agency team with researching, preventing and eradicating invasive species in Florida.

For more information about Florida's environment, visit www.floridadep.org.

Employment Opportunities

TBE is a multi-disciplinary engineering consulting firm with entry to mid-level opportunities in their Environmental Management Group located in Clearwater, FL. The group specializes in brownfields redevelopment, contamination assessment and remediation for public and private sector clients.

The ideal candidates will have an environmental engineering or geology degree and 0-4+ years experience. TBE offers a competitive salary and benefits package including ESOP, 401k (with match), bonus program and more.

TBE Group is ranked #7 in the nation for best firms to work for by CE News magazine. In addition, TBE ranks #4 in the nation in the best mid-size firm category. TBE also is consistently ranked in the top 10 largest environmental firms in the Tampa Bay area by the Tampa Bay Business Journal. Apply online at www.tbegroup.com

"Pier" Pressure Promotes Clean Boating

Last weekend, Florida boaters made a promise to protect state water resources at the Stuart Boat Show. More than 423 nautical enthusiasts pledged to become *Clean Boaters*, environmental role models in a statewide initiative that has gained the momentum of more than 8,000 members.

"Clean Boaters recognize the value of Florida's waterways and encourage protection of those resources for the recreational enjoyment of our citizens as well as visitors to our state," said Department of Environmental Protection Division of Law Enforcement Assistant Director Maury Kolchakian. "Their stewardship helps safeguard the state's waters and preserve valuable natural resources."

More than 940,000 vessels are registered in Florida and another 400,000 or more visit the state every year. The *Clean Boater* initiative educates recreational boaters on simple ways to prevent pollution and preserve the state's beloved waterways. By educating boaters and improving operations at marine facilities, Florida's *Clean Boating* Partnership is helping to ensure a sustainable future for the environment, for boaters and for the billion-dollar marine industry.

"Clean water is the lifeblood of tourism, the marine industry and the boating public in Florida," said Allison Underwood, Chair of the *Clean Boating* Partnership. "Our partnership goal is to protect fragile ecosystems while ensuring continued public enjoyment of our waters. By becoming Clean Boaters, citizens can apply 'pier pressure' on behalf of the environment."

The *Clean Boating* Partnership, which includes the Department of Environmental Protection, marina and boatyard owners and operators, Marine Industries Association of Florida, Florida Sea Grant Program, United States Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary, developed the *Clean Boater* and *Clean Marina* Programs to help boaters, marinas and boatyards use environmental practices to preserve Florida's natural resources.

Clean Marina, *Clean Boater's* mother program, encourages Florida's marinas, boatyards and marine retailers to use eco-friendly practices beyond regulation requirements by adopting best management practices. *Clean Boaters* and all marine patrons are encouraged to look for the *Clean Marina* Flag, which denotes an environmentally-conscious marine facility. For more info. Go to:

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/law/grants/cmp/default.htm>.



Aurora Borealis



Rookery Bay Goes To The Birds

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve welcomed visitors to the Southwest Florida Birding Festival on January 20th, allowing both beginners and experts to explore the bird life and environment of Southwest Florida. Continuing through the weekend, the second annual festival provides presentations, biology games, conservation lessons and birding trips for participants.

"Appreciating and preserving the rich bird life and natural habitat of Florida begins with knowledge," said Rookery Bay Reserve Manager Gary Lytton. "Bird watchers young and young at heart, from beginners to experts, will enjoy touring our birding 'hotspots'."

University of Massachusetts professor and author Donald Kroodsma, PhD, opened the event with a keynote address on bird vocalizations. Presentations by birding experts continue throughout the weekend, including basics on birding for beginners and using your computer to become a better birder. Fifteen speakers will inform participants on the art of birding and the species and habitats of Southwest Florida birds.

In addition, guided tours by regional birding experts to birding "hotspots" will allow visitors to explore the birds in their natural environment. Ranging from two to four hours, trips include a sunset cruise at Rookery Bay and an early morning boat cruise through Everglades National Park. Tours will take participants to Sand Dollar Sandbar and Lagoon, Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary and Collier-Seminole State Park.

One of only 26 nationally designated Estuarine Research Reserves, the 110,000-acre Rookery Bay Reserve is located at the northern end of Ten Thousand Islands in Collier County, protecting one of the few remaining, relatively undisturbed mangrove estuaries in the nation. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection manages Rookery Bay in cooperation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

For information about Rookery Bay or Florida's estuaries, visit www.dep.state.fl.us/coastal/. For more about the Friends of Rookery Bay, visit www.rookerybay.org.



The eye of Hurricane Emily photographed from the International Space Station. From Science.Nasa.gov

MANATEES RETURN TO STATE PARK

Visitors to Blue Spring State Park have experienced many manatee sightings due to the onset of cooler weather and lower water temperatures in the St. Johns River. As many as 250 different manatees have been spotted in the spring.

"Visitors to the park have the opportunity to observe manatees in their natural environment at this time of the year," said Florida Park Service Director Mike Bullock. "Watching these gentle giants is a reminder to us all of the importance of protecting Florida's habitat and ecosystems."

Blue Spring is a designated manatee refuge with water temperatures in the spring remaining in the 70s, creating a safe haven for the West Indian Manatee. The best time to view manatees at the park is early in the morning on a cold winter day.

Located 35 miles from Orlando, Blue Spring State Park provides activities such as boat and canoe trips, kayak expeditions, snorkel excursions, diving tours, picnics and camping. For centuries, the spring area was home for Native Americans; in 1766 it was visited by British botanist John Bartram, and finally settled in 1856 by Louis Thursby and his family.

For more information, visit www.floridastateparks.org.



UPCOMING 2006 CONFERENCES

22 ND ANNUAL GROWTH MANAGEMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING SHORT COURSE	FEB 15-17	ORLANDO	WWW.FLORIDAENET.COM
SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE RECYCLING AND TRADE SHOW	MAR 5	PENSACOLA	337-277-7050
2006 NATIONAL GREEN BUILDING CONFERENCE	MAR 12-14	ALBUQUERQUE, NM	WWW.NAHB.ORG
NAEP 31 ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON REGIONAL ISSUES	APR 23-26	ALBUQUERQUE, NM	WWW.NAEP.ORG
THE COASTAL SOCIETY'S 20 TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE	MAY 13-18	ST. PETE BEACH, FL	WWW.THECOASTALSOCIETY.ORG
RESTORATION 2006	MAY 16-17	NEW ORLEANS	WWW.RESTORATION2006.ORG
FLORIDA CHAMBER'S 20 TH ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING SUMMER SCHOOL	JULY 19-21	MARCO ISLAND	WWW.FLORIDAENET.COM
FLORIDA LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE AGENCIES	AUG 2-4	HYATT ON SARASOTA BAY	WWW.FLERA.ORG
FLORIDA BROWNFIELDS CONFERENCE	OCT	MIAMI	WWW.FLORIDABROWNFIELDS.ORG
FLORIDA REDEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE	OCT 18-20	MIAMI	WWW.REDEVELOPMENT.NET
US EPA NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS CONFERENCE	NOV 13-15	BOSTON	WWW.BROWNFIELDS2006.ORG
FLORIDA REMEDIATION CONFERENCE	NOV 14-15	KISSIMMEE	WWW.ENVIRO-NET.COM

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE EXTENSION SERVICE LATELY?

Pinellas County / University of Florida Extension is part of a nationwide network of community educational centers providing non-biased, research-based information to America's citizens. It is based on the Federal Land-Grant concept established in the early 1900's to "extend" university resources out to the people where they live. Locally, Extension is a cooperative partnership between the Pinellas County Government and the University of Florida in Gainesville. Their educational programs are directed at broad national and state concerns, as well as issues specific to Pinellas County with locally determined - and citizen influenced - priorities. Go to <http://coop.co.pinellas.fl.us/default.htm> to check out the calendar for classes on **composting**, **birds**, **landscaping** and much, much more. Attend the **5th Annual Herb Fest** on February 11th for demonstrations and cooking tips.

2006 Limited-Edition Florida Manatee Calendar

Spend an entire year underwater with the Florida manatee-and never leave dry ground! All proceeds from the sale of the calendar for the FWC's Manatee Research and Education Fund, which helps support manatee research activities. Go to http://research.myfwc/features/view_article.asp?id=23899

Sierra Club to Open Red Tide Office

Several benefactors have provided seed money for a Sierra Club office in Sarasota that will focus on red tide. Opening an office in Sarasota, which could happen as soon as February, signals both the importance -of the issue to state Sierra Club officials and a recognition that the waters off Sarasota County have been particularly vulnerable to the algal bloom.

From the Herald Tribune

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 under Announcements



Brooker Creek

February Featured Events

- 4th How to get the most from your digital camera
- 8th Freedom to Suffrage:
Harriet Beecher Stowe and Frederick Douglas
- 9th Book Time: *Leaf Man*
- 11th Meet the Artist: Angela Kendall
- 18th Invasive Plant Workshop
- 18th Drawing Botanicals Workshop
Artist - Douglas Alan Land
- 22nd The Greening of America and Florida, Too
Mitch Kessler
- 23rd Book Time: *Small Green Snake*
- 25th Plein Air Pastel Painting Workshop
- 26th Artist - Dorothy Gardiner

Call Brooker Creek: 727-453-6800 for detailed info.

New Due Diligence Rules

The All Appropriate Inquiries Rule

The Environmental Protection Agency published a final rule setting federal standards for the conduct of all appropriate inquiries. The rule was published in the Federal Register on November 1, 2005. The final rule and preamble is available below.

The final rule establishes specific regulatory requirements for conducting all appropriate inquiries into the previous ownership, uses, and environmental conditions of a property for the purposes of qualifying for certain landowner liability protections under CERCLA. The final rule will be effective on November 1, 2006, one year following the date of publication. Until November 1, 2006, parties may use either the requirements set forth in the all appropriate inquiries final rule (see below), or the requirements of the interim standard for all appropriate inquiries established in the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (the Brownfields Amendments to CERCLA) to satisfy the statutory requirements for all appropriate inquiries. The interim standard is the ASTM E1527-00 Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process. Parties also may use the newly revised ASTM standard, ASTM E1527-05 standard.

From <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/regneg.htm>

Tampa Bay Watch Needs YOU!

Friday Feb 10

Tuesday, Feb. 28

Wednesday Mar. 1

This project involves filling mesh bags with shells and placing those bags along the coastline of Ft. DeSoto to form an oyster bar. Creating a bar of fossilized shells helps to prevent erosion and gives oyster larvae a place to settle and grow. Oysters are so important to Tampa Bay because they improve the water quality by filtering sediment and nutrients out of the water. If you, your families, friends or coworkers would like to help out Friday, Tuesday, or Wednesday call Jenny Voelkel at 727-867-8166.

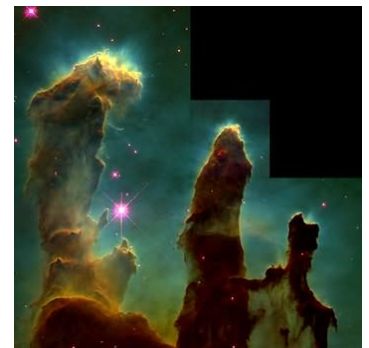
Call for Presentations

Restoration 2006 Conference

The Restoration 2006 conference will be held on May 16-17, 2006 in New Orleans, LA. The conference, organized by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), the National League of Cities (NLC), and the National Association of Counties (NACo), will be focused on long term and sustainable community and economic recovery in the aftermath of a natural or man-made disaster. ICMA is looking for proposals and presenters to help round out the educational program for the conference. Five general thematic tracks help organize the conference and are listed below along with possible topic areas: Community, Service and Infrastructure Recovery; Economic Development, Business and Job Restoration; Financing and Incentive Approaches Environmental Concerns; Collaboration for Restoration. The deadline to submit ideas is February 28, 2006. For more information, click on the following URL:

<https://www.lqean.org/html/whatsnew.cfm?id=1010>

Photos from Outer Space!



TBAEP BOARD

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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)

\$150 NAEP only Dues (NAEP Member # _____)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Title/Position: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

ZIP: _____ Phone (w): _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

CEP? Yes No

Feb 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 _____

AFFIRMATION: I hereby affirm and agree that I will abide by the Code of Ethics of the Association. I further understand that falsification of the contents of this application will be grounds for rejection and/or termination of my Association membership and revocation of all benefits resulting there from.

Signature _____ Date _____

Questions?
Contact Teri Hasbrouck
(Membership Services)
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