



TURNING THE TIDE

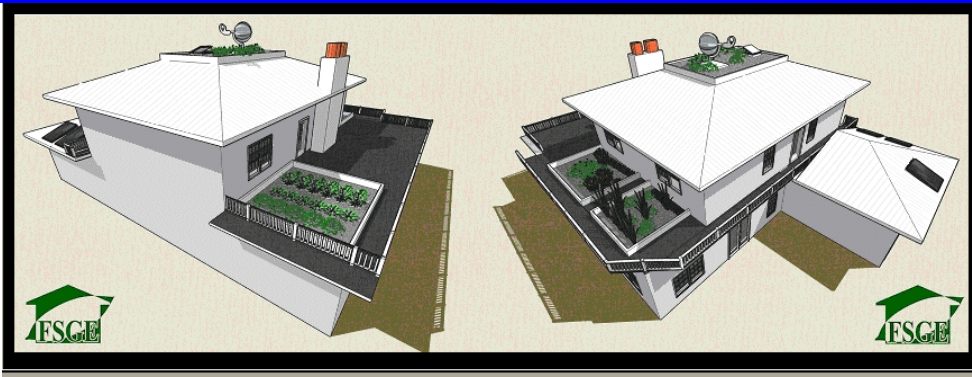
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View past issues at www.ircgov.com/stormwater

IRC citizens are “Turning the Tide” of polluted water runoff leaving their properties and reaching the Indian River Lagoon by learning and practicing proper property maintenance and disposal methods.

Water quality and environmental protection begins in your yard.

The “Greenest House in the World” is an Hour’s Drive North of Indian River County



Artist’s Concept

This first-of-its-kind, “Affordable & Rewardable™” true green home and live residential touring facility will be open to the public at no charge (date to be determined; possibly in the summer 2010) to demonstrate the best building and living choices and practices available today.

(Photo used with permission from FSGE)

With residential runoff accounting for the largest uncontrolled source of pollution in the U.S., the house’s key feature includes the world’s first residential “greenroof stormwater treatment system,” a greenroof media coupled with advanced hurricane mitigation features. Also, harvested rain water has been substituted for potable in situations where health is not at risk (irrigation, toilet flushing, and clothes washing). Sitting on only a ¼ acre, the “Near Zero-Runoff Home” system prevented 62,788 gallons* of runoff from discharging into the Indian River Lagoon during Tropical Storm Fey in August 2008 (documented by UCF).

Florida’s Showcase Green Envirohome (FSGE™), a two-story 3,292 sq. ft. “Near Zero-Loss Home™”, “Near Zero-Energy Home”, and “Near Zero-Maintenance Home™” is under construction in IndiaAtlantic, FL about an hour north of Indian River County. These technologies include a leading-edge building envelope, disaster recovery, solar, wind, stormwater management, indoor air quality, tenant health, and other green innovations collectively providing hurricane, tornado, flood, fire, mold, termite, impact, sound, and even earthquake resistance. Source: <http://www.fsge.net/>

Join your IRC neighbors in treating water *as a resource*, not as a waste product,

Diane Wilson, IRC Stormwater Education Coordinator

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Did you know.....

97% of the earth's water is salty or polluted,
2% is too far underground to reach.

That leaves only 1% for clean drinking water

.....and 50 -70 % of residential water is

consumed outside in landscaping.

With so little water available
we each need to
use it conservatively
and keep it clean.

Source:

http://www.gotwater.net/protect_water.htm



Need a speaker for your next meeting?



The EnviroScape, a portable interactive environmental model, is a great tool to educate youth about the sources of pollution and its prevention.

The stormwater division offers free seminars to nonprofit organizations, HOAs, schools and businesses. Many people think they know what pollution is. But unfortunately many people do not realize the fact that the Indian River Lagoon is seriously impaired and how pollution is reaching the Lagoon and other surface waters faster and more intensely than ever before.



Email Diane Wilson at dwilson@ircgov.com to schedule a speaker or learn more.

DO YOU KNOWwhich batteries you can throw in your garbage and which ones must be disposed of as household hazardous waste? See page 11 for the answer.

NEWS

Everyone:

MANDATORY Landscape Irrigation Restrictions in IRC – Only 2 Days/week

as required by St. John's River Water Management District. For details visit

<http://www.sjrwmd.com/wateringrestrictions/index.html>

or call their **24-hour "Irrigation Line" at 1-800-232-0904**

Don't flush medication down the toilet. It is a danger to our environment. Bring unused or expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medication to the IRC Sheriff's Department front desk for free incineration. For residents who cannot drive and who have at least a fair amount of pharmaceuticals for disposal, the Sheriff will send out a deputy to collect them. Residents can take expired or unused pharmaceuticals to the Sheriff's office for proper disposal during regular business hours (8:00 am to 5:00 pm). Important: Residents may only transport pharmaceuticals that have been prescribed to them, not any belonging to friends or relatives. Transport the pharmaceuticals in their original container. For more information see the Sheriff's website (www.ircsheriff.org) or call D/S Roberta J. Barker (772) 770-5028

Construction

- **Reminder For Construction Sites over 1 Acre** - A copy of the NOI or letter from DEP confirming coverage under this generic permit shall be posted at the construction site in a prominent place for public viewing (such as alongside a building permit). (Source: Florida Generic Permit For Stormwater Discharge from Large and Small Construction Activities DEP Document No. 62-621.300(4)(a) February 2009)

Students & Teachers

- **March 7 (Sunday) 12 noon – 4 p.m. The Environmental Learning Center's EcoFest** Children of all ages will learn about ways to improve and protect our water environments through free activities, crafts, exhibits, booths, canoe rides, and live music. Winners in the 13th annual *Making A Difference in My World* school contest will be announced. Come explore the expansion of "George's Trail." Free parking shuttles will run continuously beginning at 11:30a.m. For details visit www.DiscoverELC.org or call Janet Barkett (772) 589-5050
- **March 12** – Deadline for middle & high school students to enter the Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District's annual public speaking contest Topic: "Conservation Habits = Healthy

Habitats?" Contact Brenda Davis brendadavis@ircgov.com 772-770-5005. The actual competition is April 12th at 7:00p.m.

- **Teachers - plan now for National Environmental Education (EE) Week April 11-17.** Standards-based lesson plans on water scarcity, water quality and water conservation organized by grade level and easily implemented in the classroom are listed at http://www.eeweek.org/resources/water_curricula.htm
Please give consideration in utilizing the Household Hazardous Waste lesson
[HTTP://WWW.NATIONALGEOGRAPHIC.COM/XPEDITIONS/LESSONS/14/G912/TGHAZARDOUS.HTML](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/14/G912/TGHAZARDOUS.HTML).

Students will learn:

- What happens to household waste that's flushed down the toilet or poured into the drain? Where do these materials end up?
- What are storm drains? What is their role in hazardous waste disposal? Do storm drains work the same all over the country, or are there variations?
- What are proper disposal methods for the top five toxic products that the class has found in its homes?
- What are the consequences of these hazardous materials being improperly disposed?

NOTE: I can visit your class and talk about these points!

Marine

- **Now is the time to select valuable sponsorship opportunities available for the popular July 24th Treasure Coast Waterway Clean-up Event.** Companies gain regional exposure to the boating communities within 3 counties, Martin, Saint Lucie and Indian River, while supporting environmental and community health! Contact April Price (772) 285-1646 www.waterwaycleanup@aol.com
- **Kick-off meeting for the Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup Committee Meeting**
Thursday, March 4, 2010, 5:00 pm at the Fort Pierce Yacht Club, 700 N. Indian River Drive, Ft. Pierce. For details contact April Price (772) 285-1646 www.waterwaycleanup@aol.com

EVENTS & CONFERENCES

- **FREE Harbor Branch Ocean Science Lectures** are held in the auditorium of the Johnson Education Center on the Harbor Branch campus, 5600 U.S. 1 North, Fort Pierce, at 4 and 7 p.m. (772) 465-2400
Mar. 3 - Tammy Frank – Ocean Exploration and Deep-Sea Research: Trials, Tribulations and Discoveries
Mar 10 - Paul Hargraves – The Life that Lives on Us
Mar 17 – Dennis Hanisak – Algae? This is a Color?
Mar 24 – Sara Edge – using Molecular Genetics to Measure the Impacts of Global Climate Change on Reef Building Corals

- **FREE Indian River Lagoon Topic Lectures Tuesdays from Noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Lagoon House, 3275 Dixie Hwy NE, Palm Bay, FL 32905. For details call the Marine Resources Council at 321-725-7775 <http://www.mrcirl.org>. Presentations target the layman and cover topics include ecology, aquatic life, history, and native plants.**
- **ELC Noted Environmentalists Lecture Series – Check out the ELC Website for monthly lectures www.info@discoverelc.org 589-5050 \$15/per lecture**
- **March 7 (7 – 9 pm) Free film presentation, “POISONED WATERS” in the Sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (as part of their Social Justice program), 1590 27th Avenue, Vero Beach <http://uufvb.org/>**
- **March 9th 12 – 1 pm Presentation: Did You Know There Are 2 Types of Water Pollution? You probably think you know all there is to know about pollution but many people are not aware of what the major water pollutants are and how they are adversely affecting the Indian River Lagoon. Through watching “Turning the Tide: What you can do to help Improve the Water Quality of the Indian River Lagoon” Power Point,” you can learn the current situation of the Lagoon’s impairment, the problem causing it, the effects and solutions. Presented by Indian River County’s Stormwater Education Coordinator, Diane Wilson at the Marine Resource Council Lagoon House 3275 Dixie Hwy. NE, Palm Bay, Florida 32905 (321) 725-7775 www.mrcirl.org**
- **Thursday, March 11, 2010 – 7:00 p.m. Free Lecture,” In Their Own Words” Stories of Florida Fishing Families. Audiences will join Michael Jepson, PhD, marine anthropologist, as they explore a documentary with stories of fishing families from Cortez and Cedar Key, and what is happening in their communities as a result of new regulations and development pressures. Jepson is the Program Director, Gulf & South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation, Tampa, Florida and currently serves as Social Scientist with the Southeast Regional Office of NOAA Fisheries in St. Petersburg. Admission to this Humanities Series presentation is complimentary and will be held at The Emerson Center, 1590 27th Avenue, on the SE corner of 16th Street and 27th Avenue in Vero Beach. For more information, contact 778-5249.**
- **March 11 (9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.) “Is Green a Myth or Reality,” will be the current issue presented by John Carberry, former director of environmental technology at DuPont as part of the Lifelong Learning Institute’s Distinguished Lecture Series at IRSC Mueller Campus in Vero Beach. Advance registration is necessary and individual seats are \$30. on a limited, first come first served basis. Reserve by phoning (772) 462-7880 or e-mail lifelonglearning@irsc.edu for more information. Laura Kelley, IRSC’s Lifelong Program Director is interested in suggested lectures and sponsors for the always sold out series. The LLI at IRSC is a peer led and peer directed membership program for men and women age 50 and better.**
- **April 10, 2010 (Saturday) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. The Indian River County Sustainability Inc.’s Sustainability Conference at The Vero Beach Heritage Center, 14th Lane, Vero Beach. Know of anyone who would like to volunteer to educate homeowners on ways to be more sustainable? Email Judy Orcutt at jjorcutt@bellsouth.net**

- **April 10, 2010 (Saturday) 9 -11 a.m. Free “Hook Kids on Fishing Program” sponsored by Anglers for Conservation (AFC) at Sebastian Riverview Park.** Kids and their parents walk through six 20-minute centers: casting, rigging, conservation, knot tying, tackle and fishing. The AFC creates new generations of coastal stewards through this community-based angling education program. Visit www.anglersforconservation.org or call 321-750-3374 for details.
- **April 13 Presentation – “Times They Are a Changing: The Truth and Consequences of Pollution Affecting the IRL.”** Perhaps if we had a better grasp of how things have changed over the last 50 years we can appreciate adapting ways of satisfying our human needs without destroying the Indian River Lagoon. Indian River County’s Stormwater Education Coordinator, Diane Wilson, will present factors contributing to the increase of water pollution and voluntary Best Management Practices to help us adapt our disposal and maintenance methods. Presented at the Marine Resource Council Lagoon House, 3275 Dixie Hwy. NE, Palm Bay, Florida 32905 (321) 725-7775 www.mrcirl.org
- **April 17, 2010 (Saturday) 9:00a.m.–3:00pm Earth Day Celebration** at Riverview Park, U.S. Hwy 1, Sebastian, FL
- **May 2 (Sunday) 7 pm – Free film and presentation by Diane Wilson: The National and Local Picture of Polluted Runoff.** in the Sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (as part of their Social Justice program), 1590 27th Avenue, Vero Beach <http://uufvb.org/> M-F 772/778-5880

TRAININGS

- **March 10 (9a.m.) GENERAL CERTIFICATION STANDARDS TRAINING & TESTING FOR AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDE APPLICATORS.** Pesticide applicators who purchase or use pesticides classified as restricted-use by the U.S. EPA must demonstrate that they meet certification standards established by the Agency under authority of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as Amended. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services mandates applicator licensing requirements under Chapter 487. Call the SLC Extension office at (772) 462-1660.
- **March 30 (8:30 am – 4:00 pm) CEU Training for Licensed Pesticide Applicators.** The event will be conducted via polycom from participating UF/IFAS county extension offices and research and education centers. An applicator will be able to attend any or all of the 6 sections for pesticide licensing recertification credit. If interested in attending, contact your local UF/IFAS county extension office at <http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/map/index.html>
- **Construction & Earth Moving BMPs: The FDEP Stormwater & Erosion Inspector Certification Classes** address proper installation, inspection and maintenance of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for use during and after construction to minimize erosion and sedimentation and to properly manage runoff for both stormwater quantity and quality. The exam is now closed book. To see available classes visit <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/nonpoint/erosion.htm> . Class manual can be downloaded at [The](#)

LOCAL STORMWATER CLASSES:

March 10 & 11 – City of Palm Bay - Contact Kaylene Wheeler wheelk@palmbayflorida.org
(321) 953-8996

- **Landscape Architectural BMPs** Course title: Florida Yards and Neighborhoods – Florida Water Systems, Concepts and Practices, Protecting Water Systems through Ecologically Sound Maintenance/Irrigation for Landscapes and Turfgrass, Creating Wildlife Habitat in Home Landscapes. (BOLA 0007551) 4 CEH's. For details visit http://buildgreen.ufl.edu/continuing_education.htm
- **Landscape BMPs for Property Management Associations** – The focus and goals of the course are to provide information and guidance on turfgrass and landscape management practices to conserve and protect Florida's water resources. The participant will learn to: identify the impacts of storm water run-off on water bodies; apply Best Manage Practices including Pesticide, Landscape, Fertilizer and Irrigation Management to increase property beauty and value; develop a landscape management plan utilizing the Best Manage Practices for the protection of storm water resources. Materials used in the development of the program come from a variety of agencies, including University of Florida/IFAS/Extension and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.(CAM 9625316) 5 CEH's. For details visit http://buildgreen.ufl.edu/continuing_education.htm
- **OSHA Refresher Courses ongoing year long around the state.** Nearest class 8-Hour Refresher will be offered in Orlando October 15, 2010, contact: Janine Kraemer (407) 893-3323. For details and request the schedule of 24/40 Hour OSHA Hazwoper and 8-Hour OSHA Refresher classes, contact Glen Perrigan at the FDEP (850) 245-8749 glen.perrigan@dep.state.fl.us
- **All Levels of Various Stormwater Training** are available through the Florida Stormwater Association Call for more information at 888-221-3124 or visit the FSA Training Center Online or email stormwater@ksanet.net or visit the [FSA Training Center Online](#).
- **Local gardening education programs** are held at McKee Botanical Garden www.mckeegarden.org, Heathcote Botanical Garden www.heathcotebotanicalgardens.org , and the UF/IRC Extension Service <http://indian.ifas.ufl.edu/>

BMPs and Things Worth Knowing

BMPs = Best Management Practices: methods to prevent pollutant discharges to storm drain systems. BMPs are listed by category at www.ircgov.com/stormwater

Adopt a Canal or Shoreline

Are you or your HOA/POA interested in committing to clean a canal and/or shore 4 times per year? If so, contact Keep Indian River Beautiful's Executive Director, Kristy Sturdivant keepirbeautiful@gmail.com (772) 388-5472. If it is available she'll send you a two-year contract, there is no cost, and all supplies are provided by Keep Indian River Beautiful (KIRB). You or your group are asked to maintain a data sheet with volunteer hours and the amount of collected garbage. To educate your neighbors on ways they can prevent water pollution you can print and hang the following brochures on their doorknobs as part of the project: http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/cu_door_hanger.pdf

RAINWATER is most often NOT CLEAN

Many people are not clear on what "stormwater" means and think that rainwater is clean – it is not <http://waterwordsthatwork.com/the-method/words-that-dont/>

Why? Because once it hits the ground it often turns into polluted runoff: rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters, and even our underground sources of drinking water. These pollutants include:

- Excess fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides
- Oil, grease, and toxic chemicals
- Sediment
- Vehicle fluids
- Bacteria and nutrients from pet wastes, and faulty septic systems

Source: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/qa.html>

"Rethink Your Obsession with Turf"

Lawns are undeniably an American symbol. But what do they really symbolize? Pride and prosperity? Or waste and conformity? Gimme Green is a humorous look at the American obsession with the residential lawn and the effects it has on our environment, our wallets and our outlook on life. From the limitless subdivisions of Florida to sod farms in the arid southwest, Gimme Green peers behind the curtain of the \$40-billion industry that fuels our nation's largest irrigated crop—the lawn.

Facts from the website <http://gimmegreen.com/about.htm>

- If present consumption patterns continue, two out of every three people on Earth will live in water-stressed conditions by the year 2025.
- In order to maintain all the lawns in America, it would take approximately 200 gallons per person per day.
- In 1984, the United States applied more synthetic chemical fertilizer to lawns than India applied on all its food crops.

- The principle ingredient of the defoliant Agent Orange used in the Vietnam War, 2,4-D is today associated with birth defects, reproductive problems, neurotoxicity, kidney and liver damage, and is a sensitizer and irritant.
- Of 30 commonly used lawn pesticides, 19 are linked with cancer or carcinogenicity, 13 are linked with birth defects, 21 with reproductive effects, 26 with liver or kidney damage, 15 with neurotoxicity, and 11 with disruption of the endocrine (hormonal) system.
- Of those same 30 lawn pesticides, 17 are detected in groundwater, 23 have the ability to leach into drinking water sources, 24 are toxic to fish and other aquatic organisms vital to our ecosystem, 11 are toxic to bees, and 16 are toxic to birds.
- In 1888 there were fewer than a dozen golfers in the United States ; by 1975, more than fourteen million Americans were playing on more than 11,000 golf courses in all parts of the country.
- In 1953, forty-three lawn articles appeared in popular magazines, followed by forty-five in 1955. The record number for any previous year was twenty in 1928.
- In 1964, it was estimated that Americans invested almost as much in their lawns as in foreign military assistance.
- In 1989 more than 500,000 people made their living directly from the turf care and maintenance, and turf grass was a \$25 billion industry.



Have you replaced your grass with something else?

You could win free *Gimme Green* gear! If you have a beautiful landscape that doesn't require much water or chemicals, send a couple photos along with a brief story about your yard. We will pick a new winner every month to receive a T-shirt, tote bag, or DVD. Send your entries to: lawnmovie@gmail.com

Planning a Special Event?

Think from the perspective of water pollution! When planning, be proactive. Assess your event's activity from a storm water pollution point-of-view and ask yourself, "will this activity, directly or indirectly, generate pollution?" And, "how can I get the job done and prevent debris from entering the storm drain?"

1. The first step of your special event planning process should be to identify the storm drains that your event could potentially affect.
2. Once you have identified potential sources of pollutant discharges, adopt some simple Best Management Practices (BMPs) that can help stop pollutants from being generated and entering into the storm drain system.
3. You should also make sure all of the vendors at your event also participate in storm water pollution prevention strategies.

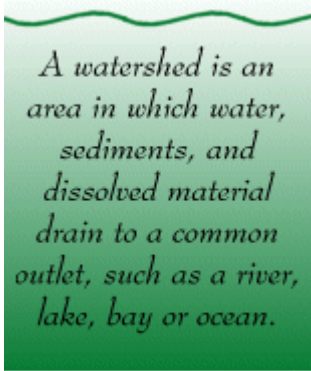
Source: <http://www.sandiego.gov/thinkblue/pdf/specialeventplanning.pdf>

Household energy conservation Booklet -It's thorough and designed to be easy to read for the lay person. You can take a look at the "Climate Master Handbook" at <http://climlead.uoregon.edu>. Contact smazze@uoregon.edu if you'd like the editable version.

What Can You Do to Help Protect Our Indian River Lagoon Estuary?

Estuaries reflect the overall health of a watershed. Individuals are the most important contributors in the long-term effort to identify and address water quality, pollution, and habitat problems within estuaries. Examine your every-day activities and think about how you might be contributing to the pollution problem. Here is a suggestion on how you can make a difference:

- **Take responsibility for your own backyard.** Determine whether additional nutrients or pesticides are needed before you apply them, and look for alternatives where fertilizers and pesticides might run off into surface waters and, ultimately, the estuary. Consider selecting plants and grasses with low maintenance requirements. Water your lawn conservatively; the less water you use, the less runoff will eventually find its way into the estuaries. Preserve existing trees and plant new trees and shrubs to help prevent erosion and promote infiltration of water into the soil. Restore bare patches in your lawn to prevent erosion.
<http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/factsheets/fact5.html>



Landscaping the Florida-Friendly way.....means using low maintenance plants and environmentally sustainable practices. Learn how you can have a beautiful landscape that could save you time, energy and money while protecting our future. Find out more from our Indian River County Florida Yards program at <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/counties/indianrivercontact.htm>, the FloridaYards.org website, or download the 52 page Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Handbook at http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/materials/2009_FYN_Handbook_non-508_web_vSept09.pdf.



2nd of the 9 principles: Water Efficiently

To view the **new** e-Learning Articulate Flash Module on this and the other 8 principles, visit http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/Nine_principles/9principles_player.html

For local gardening education programs see “Trainings” section in this newsletter.

ANSWER TO “DO YOU KNOW?”

Under Florida law, it is illegal to discard nickel-cadmium or small sealed lead acid rechargeable batteries or products containing such rechargeable batteries in the trash. The batteries must be recycled or sent to a facility permitted to dispose of those batteries. This prohibition applies to every resident as well as every business, institutional, government, industrial, commercial, communications or medical facility in the state. A Homeowner’s Guide to Battery Recycling and Disposal is available at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/batteries/default.htm> Indian River County residents can dispose of batteries at the 5 County convenience centers and the Solid Waster Disposal District. For more information call 770-5113.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Give A Day of Community Service Get a Day of Fun at Disney!

Walt Disney Corporation wants to inspire one million people to volunteer a day of service to a participating organization in their communities. So we're celebrating these volunteers' good works by giving each of them a 1-day, 1-theme park ticket to the Disneyland® Resort or Walt Disney World® Resort, free. There's no better time to make a dream come true for others and let us make a few come true for you.

Visit http://disneyparks.disney.go.com/disneyparks/en_US/WhatWillYouCelebrate/index?name=Give-A-Day-Get-A-Disney-Day

April 10, 2010 (Saturday) 10 a.m. – 4 pm The Indian River County Sustainability Inc.’s Sustainability Conference at The Vero Beach Heritage Center, 14th Lane, Vero Beach. Email Judy Orcutt at jjorcutt@bellsouth.net to find out how you can volunteer.

RECYCLING & BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS - KIRB is the acronym for Keep Indian River Beautiful. It promotes livable neighborhoods by empowering individuals to take greater responsibility for enhancing their community through beautification projects, neighborhood cleanups and school cleanup clubs. Visit www.kirb.org and learn how you can enhance your environmental stewardship knowledge and/or contribute your time and talents. Call KIRB’s executive director, Kristy Sturdivant 772-388-5472 or email keepirbeautiful@gmail.com



Community Rain Barrel Campaign & 2011 Water Festival

The Cultural Council of Indian River County, Keep Indian River Beautiful, and the Stormwater Division of IRC are in the planning stages of an awareness campaign to teach people of the importance of reducing contaminated runoff through the use of rain barrels,

recycling rainwater (and containers) as a conservation tool and the role art can play in social marketing and enhancing the quality of our environment. The vision is to kickoff the program involving all 6 governmental entities in IRC in April 2011. A “moving display” will be completed by July 2011 in time for a community water festival and will be used at local schools and organizations to raise awareness through the following July 2012. If you or your organization would like to become involved contact Mary Jayne Kelly, Executive Director, Cultural Council of Indian River County (772) 770-4857 e-mail: info@cultural-council.org or Kristy Sturdivant, Executive Director, Keep Indian River Beautiful 772-388-5472 email: keepirbeautiful@gmail.com

JOB NETWORK....

Closes Feb 10.....SWFWMD Sr. Communications Coordinator position in Brooksville, FL
https://www5.swfwmd.state.fl.us/applications/WebEmpAp.nsf/Job_Embed?OpenForm#0054

Treasure Coast Workforce Solution’s Green Collar Jobs Apprenticeship Programs focus on labor opportunities for green building projects, including energy efficiency, the reduction of pollution, retrofitting, protection of natural resources, and utilization of renewable power sources. Training opportunities are open to all Treasure Coast residents. For more information regarding this program call the Workforce Solutions office at 1-866-4-U-2-HIRE

IRC Environmental Event Calendars

INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY EVENT CALENDAR

Community, non-profits and governmental agencies are welcome to list all their environmental events and activities on the Indian River County Cultural Arts Calendar in the “Community & Special Events Category” at www.cultural-council.org. To have your event listed email the information to Sharon at info@cultural-council.org.

UF/IRC Extension Service Calendar - http://indian.ifas.ufl.edu/Calendar/2009/aug_09.htm

GRANT DEADLINES

March 9 - Deadline for CARE grant applications

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is making \$2 million available in 2010 to reduce pollution at the local level through the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. CARE is a community-based program that works with county and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations and universities to help the public understand and reduce toxic risks from numerous sources. EPA will award CARE cooperative agreements in two levels. Level I awards range from \$75,000 to \$100,000 and will help establish community-based partnerships to develop local environmental priorities. Level II awards, ranging from \$150,000 to \$300,000 each, will support communities that have established broad-based partnerships, have identified the priority toxic risks in the community, and are prepared to measure results, implement risk-reduction activities and become self-sustaining. Applications for the CARE grants are due March 9, 2010. More information about the grants: <http://www.epa.gov/care/> Contact Information: Davina Marraccini, (404) 562-8293, marraccini.davina@epa.gov

March 29 – Deadline for CCRI applications.

The National Association of Counties (NACo), in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Community-Based Restoration Program (CRP), is pleased to announce the fourth year of funding for the *Coastal Counties Restoration Initiative (CCRI)*. The initiative provides financial assistance on a competitive basis to innovative, high quality county-led or supported projects. In 2010, CCRI will provide about \$500,000 in grants to improve stream, river, estuarine and other important marine habitats and remove barriers such as dams and culverts for fish migration and passage. For more information and to access the full RFP and application instructions, visit www.naco.org/ccri , call Carrie Clingan at 202.942.4246 or email cclingan@naco.org.