

TURNING THE TIDE

Volume 1 Number 11 January 2009

Indian River County Pollution Reporting Hotline # 226-1888

View past issues on the IRC stormwater website at www.ircgov.com/stormwater

IRC citizens are learning and implementing proper outdoor chemical applications, revised disposal methods, and erosion control techniques to avoid contaminating all water that runs off their properties. Property water runoff from urban areas and construction activities are the most significant pollution contributors. Through self-awareness, implementing new behaviors, motivating others, and reporting waste disposed into storm drains and water bodies, IRC citizens will “Turn the Tide” of polluted property water runoff from reaching our oceans.

IMPORTANT

*Let Your Voice Be Heard in Support
Of Clean Water in Your Community!*

A two-week Special Session of the Florida Legislature convened **January 5th** to implement \$2.3 billion in cuts to the budget of the current fiscal year.

The 60-day 2009 Regular Session begins in **early March**, with the pre-emption of city/county ability to raise fees for stormwater programs or implement regulatory measures to control pollutants entering surface water systems.

You may want to let your voice be heard by your legislators about the need for cities and counties to have the necessary funding to do what needs to be done to control (prevent) pollutants from entering our water canals, lakes and Indian River Lagoon.

Updates on legislative activities will be available on the Florida Stormwater Association website <http://www.florida-stormwater.org> beginning next month.

Join your neighbor in “Keeping Indian River County Beautiful,”

Diane Wilson, IRC Stormwater Division

<p style="text-align: center;">Contents</p> <p>News For: Everyone Homeowners Construction Industry Students & Teachers Marine Industry & Boaters Business Sector</p> <p>Job Network IRC Environmental Calendar Websites Grant Deadlines</p>	<p>Did you know.....</p> <p>97% of the earth's water is salty or polluted, 2% is too far underground to reach.</p> <p>That leaves only 1% for clean drinking water and 50% of that is spent watering grass!</p> <p>With so little water available we each need to use it conservatively and keep it clean.</p>
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U.S. Green Building Council - Indian River Chapter Begins Monthly Meetings Thursday, January 15 at 6 pm

Topic: "Green Real Estate" – The "Eco-Brokers Program" <http://www.ecobroker.com/misc/aboutus.aspx> is designed to educate real estate professionals in acquiring the knowledge and resources to become Certified EcoBrokers^(R) and assist clients in their pursuit of properties with green features and marketing of properties with green features.

Location: At Dwellings (interior merchandise store), 9010 20th St. Vero Beach, 1/8 mile east of I-95 on the north side of Route 60. For directions call the store at 772-316-1600.

Registration and social networking begin at 6:00 pm and the meeting begins at 6:30 pm (which goes until 8 pm)

For further information call Pat Hogan at phogan@legacycontractingsolutions.com . To learn about sponsorship opportunities visit. <http://www.usgbc.org/treasurecoastandpalmbeach> If you would like to become a member of the USGBC, please visit www.usgbc.org/join , call 1-800-795-1747 or e-mail membership@usgbc.org to learn more. If you would like to be added to their email distribution list and receive the Chapter's regular newsletters please send an email to listserv@usgbc.org with "subscribe chapters-southflorida-public" in the body of the text.

GREEN REMODELING

Green remodeling is the design and construction of projects that reduce the environmental impacts of remodeling, including energy, water, and materials consumption; waste generation; and harmful emissions, both indoors and out. **For more information visit**

http://www.greenhomeguide.org/documents/regreen_guidelines.pdf

WATER RESTRICTIONS BEGIN IN MARCH 8th

The St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) Governing Board adopted rule amendments in December that will tighten the SJRWMD's irrigation restrictions, effective March 8, 2009 – when daylight savings time begins.

Under the amended rule, **landscape irrigation** will be limited to two days a week during daylight saving time and one day a week during Eastern Standard Time. The amended rule also sets the days of the week that residential and non-residential users can irrigate — Wednesday and Saturday for residential landscape irrigation at odd numbered addresses or no address, Thursday and Sunday for residential landscape irrigation at even numbered addresses, and Tuesday and Friday for nonresidential landscape irrigation during daylight saving time.

When Eastern Standard Time is in effect, residential landscape irrigation will be limited to Saturdays at odd numbered addresses or no address, Sundays at even numbered addresses, and Tuesdays for non-residential landscape irrigation.

In addition, no landscape irrigation is allowed between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., as in the current rule. Additionally, under the amended rule, landscape irrigation will be limited to 3/4 inch of water per irrigation zone on each day that irrigation occurs, and to no more than one hour per irrigation zone on each day that irrigation occurs.

To strengthen enforcement, the rule encourages local governments to adopt ordinances that are consistent with the SJRWMD rule.

The Board also approved an amendment to remove proposed restrictions on the use of reclaimed water and recycled storm water and gave permission to initiate a separate rulemaking process for those provisions. Some reclaimed water utilities have expressed concern about those provisions in the irrigation rule amendments, mostly due to facility and infrastructure limitations.

For information about the rule, visit the SJRWMDWeb site at www.sjrwmd.com/irrigationrule

Source: http://www.sjrwmd.org/waterwatch/pdfs/2009/WaterWatch_0901.pdf

February 9th Climate Change Forum

When: Monday, February 9, 2009; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Where: Brevard Community College- Melbourne Campus - Bldg 4 Lecture auditorium [Map in attachment](#)

Cost: Free

The Space Coast Climate Change Initiative is sponsoring a forum organized to present factual information regarding the issues of global climate change and sea-level rise. The content and non-technical terminology has been specifically formatted for Space Coast residents. The Forum is the first in a series of events organized to elevate discussion of climate change to a level which will encourage action by elected officials, city managers, and residents of the Space Coast. The SCCCI and CCF have received support from the *East-Central Florida Climate Change Task Force* (see footer) and local sponsors including the Brevard Community College, the Caribbean Conservation Corporation, the Conrada Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, the Marine Resources Council and the Space Coast Progressive Alliance.

The Forum will begin with the following presentations:

Dr. Harold Wanless, University of Miami and Miami-Dade County Ad-Hoc Science Committee *Rising Seas: Impending Impacts of Florida's Coastlines*

Peter Harlem, M.S., Florida International University and Miami-Dade County Ad-Hoc Science Committee, *Miami-Dade Adaptation and Mitigation Response to Climate Change and Sea-Level Rise*

A round table discussion will follow, during which time questions from the audience will be fielded by the speakers. All attendees will receive an informational packet containing summaries of each speaker, as well as links to resources and other organizations whom are actively seeking solutions to the global climate change challenge. Additional information is attached.

Contact: Randy Parkinson for additional information at 321 373-0976 or ryparkinson@cfl.rr.com.

Website: www.spacecoastclimatechange.com

Natural Areas Exam Prep Course

January 30, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

St Lucie Co Extension

8400 Picos Road, Ste 101, Fort Pierce

\$15 registration fee payable to the StLucie County 4-H Foundation.

To preregister, complete and mail the course enrollment form. Pre-registration and payment is required one week prior to the program. Call Marsha at (772) 462-1660 to pre-register. No CEU's available

Ornamental & Turf Exam Review

February 25, 2009

Course Begins at 8:00 a.m.

St. Lucie Co Extension Hurricane House

8350 Picos Road, Suite #101

Ft. Pierce, FL 34945,

Telephone (772) 462-1660

Cost: \$20

Instructor: Ed Skvarch, Extension Agent

O&T Exams administered at 11:15 a.m.

For more information on how you can register for both these valuable workshops please contact the St. Lucie County Extension at (772) 462-1660.

[Florida's Green Pages,](#)

If you have not seen [Florida's Green Pages](#), the definitive Green Building Resource for the state, this message may give you the reason to. Our growth has been phenomenal since our launch in October. Last month we launched Green Pages directories in [Georgia](#), [Texas](#), [California](#), [Ohio](#), [New York](#) and [Pennsylvania](#) all working towards our goal of becoming the largest nationwide resource for Green Building products and services.

We are also working on America's Green Pages, a national directory that will mirror the listings of the Premium advertisers of all of our state directories as an exclusive benefit to our Premium advertisers.

Treasure Coast Environmental Education Coalition

Jan. 21 3:45 pm

At the Smithsonian Marine Life Center – Fort Pierce, FL

Speaker: Cris Ryan, Smithsonian's Education Director

Topic: the programs of the Smithsonian

Everyone Welcome!

STORM DRAIN ARTWORK



(submitted by Jo Moore)

Remember, it is in the small changes that we make
each day that will help improve our environment!

- Captain Planet Foundation (CPF)

Each time you use [goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) as your search engine and select CPF as your default charity, the site will make a donation to us. So partner up with our Foundation and make it your search engine of choice. It is an easy way to contribute to the Foundation if you do not have the means to send us a personal donation. You can give without having to give of your own. And be sure to tell your friends!

<http://www.captainplanetfoundation.org/uploadedFiles/ftp-upload/Adult%20Newsletter.pdf>

NEWS FOR EVERYONE....

Did you know that radon is the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer in the United States today (per the Surgeon General)?

Radon is a cancer-causing, radioactive gas. You can't see radon. And you can't smell it or taste it. But it may be a problem in your home. Radon is estimated to cause many thousands of deaths each year. That's because when you breathe air containing radon, you can get lung cancer. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths. If you smoke and your home has high radon levels, your risk of lung cancer is especially high.

How Does Radon Get Into Your Home?

Radon is a radioactive gas. It comes from the natural decay of uranium that is found in nearly all soils. It typically moves up through the ground to the air above and into your home through cracks and other holes in the foundation. Your home traps radon inside, where it can build up. Any home may have a radon problem. This means new and old homes, well-sealed and drafty homes, and homes with or without basements. Any home may have a radon problem.

Radon from soil gas is the main cause of radon problems. Sometimes radon enters the home through well water. In a small number of homes, the building materials can give off radon, too. However, building materials rarely cause radon problems by themselves.

RADON GETS IN THROUGH:

1. Cracks in solid floors
2. Construction joints
3. Cracks in walls
4. Gaps in suspended floors
5. Gaps around service pipes
6. Cavities inside walls
7. The water supply



How to Test Your Home

Nearly 1 out of every 15 homes in the U.S. is estimated to have elevated radon levels. You can't see radon, but it's not hard to find out if you have a radon problem in your home. All you need to do is test for radon. Testing is easy and should only take a few minutes of your time. For information visit <http://www.epa.gov/radon/pubs/citguide.html>

Moonlit Owl Prowl JAN. 30

PORT ST. LUCIE – Kick off the New Year with a “Hoot” by getting a rare up-close look at some of Florida’s fabulous owls. On Friday, Jan. 30 from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Busch Wildlife Sanctuary will bring several of its feathered friends to the Oxbow Eco-Center’s Nature At Night program.

Florida has five native owls: Great Horned, Barn, Burrowing, Screech and Barred. These magnificent birds of prey can hunt in complete darkness and have a diet that helps keep the rodent population under control. One Barn Owl can eat more than 1,000 mice a year.

Following the presentation, visitors can join a moonlit Owl Prowl and attempt to contact some of our winged creatures on their evening hunts along the Oxbow property. Participants are encouraged to bring flashlights as long as they have a red lens or translucent red tape over the lens. This serves to protect everyone’s night vision during the hike.

Busch Wildlife Sanctuary is a non-profit, educational-based care facility for injured animals. Dedicated to developing community awareness of the value of Florida's natural resources, Busch Wildlife Sanctuary provides free, comprehensive medical and rehabilitative services to injured wild animals. The ultimate goal is to return the animals to their natural habitats.

The program cost \$5 per person and advanced ticket purchase is required. Tickets can be purchased with Visa or MasterCard by phone or in person at the Oxbow Eco-Center located at 5400 N.E. St. James Drive, Port St. Lucie. To purchase tickets or for more information call (772) 785-5833.

The Oxbow Eco-Center, St. Lucie County's premiere environmental learning center, is situated on 225 acres on the St. Lucie River. The Oxbow is located at 5400 N.E. St. James Drive, about two miles south of Midway Road, across from the Publix plaza. For more information visit our website at www.stlucieco.org/erd/oxbow.

Ocean Science Lecture Series - 2009

The Ocean Science Lecture Series provides a forum for Harbor Branch's scientists to share their most recent discoveries with our neighboring communities. Lectures are held in the auditorium of the Johnson Education Center on the Harbor Branch campus, 5600 U.S. 1 North, Fort Pierce. Presentations are at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., followed by a meet-the-speaker reception. There is no charge to attend. If you are interested in sponsoring a lecture, or if you have any questions about the Ocean Science Lecture Series, please contact Jill Sunderland at (772) 465-2400, ext. 506, or email at education@hboi.edu.

- January 14 Joshua Voss - *Who Slimed My Coral? Emerging Coral Diseases and Their Impact on Reef Ecosystems*
- January 21 John Scarpa - *Oyster Reef Restoration Efforts in Florida*
- January 28 Brian Lapointe - *Harmful Algal Blooms on Caribbean Coral Reefs*
- February 4 Ellie Van Os - *Birds in Ditches: Marginal Wetlands Do Matter*
- February 11 Marilyn Mazzoil - *A Synopsis of Dolphin Photo-identification Research in the Indian River Lagoon*
- February 18 Paul Hargraves - *What's in a Name: "Red Tides" or HABs – Should We Worry?*
- February 25 Tammy Frank - *Spines, Slime, and Camouflage: How to Avoid Becoming a Deep-sea Meal*
- March 4 Sara Edge - *Detecting Coral Responses to Stress Using Microarray Technology*
- March 11 Esther Guzman - *Marine Drug Discovery: Bringing Cures to the Surface*

- March 18 Amber Shawl & Megan Davis - *Snails, Whorls, and Pearls: The Gastropod Research Program at Harbor Branch*
- April 1 Dennis Hanisak - *Shifting Baselines: Water Quality in the Central Indian River Lagoon*

January 17 is the 15th Annual Party in the Park

10 am- 3 pm at Fort Pierce Inlet State Park

Theme is “Don’t Waste Water”

Free Entry – Free Parking - Live music – Food – Soft Drinks

Environmental Crime - Did you know.....???

Non-environmental crimes affect on average 1 or two people, whereas environmental crimes affect the immediate community of people and wildlife, the soil which eventually seeps into the groundwater and/or surface water. Since water has no limits, potentially an environmental crime can affect the world.

In a non-environmental crime the burden of proof is on the state attorney, the defendant is innocent until proven guilty. With environmental crimes, the burden of proof is on the defendant who is guilty until proven innocent.

CELL NUMBER NOW AVAILABLE TO REPORT POLLUTION

Citizens with Sprint - Nextel cellular service can now use #IRC to report pollution to the Indian River Pollution Hotline. Sprint-Nextel customers will push # 472 then hit the green “talk” button. The #IRC connection will only work within Indian River County for Sprint-Nextel customers, and not for other cellular phone service providers. The Sprint-Nextel provides the service at regular service cost for cell phone callers, without a charge to the County.

The county's stormwater pollution reporting system for public reporting has been in place for two years. The general stormwater hotline, 772-226-2888 and website page, www.ircgov.com/stormwater enable citizens to report illicit dumping of waste into the storm drainage system. Recently, the County's pollution reporting system has included a mechanism for citizens to also report pollution on land which the county's Solid Waste Disposal District addresses.

Indian River County Pollution Reporting System callers hear a greeting recorded by WTTB radio personality, Bob Soos, which guides them to push 1 to report pollution on/in water, and push 2 to report pollution on land.

"It is important for citizens to be aware that whatever is put into the storm drainage system can eventually reach the Indian River Lagoon, and ultimately the ocean. Indian River County's storm drainage system consists of stormdrains, swales, and ditches. Aside from the waters that flow through the Main Relief Canal Pollution Control System, Indian River County's polluted stormwater runoff is conveyed and released unfiltered and untreated into the Indian River Lagoon and the public beaches, stated Diane Wilson, the County's Stormwater Education Coordinator.

Citizens are encouraged not rely on thinking that the existence of the Main Relief Canal Pollution Control System is a rationale for polluting, thinking that it will capture all pollutants released within the Indian River Lagoon Watershed. Though the Main Relief Canal Pollution Control System is removing suspended matter as small as 1/16th of an inch, the width of a regular paper clip wire, from almost one-half of the Indian River Farms Water Control District's canal water, it is only one of many discharge routes which lead stormwater runoff to surface waters. In addition to being released into the north and south canals, storm sewage water is also released unfiltered and untreated by stormwater outfalls at beaches and into the Indian River Lagoon.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection Division of Law Enforcement provided information regarding Environment Crimes during a training session they presented to the Indian River County's Sheriff's Department, municipal police and code enforcement personnel. Non-environmental crimes affect on average a small number of people, whereas environmental crimes affect the immediate community of people and wildlife, the soil which eventually seeps into the groundwater and/or surface water. Since water has no limits, potentially an environmental crime can affect the world. In a non-environmental crime the burden of proof is on the state attorney, the defendant is innocent until proven guilty. With environmental crimes, the burden of proof is on the defendant who is guilty until proven innocent. Receiving information about a pollution occurrence is vital to not only capturing the perpetrators but to also address the negative affect the pollution has on the environment. The convenience of the cell phone number will encourage citizens to call the county hotline immediately, expediting the follow-up process.

Citizens can learn more about ways to prevent polluting Indian River County's stormdrain sewer system at www.ircgov.com/stormwater.

Light your home safely *and* economically

There are so many options for lighting today, but being an informed consumer is tough. Here are some tips to help you light your home safely *and* economically

- Let the sun shine in during the day to eliminate the need for artificial lighting.
- When remodeling, buy light fixtures that have the energy star label. If you're seeking a fixture with multiple bulbs, go for one with 3 sockets rather than 4 or 5, and use compact fluorescent bulbs.
- If you use a night-light in the hallway, bathroom or child's room, use an LED night-light that turns on when the room is dark.
- Skip the halogens; they consume a large amount of energy and create heat that can result in burns or fire.
- Use a lamp or other task lighting instead of turning on an energy-hogging ceiling fixture if you're reading or just relaxing. Task lighting is also helpful in the kitchen. Under-cabinet lighting can illuminate the work surface, but remember to use LEDs or fluorescent lights instead of halogens!
- Use CFLs in outdoor lighting, but make sure you get bulbs that are rated for cold weather.
- If you're concerned about intruders in your yard, use outdoor lights with photocells and motion sensors so that they will only light up when triggered by motion at night.
- Solar-powered lighting that comes on once the sun sets is a good way to illuminate walkways with renewable power.

Stefany Arsenault is the Assistant Director of Maine Energy Education Program. In Our Back Yard is a weekly column of the DEP. E-mail your environmental questions to infoDEP@maine.gov or send them to In Our Back Yard, Maine DEP, 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333.

What is Slow Food?

Slow Food is an idea, a way of living and a way of eating. It is a global, grassroots movement with thousands of members around the world that links the pleasure of food with a commitment to community and the environment. Slow Food USA seeks to create dramatic and lasting change in the food system. Reconnect with the people, traditions, plants, animals, fertile soils and waters that produce our food. Slow Food USA inspires a transformation in food policy, production practices and market forces so that they ensure equity, sustainability and pleasure in the food we eat.

http://www.slowfoodusa.org/index.php/slow_food/from_plate_to_planet/

OXBOW ECO-CENTER ANNOUNCES JANUARY EVENTS

PORT ST. LUCIE – The Oxbow Eco-Center, St. Lucie County's environmental learning center, has several fun-filled, educational events scheduled for January, including an owl prowl, guided hikes and naturalist training.

- The Oxbow's newest program "Swamp Tales" returns Tuesday, Jan. 13 and 27 from 11 a.m. – noon. This free storytime is appropriate for ages 2 – 6.
- Learn interesting facts about some of the Oxbow's environmental ambassadors at "Critter Chat" on Tuesday, Jan. 6 and 20 from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. This event is free and appropriate for all ages.
- The Oxbow staff offers a scenic guided kayak tour along the North Fork of the St. Lucie River on Saturday, Jan. 17 from 9 a.m. – noon. Paddlers will launch from White City Park and cruise down the river to the backside of the Oxbow property, possibly passing turtles, wading birds and even alligators. The cost is \$15 per person. Children 5-7 are free. Pre-registration is required.
- The Oxbow's "Nature for Families" presents "Adaptations" on Saturday, Jan. 10 from 12:30 – 3 p.m. From bird beaks to turtle feet, explore what gives some animals an advantage in the wild. We will meet some natives and discover the amazing ways animals and plants adapt to their environment in this interactive game-filled program. Appropriate for ages 6 and up. The cost is \$3 per person. Admission is non-refundable and seats are limited. Please RSVP.
- The Oxbow offers "Naturalist Training" on Saturday Jan. 24 and 31 from noon – 4 p.m. This course is designed for nature enthusiasts who are interested in learning more about our diverse flora and fauna.

- The course covers basic ecological principles, local flora and fauna and interpretation techniques. Instruction will take place both inside the center and along the trails. All participants are urged to bring water, a hat and good walking shoes. Space is limited so make your reservations today. The cost is \$30 and participants must be 16 old years to attend.
- The “Nature at Night” series returns Friday, Jan. 30 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. with an “Owl Prowl.” With help from Busch Wildlife Sanctuary meet some of Florida’s native owls, then hike the Oxbow’s trails to see if you can see these creatures of the night in their native habitat. Be sure to sign up early as these programs are popular and often sell-out ahead of time. Tickets are \$5 per person and must be purchased in advance either on-site or by phone with a Visa or MasterCard. Tickets are non-refundable, but may be transferred to other individuals.
- The Oxbow’s weekly guided hikes take place every Saturday at 10 a.m. Join an Oxbow naturalist as they lead visitors along a series of trails, teaching hikers about the plants and animals encountered along the way. These hikes are free, but space is limited so please RSVP.

In addition to the various scheduled events, the Oxbow’s trails are open every day from dawn until dusk, while the education center is open Tuesday through Friday from noon - 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Situated on a 225-acre preserve on the North Fork of the St. Lucie River, the Oxbow offers a rare glimpse of "the real Florida" with nature trails, boardwalks, observation towers and an interactive environmental learning center.

The Oxbow is located at 5400 N.E. St. James Drive, Port St. Lucie (across from the Publix Shopping Center). For more information call the staff at (772) 785-5833 or visit www.stlucieco.gov/erd/oxbow.

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Save 8 Months of Your Life.....

More than \$56 billion was spent on the production and distribution of 41.5 billion pieces of mail advertisements in the U.S. in 2005, according to the Worldwatch Institute. Each year, the junk mail industry destroys about 100 million trees to cart its promos, pleas and promises to and from incinerators, garbage dumps and recycling centers. The production and disposal of junk mail consumes more energy than 3 million cars. Each of us will spend an average of eight months of our lives dealing with junk mail. It's time to reclaim our resources, our time and our mailboxes by stopping junk mail early and often by following ten easy steps listed at <http://www.ecocycle.org/junkmail/index.cfm>

McKee Botanical Garden to host Glass Blowing Mystery Signing

On Tuesday, January 13, 2009 McKee Botanical Garden will host a book signing of author Sarah Atwell's (a.k.a. Sheila Connolly) first book in her mystery series entitled **Through a Glass, Deadly**. The sequel, **Pane of Death** was released in November, 2008 and will also be available. *Florida Travel + Life Magazine* is the book signing sponsor.

The event begins at 10:00AM with an informal lecture by the author about what inspired her to do the glass blowing mystery series. The book signing will be immediately followed by a box lunch provided by Chelsea's @ McKee. Tickets are \$50 members and \$65 non-members, which includes lunch and one autographed book. Additional signed books are \$10 each. Call 772.794.0601 for reservations.

While Sarah Atwell's glassblowing mystery might 'at first blush appear to be a typical arts and crafts cozy, it is definitely NOT your typical cozy. This story is a bit more dark and a whole lot more suspenseful than most,' says a dedicated fan.

Sheila Connolly has taught art history, structured and marketed municipal bonds for major cities, worked as a staff member on two statewide political campaigns, and served as a fundraiser for several non-profit organizations. She also managed her own consulting company providing genealogical research services. Now a full-time writer, she thinks writing mysteries is a lot more fun than any of her previous occupations.

Ms. Connolly is a member of Mystery Writers of America, Sisters in Crime, Romance Writers of America, the New England Chapter of RWA, and the online RWA mystery/suspense chapter Kiss of Death. She began writing in 2001 and sold her first series (the Glassblowing Mystery series), under the name Sarah Atwell, to Berkley Prime Crime in 2006. Six months later she sold a second series (the Orchard Mystery series) under her own name to the same publisher. The first books of both series debuted in 2008. She lives in southeastern Massachusetts with her husband and three cats.

www.sheilaconnolly.com and www.sarahatwellwriter.com.

BY TWILIGHT

Fräbel's *Reflections of Glass on Water* glass art exhibit is on display at McKee Botanical Garden now through April 2009.

During the second Thursday of the months of January-April, 2009 the Garden will host FRABEL BY TWILIGHT. This is an opportunity to see the exhibit creatively illuminated at night. FRABEL BY TWILIGHT dates are January 8, February 12, March 12, and April 9 from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Gate Admission fees are \$7 Adults, \$6 Seniors, and \$4.00 Children. Members are Free.

The Garden's tropical plants, ponds and waterways make a breathtaking backdrop for Fräbel's sculptures. In the evening however, they take on an entirely new appearance. "It's truly magical," says Executive Director Christine Hobart.

Hans Godo Frabel is one of the world's most famous framework glass artists. He is inspired by nature and the world around him. Frabel's art pieces can be found in public and private collections in over 80 countries worldwide. Museums that have hosted Frabel art include the Smithsonian Institution, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Musee des Arts Decoratifs, Victoria & Albert Museum, and the Eibu Museum of Art to name a few.

The Fräbel Glass Art Studio (www.Fräbel.com) was founded in 1968 by Hans Godo Fräbel and is widely considered to be the first glass art studio completely focused on creating glass art sculptures out of boron crystal. Several of the world's most outstanding contemporary glass artists have brought their talents to Fräbel Studios in Atlanta. The glass crystal sculptures of this internationally famous studio are today in the hands of many museums, private collectors and corporations worldwide.

The mission of McKee Botanical Garden is to nurture and enhance a historic garden in a unique tropical setting for the education, enjoyment and enrichment of all.

350 US Highway One
Vero Beach Florida 32962
772.794.0601
www.mckeearden.org

Full Moon Kayak – An Experience you Shouldn't Miss!

Come enjoy the peaceful beauty of the Savannas by night at **Savannas Preserve State Park**

- home to a rare fresh water marsh. The Friends of the Savannas Preserve will host these popular after-hour trips, offered once monthly now through April as close to the full moon as possible. Trips generally last about two hours and include hot drinks. \$15 suggested donation per person. Flashlights and bug spray strongly recommended. Call the Education Center for a reservation (772) 398-2779.

Freshwater marshes or "savannas" once extended all along Florida's southeast coast. Stretching more than 10 miles from Ft. Pierce to Jensen Beach, this preserve is the largest and most intact remnant of Florida's east coast savannas. The Savannas Preserve State Park is located in Port St. Lucie, two miles east of U.S. 1 on Walton Road. <http://www.floridastateparks.org/savannas/Events.cfm>

Articles of Interest....

Marine Debris in the News

Marine debris media hits from various sources around the world.

* = Related to the NOAA Marine Debris Program, a funded project, or marine debris partners the program works with.

***The Dangers of America's Underwater Junkyard**

Time, Sep. 30, 2008

<http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1846014,00.html>

How Students are learning about Marine Debris

KITV.com - Hawaii, October 3, 2008

<http://www.kitv.com/video/17613687/index.html?rss=hon&psp=video>

Marine Debris Awareness Month sponsored by B.E.A.C.H. October 2008 <http://www.b-e-a-c-h.org/awarenessmonth.html>

Have You Visited the Barrier Island Sanctuary?

One and a half miles north of Sebastian Inlet, the Barrier Island Sanctuary Management & Education Center, 8385 South Highway A1A, Melbourne Beach, serves as the focal point for the Archie Carr Refuge. This twenty mile section of coastline from Melbourne Beach to Wabasso Beach is the most important nesting area for loggerhead sea turtles in the western hemisphere. The education center has an interactive exhibit room, gift shop, and ongoing educational programs that promote stewardship of the area's fragile natural resources. The 34-acre sanctuary has several barrier island habitats and a .75-mile hiking trail that winds through an active restoration area between highway A-1-A and Indian River lagoon. Phone 321-723-3556 www.barrierislandcenter.com Open Tue-Sun 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., closed Mondays.

What You Can Do!

- **Slow the Flow**
- **Clean Up After Pets**
- **Manage Soil to Minimize Erosion**
- **Minimize the use of Fertilizers**
- **Capture Every Drop of Oil or Gasoline**
- **Incorporate a Rain Garden**
- **Leave Buffers**
- **Maintain Septic Systems**



Always be conscious to avoid directing any wash or rinse water into the street.

NEWS FOR HOMEOWNERS (and HOA Leaders)

[Is it a Lake, Private Pond or Stormwater Detention Pond?](#)

Through a U of F grant, the Indian River Extension Service has recently added the following educational Presentations and Videos to its website <http://indian.ifas.ufl.edu/Presentations/index.html>

Pond Maintenance

[Algae and aquatic plants, friend or foe \(presentation\)](#)

[Controlling algae & aquatic plants \(presentation\)](#)

[How to aquascape your pond \(presentation\)](#)

[What do you mean it isn't a natural lake? \(presentation\)](#)

Water Quality

[Watershed fundamentals \(presentation\)](#)

[Waterwise landscaping \(presentation\)](#)

[Challenges of the Indian River Lagoon \(presentation\)](#)

[Keeping waterways clear of debris and pollution \(presentation\)](#)

Environmental Horticulture

[Landscape design \(presentation\)](#)

[Irrigation management \(presentation\)](#)

How to Clean Your House without Hurting the Planet

Remove indoor air pollutants without expensive electric filters. Houseplants such as chrysanthemums, English ivy, spider plants, and Boston ferns naturally freshen the air.

To make windows sparkle, spritz glass with a solution of 3 tablespoons white vinegar and 1 gallon cool water. Avoid streaks by wiping panes with newsprint.

Prevent mold and mildew from becoming a growing problem in the bathroom; keep a spray bottle filled with 1 cup water and 1 drop tea tree oil handy for zapping stains.

Disinfect and deodorize the toilet bowl in a flash. Sprinkle the sides with baking soda, let sit for a few minutes, and then drizzle with vinegar. Scrub with a toilet brush and flush.

For fresh smelling clothes, hang laundry on an outdoor clothesline and let the sunshine dry it.

Nix stains from whites by dabbing stubborn spots with a mixture of 1 part borax and 6 parts water

There's no need to polish wood furniture every week. Dusting with a dry, lint-free cloth will do. Polishing with butcher's wax once or twice a year should do the trick.

To remove baked-on food from inside the oven table salt is all you need. Cover the area with salt while the oven is still warm. After it cools, scrape the food away and wipe with a damp sponge.

Clean floors by damp mopping once a week with 1 gallon water mixed with 1/8 cup liquid soap and 1/8 cup white vinegar, and consider a no-shoes-indoors policy

Make your own non-toxic all-purpose cleanser to scrub countertops: add 4 tablespoons baking soda to 1 quart warm water

Source: Captain Planet Foundation - Fall 2008 newsletter

http://www.captainplanetfoundation.org/uploadedFiles/ftp_upload/Adult%20Newsletter.pdf

Indian River County Extension
2008 – '09 Master Gardener Lecture Series

Pre-registration is required

For more information call (772) 770-5030

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM	PRESENTER	LOCATION
Thursday February 5, 2009	7pm - 9pm	Greening Your Grass Without Spending Your Green	John Beukers Master Gardener	Indian River County Extension 1029 20 th Place, Room B Vero Beach
Saturday March 28, 2009	10am - 4 pm	Green Spring Fling	University of Florida and Extension Agents	IRC Administration Building 1800 27 Street Vero Beach

Let only rain down the drain! While stormwater often travels through pipes under our roads just like sewage, it is *not* treated at a waste treatment plant. Instead stormwater flows directly into ponds, lakes, rivers and bays. (Source: <http://earth911.org/water/breaking-down-the-water-supply/>)

February 5th & 6th, 2009
Florida Stormwater, Erosion and Sedimentation
Control Inspector Training and Certification Program

Blake Library
2351 SE Monterey Road
Stuart, Florida 34996
Seating Limited to 70 Attendees

– Please Register by January 30th

Contact Diane Gorny Email: diane@npdes.com
Phone: 772-288-6852

Fax completed registration form to 772-288-9914

EARN 8 CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (CEUs) FOR CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE

EARN 8 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOURS (PDHs) FOR

FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

FREE 2-Day Program to obtain state certification from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Stormwater, Erosion, & Sedimentation Control Inspector Training Program.

Course manuals will be provided. For your own study preferences, bring pens, highlighters, and sticky notes. A proctored exam will be given on February 6, 2009.

Sign-in and registration at 8:15 a.m. Class will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. both days. Lunch will be on your own. There are restaurants within walking distance of the library.

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Tele: _____

Sponsored by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection
And The National Stormwater Center

BMP REMINDER

Construction sites* are required to maintain inspection records

to validate inspections are done within

24 hours of EVERY storm water event

and a minimum of every 7 days.

- Construction sites that will result in a disturbance of one acre or more, and sites that include the disturbance of less than one acre of total land area that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one acre and less than five acres are required to seek coverage under the Generic Permit for Stormwater Discharge from Large and Small Construction Activities (Source: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/stormwater/npdes/docs/cgp.pdf>)
- Want to get a staff member trained as a certified stormwater inspector for free? 2-Day FDEP classes are held year-round across the state and are listed at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/nonpoint/erosion/htm> Questions? Call 850-245-8294.

Ways to Prevent Erosion



Erosion can sometimes cause driving hazards

Impacts of Erosion 1st place winner 2001 Jennings C Lantz, Fort Bragg, NC

Each year 30 – 80 billion tons of soil are lost from the world's land masses. To put this figure in perspective, you could fill a train with dirt and go from the earth to the moon and back again, 12 times! Erosion is the process by which soil is removed, either by wind or water. The product of erosion is sediment.

The impacts of erosion are numerous and have significant environmental, cultural, operational and economic impacts. A culvert is plugged with sediment and can cause flooding, property damage, law suits, and requires costly maintenance to repair. By using a variety of erosion and sediment control techniques, this can be prevented. See examples at

<http://www.ieca.org/PhotoGallery/SolutionstoToughProblems.asp>

PlanetReuse.com is the world's first Web site that connects buyers and sellers of reused and reclaimed construction materials and equipment and allows them to purchase products with integrated shipping online, per <http://www.eponline.com/articles/60262>

Concrete washout issues ... EPA is targeting construction sites to insure that there is no violation of the NPDES requirements. Those who are in violation are being hauled away in handcuffs. Please make an extra effort to ensure your staff is informed and you are making specific plans to handle concrete washout. Contractors and concrete producers must wash out the chutes in order to prevent any concrete from spilling onto the streets. Simple solution for small amounts of washout is a designated pit (sign) lined with plastic – remove and haul off when dried. Make sure this activity is located AWAY from streams and water bodies. There are 2 potential pollutants in washout. 1 = pH issues. 2 = Selenium 6 (toxic). Any questions....look at the EPA and DEP websites.

TRAIN YOUR STAFF with a 5 minute video.

Do you know the major pollutant to the IRL? Soil. Why soil?

This 5 minute video shows how soil erosion occurs on a job site and how it is detrimental to the environment.

It is worth your time and theirs...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=76sqH9Q9GS8&NR=1>

Learn new practices and implement them project by project: <http://www.wwn-online.com/articles/50888/>

GOOD TIPS FOR TEACHERS

- Encourage your school to sponsor or get involved in a local cleanup in your area.
- Reduce, reuse, recycle. Choose reusable items and use fewer disposable ones.
- Keep streets, sidewalks, parking lots and storm drains free of trash - they can empty into our waterways and oceans.
- At the beach, park or playground, dispose of all trash in the proper receptacles or take your trash home with you.
- Pick up any debris you see while out.
- Support legislation and other measures that help stem the marine debris problem.
- Serve as an example to others. Encourage your friends and family to help keep the beaches and oceans clean.

Source: http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/marinedebris101//WYCD_student.html

The Future of the Environment - Popular Science

(Source: Florida's Pollution Prevention link from www.metra.org)

A blueprint for the eco-tropolis of the future with fresh air, pristine water and cheap energy. Plus, 48 audacious ideas to save the planet



Project Wet offers Stormwater Education Lesson Plans

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) is an exciting interdisciplinary water education program for Florida's teachers and other educators working with young people in grades K12. The program can be integrated into the existing curricula of a school, museum, university pre-service class or community organization.

The goal of Project WET is to facilitate and promote awareness, appreciation, knowledge and stewardship of water resources through the development and dissemination of classroom-ready teaching aids, and through the establishment of internationally and state-sponsored Project WET programs.

The Project WET curriculum correlates to Florida's Sunshine State Standards. Project WET activities promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and are easily integrated into subjects such as:

- Chemistry and physics
- Life science, earth systems and natural resources
- Social studies
- History
- Language arts, fine arts and culture

For more information go to: <http://www.sjrwmd.com/education/projectwet/index.html>



This spinner was developed by SJRWMD for use with the “Incredible Journey” activity, and is available online at www.sjrwmd.com.

At this moment somewhere in the world there is a sea turtle swimming....watch one at:
<http://www.cccturtle.org/media.php?page=video>

Kids Taking Action to preserve aquatic habitats.....visit the website: <http://www.aquakids.tv/> – a half-hour program on the FOX television network (airs locally on WFLX 12:30 PM Saturdays) features young people taking action across the U.S. to preserve aquatic environments and wildlife.

News for Marine Industry and Boaters

Clean Water Grants

Each year, the BoatU.S. Foundation awards local, nonprofit volunteer organizations up to \$4,000 for the promotion of clean boating education. Over the past six years, the foundation has awarded almost \$100,000 to community organizations, yacht clubs, flotillas and squadrons. The foundation is looking for creative and innovative projects that teach boaters to reduce their impact on the waters they use for boating. Topics can range from petroleum pollution prevention to pump-out education to keeping trash out of waterways. **Grant applications for 2009 are due by Feb. 2, 2009.** For more information, visit the BoatU.S. Web site at www.boatus.com/foundation/cleanwater/grants/.

Adopt-A-Fishing Bin Project - Volunteers are needed to inventory monofilament recycling bins along our waterfronts, and place collection boxes in marine-oriented businesses. For details contact KIRB at 388-5472

Clean Boater Program – If you would like to assist in the efforts to promote this valuable program at events please call KIRB at 388-5472. We can educate our citizens to utilize Florida's Clean Marinas, Boatyards & Retailers, safeguard the state's waterways, and adopt environmentally-friendly practices such as using bilge socks, fueling collars, and good recycling habits. For more information see www.dep.state.fl.us/cleanmarina/boater/default.htm

News for Business Sector

What is Pollution Prevention?

A voluntary, proactive practice that: eliminates or reduces the generation of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants by making changes in the process BEFORE recycling, treatment or disposal; increases efficiency in the use of raw materials, energy and water; or conserves natural resources.

What are some examples of pollution prevention?

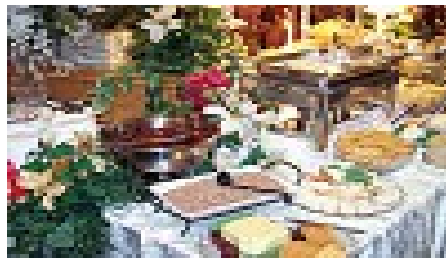
- Modifications to equipment or technology
- Revisions to process, procedure or formulation
- Redesign of products
- Substitution of raw materials and cleaners
- Improvements in housekeeping, maintenance and inventory control

What can pollution prevention do for me?

By definition, pollution prevention is cost effective, good for business and good for the environment. It can help you comply with requirements. It SAVES YOU MONEY while increasing the efficiency of business operations and protecting your employees. Pollution Prevention Coordinators are available to make Pollution Prevention presentations at workshops, conferences and other educational events or to provide on-site technical assistance. For more information, please contact the Pollution Prevention Program at (850) 245-8707.

Converted Organics Turns Food Waste into Fertilizer

By [GreenerBuildings Staff](#), GreenerBuildings
Published December 24, 2008



BOSTON, Mass. -- Table scraps, discarded meals that never make it to the dining room and aging leftovers. Garbage to you and many in the food industry, perhaps, but it's a windfall for New England firm [Converted Organics](#).

This season, the 2-year-old company is reaching out to remind businesses dealing in food that it is happy to relieve them of the remainder of holiday repasts. The firm processes food waste into "organic biostimulants" for flowers, crops and other plant life for professional and residential use.

The Boston-based company works with haulers, communities, institutions and schools near its plants in New Jersey and Southern California. The haulers bring food waste to the plants where it is processed on site, in a closed-loop system in about three days, said company spokesman Jamie Dunne.

"There's no smell and there's no vermin — and it's sustainable from start to finish," he said.

Green (business) discipline: Define your environmental goals

Boston Business Journal - by [Scott Cassel](#)

Would you pack your family into the car for a trip without a destination? Would you evaluate your employees without having goals against which to measure their performance? Or would you expect to be evaluated yourself on your sales prowess or manufacturing efficiency without sales targets or production goals? Of course not.

Then why are so many companies squirming like freshly caught fish on the boat when the topic of performance targets is raised in relation to their product take-backs for recycling? One of the biggest controversies in the development of company stewardship programs around the world is the debate over performance goals -- how to set them, who should be held responsible for meeting them and what happens to whom if they are not met. Performance goals are becoming serious business because the world is waking up to the implications of lax environmental performance. What is at stake is nothing less than money and reputation.

Product stewardship programs cover the entire life cycle of a product, from materials extraction to product manufacturing, transport, use and "end-of-life management" (reuse, recycling, or disposal). Since global warming stopped being a myth, companies are increasingly asking themselves, or being asked, how they can "green" their business. The answer is not so simple. It is not just about buying recycled paper and setting up a recycling program. It is not a fad or something you can do in a month or even a year. It is a long-term commitment to eliminating the negative environmental and social impacts of your business, and staying true to your goals.

Ultimately, you will be faced with the question of whether the resources you spend on environmental initiatives are worth it. You will need to determine what your clients, government agencies, environmental groups and the public expect of you and be fully ready to move beyond pure compliance with government regulations. We are now in an era where moving toward sustainability is expected, even if it has not yet been defined. You will need to develop criteria against which you will be measured, generate baseline data for your company, and measure your progress against standards set by the expectations of others.

If you are a product manufacturer, expect external groups to focus on the amount of your product that becomes waste after the consumer uses it as intended. That product could be paint left over after a painting job, a 40-year-old mercury thermostat being replaced by an energy-efficient digital model, or a medical syringe that becomes waste the moment after patient injection. Consumers, environmental groups and government agencies will also ask you how much of this "post-consumer waste" created by your product is being reused or recycled.

There are two ways to measure the amount that is recycled. One way is to count the number or weight of items recovered. However, a far more meaningful method is to determine the recycling rate based on a percentage of the product that could be recovered. Although the first way is more exact, external groups will measure your environmental performance against a recycling rate target. It will be better for your company to engage in how to measure this target than to fight the growing trend toward holding manufacturers accountable for meeting it. Engage those external groups in how best to ensure that end-users of your product recycle, and negotiate their role in helping achieve the common goal. The area for negotiation is how high to set the recycling target and the timeframe expected for achievement.

So the next time someone asks you "Are we there yet?" you can answer by telling them where you are going and when you expect to arrive.

Scott Cassel is founder and executive director of the Product Stewardship Institute Inc., a Boston-based organization that works with businesses nationwide to reduce the health and environmental impacts of consumer products. Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/boston/stories/2008/05/19/newscolumn2.html>

Carbon neutrality: All it needs is proper execution

Boston Business Journal - by [Scott Cassel](#)

While Al Gore might be considered the “green” man of the year in 2007, the Oxford American Dictionary voted “carbon neutral” as the “word of the year in 2006. Carbon neutral is defined as “making no net release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.”

Carbon dioxide traps heat in the atmosphere and contributes to global warming. It is released through activities such as the burning of gasoline and oil in automobiles, factories and office buildings, and by removing trees and other vegetation from the landscape. Many businesses are now scrambling to put a carbon-neutral label on themselves as a green badge of honor.

While becoming carbon neutral is a worthy goal, there is no accord on how it should be measured, although most agree that it is important to reduce the total impact resulting from a business, including raw-material use, product manufacture, transport and end-of-life management. According to Clean Air Cool Planet, a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing global warming, a company should reduce greenhouse gas emissions resulting from its own activities, but should not be held responsible for its suppliers’ emissions.

Even so, every company can choose its suppliers. While your company might not be directly responsible for greenhouse gas emissions from your paper supplier, for example, you do have a choice about which paper supplier to use. The movement toward carbon neutrality requires that companies and their suppliers work together to reduce carbon emissions.

To become carbon neutral, consider taking the following steps:

- **Account for greenhouse gases from company activities:** Determine the amount of carbon dioxide released from your company’s direct activities, including energy use, travel and other aspects of your company’s operations. Product reuse and manufacturing with recycled materials will reduce a company’s energy use. Using fewer materials through source reduction has the most positive impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and can save money. A rough estimate of your company’s carbon emissions can be quantified using an online calculator, such as www.climatecare.org/business, www.conservation.org/act or www.ghgprotocol.org/calculations-tools/all-tools. For general guidance on which activities to include in a carbon-neutral assessment, see www.ghgprotocol.org.
- **Reduce energy use:** Following the research stage, it is time for action, and the way to start is by eliminating any unnecessary use of energy uncovered during the accounting stage. This second stage might involve the use of energy-efficient equipment and lighting, teleconferencing to reduce non-essential travel, using low-emission vehicles and turning off electronics when leaving the office.
- **Use clean energy:** For energy still needed for company operations, choose energy sources that generate the fewest carbon emissions, including renewable energy, such as wind water and solar. Use the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Green Power Locator, located at www.epa.gov, for information and strategies about installing renewable onsite generation activity. If onsite generation

isn't an option, increase the amount of renewable power in the electricity grid by purchasing renewable energy credits.

• **Purchase carbon offsets: For carbon emissions that are impossible to prevent, purchase carbon offsets that equal the amount of emissions your company generates.**

Despite the difficulty of achieving carbon neutrality, some companies have made public commitments toward achieving this goal. For example, HSBC Holdings, the world's largest banking group, claims that it has achieved carbon neutrality since 2005 by reducing direct emissions, purchasing green electricity and acquiring carbon offsets. Dell claims it will be carbon neutral by the end of this year by switching to fluorescent lamps, manufacturing with efficient technologies, purchasing green power and offsetting remaining emissions. Costa Rica is even striving to be the first carbon-neutral country by preventing illegal logging, overdevelopment and deforestation while securing 80 percent of its electricity from wind and water and compensating landowners that preserve trees. Achieving carbon neutrality requires significant research, commitment to action and a business culture that values sustainability. Taking responsibility for your company's contribution to global warming is true environmental stewardship.

However, it's an effort that just might reduce your energy costs, provide you branding benefits as a legitimate green company and reduce the risk of regulation.

(Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/boston/stories/2008/09/08/newscolumn1.html>)

Where can you get help?

Businesses needing assistance with pollution prevention projects can turn to the Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center (PPRC) for information and contacts.

PPRC is a non-profit organization that works with business and other sectors to catalyze pollution prevention. PPRC publishes a bimonthly newsletter, fact sheets, reference manuals, and technology reviews. The center also hosts industry roundtables and technology demonstrations to help businesses exchange pollution prevention ("P2") ideas.

An easy reference source of P2 information is the [PPRC Web site](#). The site organizes P2 information by industry sector and includes contacts, case studies, a research project database, request for proposals clearinghouse and regularly updated "living documents" describing P2 opportunities and current regulatory issues.

Resources are available for the printing, metal fabrication, wood furniture manufacturing, shipbuilding, fiberglass fabrication, paint manufacturing and industrial laundry sectors. Additional sector resource are in the planning stages.

JOB NETWORK

NPDES Education & Certification Coordinator, DEP - Nonpoint Source Management Section, Tallahassee, FL 850/245-8294 – Heather Ritchie. The position will be open the end of November.

FDEP Environmentalist Level II Position – hourly position (no benefits) – contact John Abendroth, 850-245-8682

IRC Environmental Event Calendar

To enhance community awareness and organizational planning, non-profit and governmental groups (no commercial groups) are welcome to list their environmental events, meetings and activities occurring inside and outside the county. **Go to <http://www.calendar.yahoo.com>. The yahoo Id is IRCwaterqualityed and the password is calendar.** Once you are in the calendar, events are easily added by selecting the desired date and clicking on "add". Please include your name, title, organization name and phone number in the comments section.

Local Resources Related to Environmental FAQs

Environmental contaminants and diseases - If you have questions about these environmental health issues call IRC's Environmental Health Services Division 794-7440. Following are a few of the services they provide: **Drinking Water Quality, Emergency Response, Environmental Hazards, Environmental Safe Drinking Water Laboratory, Hazardous and Toxic Waste, Public Swimming Pools and Bathing Facilities, Sewage Disposal, Surface Water Pollution** (Source: <http://www.myirchd.org/ClinicsandServices/EnvironmentalHealth.htm>)

Environmental Websites

NEW: Sebastian Inlet Webcam <http://www.sebastianinletcam.com/>

NEW: IRC Pond Maintenance & Environmental Water Quality <http://indian.ifas.ufl.edu/Presentations/index.html>

Wallet-size Mercury levels in fish reference card <http://fn.cfs.purdue.edu/fish4health/Walletcard/walletcard.htm>

Innovative solutions to tough environmental problems www.CNN.com/solutions

Carbon Footprint Calculator – <http://www.nature.org/initiatives/climatechange/calculator/>

www.Earth911.org

www.BuildingSoil.org

www.recyclefloridatoday.org

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/green/content/shared/green/index.html>

<http://www.learningtogive.org/>.

Free Software to create educational and outreach tools: <http://www.etc.cmu.edu/Global/resources/software.html>

Grant Deadlines

ROLLING DEADLINE - TMDL Water Quality Restoration Program stormwater construction

grants, Deadline is rolling before Dec. 30 2008. Requires a 50/50 match. Average grant award is \$500K-\$1M. Approximately \$18M is available statewide. Construction of stormwater BMPs, wet detention, exfiltration, baffle boxes, etc. Contact aadams@gate.net