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Calusa Digest



Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet

Summer, 2008

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The first Thursday of each month, -6:30 PM at The Unitarian Universalist Church, (off Daniels Parkway)-13411 Shire Lane, Ft. Myers, FL 33912

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US Environmental Group Expels Florida Chapter Amid Endorsement Row

Elana Schor in Washington
guardian.co.uk ,
Monday April 7 2008

This article was first published on guardian.co.uk on Monday April 07 2008. It was last updated at 15:31 on April 07 2008.

The biggest environmental group in the US has expelled the leaders of its Florida chapter weeks after the local activists accused the group's directors of selling out in a corporate endorsement deal with a bleach manufacturer.

The Sierra Club, founded by Scottish conservation icon John Muir, says the Floridians were ousted after a national inquiry found their chapter paralyzed by infighting. But the expelled activists believe they were silenced after criticizing Sierra's controversial agreement with US bleach maker Clorox to endorse a new line of green household cleaners.

Sierra will receive a portion of the sales from the new Clorox products, called Green Works and made from mostly plant-based ingredients.

However, Clorox has a history of being hit with environmental violations for its less green products - in December, just before Sierra agreed to its endorsement, the company was fined \$95,000 by the US government for donating illegal Chinese pesticides to charity.

Joy Towles Ezell, the former Sierra conservation

chairwoman in Florida, said Green Works should be named "Money Works" or "Toxic Works". "Clorox is the bad guy to me," Ezell said. "Just because this new project is going to be on every store shelf and Wal-Mart in the US, I don't think that's a reason to put your logo on it - just to make you more popular." "You sell your soul when you get involved with something like that."

SPECIAL MEETING CHANGES

The Calusa Group monthly meetings will be held on the second Tuesday off the month at Happehatchee Center 8791 Corkscrew Road Estero for the months of June, July, August and September at 7:30 PM. The Center (on Corkscrew) is about 600 feet east of U.S. 41, just opposite of the entrance to Publix. It is on the north side of Corkscrew. If driving from US 75 (exit 123). Cross the RR tracks and prepare to turn right. Blinker on to slow the traffic behind you. Pass two driveways, turn right onto dirt road. Call ahead for gate code 239-992-5455. See you there.

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The Florida chapter approved a measure condemning the Green Works deal in January, noting Clorox's past violations of environmental rules and urging Sierra to "maintain our conservation integrity".

That same weekend, the activists say, they were told of their impending removal by the group's national directors, which became official last week.

David Willett, spokesman for the national Sierra Club, said the Florida expulsion "is completely unrelated" to the complaints over Green Works but came after years of being forced to referee the Floridians' "disagreements, administrative gridlock and distrust".

"It's definitely controversial," Willett acknowledged of the Clorox deal. "The reason we're proud of this endeavor is we believe that companies have to be part of the solutions to our environmental problems. The only way that's really going to happen is if they figure out a way to conduct business while being environmentally friendly."

Sierra is not the first US green group to accept corporate money. The Audubon Society - founded just after 116-year-old Sierra - has signed a \$20m deal with Toyota to fund local preservation under the label "TogetherGreen". Environmental Defense has worked on market-friendly pollution standards with General Electric and BP America.

But Sierra members question why the group has not revealed how much money it expects to earn from Green Works.

"I am very concerned about using the good Sierra Club name on a product endorsement, especially when that company is paying the Club a substantial sum of money in return," said Pedro Monteiro, formerly secretary of the Florida chapter.

In addition, the Sierra executive director sent a letter to activists saying the Green Works cleaners "have been vetted by" the group's Toxics committee, suggesting official approval was given.

However, Jessica Frohman, who chairs the Toxics committee, said it did not officially sign off on the products. "I don't want people to think we approved

removal, leaders of other state Sierra chapters got a letter from national president Robert Cox warning them not to "seek public media coverage" of the fight using the group's name.

Asked about the ban on speaking to the press, which alarmed some of the ousted activists, Willett said: "The idea is that in a democratic organization, once a decision has been reached, you should represent that official decision ... We just don't want anyone to get confused about what the Sierra Club's opinion is."

Yet others have spoken out against the Clorox deal, some even vowing to quit their Sierra memberships. The Massachusetts state chapter wrote to the national directors urging them to return the corporate money and listen harder to Sierra volunteers.

"It is one thing to evaluate products ... it's quite another thing to say that and take cash from a company in return," Philip Dowds, a senior leader in the Massachusetts chapter, said. "That was something that disturbed us the most."

Karyn Strickler, a Maryland resident who has ran as a reform candidate for the national Sierra board, called the deal a "green-washing" of Clorox's reputation as a maker of toxic bleach. "Supporting Clorox's 'Green Works' will not diminish the production of their noxious chemicals," Strickler said via e-mail.

The Green Works cleaners illustrate the growing boom in "cause marketing", which begins when anon-profit group lends its name to a corporate product. The business gets an image boost, and the charity gets much-needed cash.

Green watchdog Jeff Ruch has long fought against a proposal by the US environmental protection agency (EPA) to allow cause marketing for chemical pesticides. He questioned whether the Green Works deal would persuade Sierra to soften the tone of its activism.

"It's hard to bite the hand that feeds you, and if Clorox is now feeding them, we'd expect them to overlook Clorox's corporate failings," said Ruch, executive director of the non-profit Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility.

“P.U.R.E. Water Act”

Sierra Club - Red Tide Campaign

phil.compton@sierraclub.org

Sierra Activists and Allies:

Thanks to you all, Rep. Nelson’s “Protection of Urban and Residential Environments and Water Act” (“P.U.R.E. Water Act”), the dread fertilizer ordinance preemption bill, is **DEAD**. There’s **HOPE** tonight for *all* Florida communities to now move forward to fight Red Tide and other Harmful Algae Blooms in their watersheds.

How it died:

In the Senate: SB 2352 was *T.P.’ed* today (temporarily postponed) in the last committee it could have been heard in to advance as a bill, the Senate Committee on Community Affairs. Senator Aronberg was seen after the Community Affairs meeting abashedly smiling and laughing as he admitted ‘*it’s all over, it’s dead and it’s not coming back.*’

In the House: Nelson’s House companion bill, HB 1267, also died, meaning the fertilizer preemption bill will not be brought back up in the Senate as an amendment to another bill, as there is nothing to match up to on the other side of the Legislature.

To everyone who responded to the Sierra Action Alert to call Senate Community Affairs members last week: **THANK YOU! Your calls made a difference!** Working with our allies: the cities, counties, duck hunters, fishermen and other environmentalists, we have succeeded in preserving home rule, the right of local governments to address urgent local clean water issues in the most cost-effective way possible: prevention at the source, rather than entirely through capital-intensive stormwater infrastructure. Thanks to our lobbyists David Cullen and Dr. Peter Barile, who were effective both in working with our allies and in clearly communicating to our legislators the objective scientific basis for the defeat of this proposal to protect the right to pollute our Florida waters.

E-mail notification of permit applications for the public.

MARCH 19, 2008

CONTACTS: GOVERNOR’S PRESS OFFICE, (850) 488-5394

TALLAHASSEE – Governor Charlie Crist and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Secretary Michael W. Sole launched a new system for e-mail notification of permit applications for the public. The Permitting Application Subscription Service, or PASS, allows the public to receive e-mail alerts when permit applications are submitted to DEP. PASS allows any interested party to access information about environmental permit applications received by the agency in any area of Florida. Users provide an e-mail address and identify locations of interest as well as activities of interest, and then will receive e-mail notification with more information when permit applications are received at DEP that match the specifications chosen by the member of the public. Subscribers will receive an e-mail identifying application information such as project ID, location name and ID, and permit application number as well as contact information for the appropriate permitting office.

PASS offers a number of choices to allow users to personalize their subscriptions. PASS allows subscribers to create and modify multiple profiles for the same e-mail address, and provides several ways to specify geographical area of interest. For example, users can select all activities inside chosen counties, within a specified distance of an address such as a home, or within a specified distance from a given point on the map such as vacant land. In addition, subscribers can request electronic notification for 11 different permit groups representing 125 different types of permits that DEP facilitates under state regulatory law.



WHO WE ARE

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Here is a very brief synopsis of Sierra Club's top priorities this session:

- Florida Forever Funding – The budget includes the money to bond \$300 million for the coming year and \$50 million for the Everglades.
- Florida Forever Successor program – SB 542/HB 7141 passed both houses and will be sent to the Governor for signature. The bill extends the program by ten years and increases it from \$3 billion to \$5.3 billion.
- Gambling Vessels – HB 897/SB1094 passed. The bill requires gambling ships to dispose of their wastewater at harbor facilities instead of dumping it off shore.
- Ocean Outfalls – SB 1302/HB 139 which will require South Florida to reclaim 300 million gallons per day that is currently being piped offshore and damaging reefs.
- Aggregate Mining Preemption – the bills that would have prevented local governments from controlling and minimizing the impact of mining on their communities were stopped in committee.
- Fertilizer Preemption bill – HB 1267 and SB 2352 died in committee. These bills would have kept local governments from passing local ordinances more stringent than a weak state “model”.
- HB 7135/SB 1544, the Energy package passed. Sierra Club offered the bill qualified support in a recent Tallahassee Report press release.
- And of course, the Growth Management bills , SB 474 / SB 7129 died on the calendar.

Dave Cullen, Lobbyist

Exploring the Calusa Heritage Trail by Land and by Sea!

-Submitted by Outing Leader Brigita Gahr

A dozen adventurers met at the Randell Research Center on April 26th, where historian John Paeno passed around tools and other artifacts that the Calusa would have used when they inhabited and ruled southern Florida. “This was a well established civilization based on plant fiber, shell tool technology, and war.” (Paeno, p. 27). John led us along the Calusa Heritage Trail and to the top of a large shell mound that overlooks Pine Island Sound. He blew into a conch shell horn to recreate the loud sound that would have warned the Calusa that inhabited neighboring islands of the approaching enemy. “From their vantage point or lookouts they could detect enemy invasion, communicate with other towns and cities with fire, smoke, or horns and mobilize a formidable military force, as Ponce Deleon found out. Within hours of Ponce’s arrival here he was attacked by 80 Calusa war canoes.” (Paeno, p. 27)

“The Calusa were once the most powerful people in all of South Florida. For many centuries they built huge shell mounds, engineered canals, and sustained tens of thousands of people from the fish and shellfish found in the rich estuaries west and south of Fort Myers.Remnants of an ancient canal that reached across Pine Island sweep through the (Pineland site) complex.” (Calusa Heritage Trail brochure- Randell Research Center)

“The canal stretched 2 ½ miles and was about 30 feet wide and 8 feet deep. It was probably built by the women, children and slaves. With shell shovels, scoops, picks, and sticks they dug the mostly soft soil. With baskets made from the plants that grew native they hauled the soil and cleared the canal.... The Calusa and their ancestors were fishing with gill nets and making aqua farms all over Pine Island Sound and in many parts of South Florida.” (Paeno, p. 27). After the historical walking tour we boarded the Calusa King’s Caalos I 14-seat canoe and listened to more fascinating stories about the Calusa and local legends as we paddled through Pine Island Sound. Upon our return to the shore, we watched a beautiful sunset and then treated ourselves to refreshments at the Tarpon Lodge.

For more information about “Calusa Ghost Tours” contact John Paeno at 239-938-5342 or calusaghost-tours@comcast.net.

Paeno, John. (2008, April). Calusa Ghost Tours: Pine Island Sound History, Legend and Folklore. The Nautical Mile.

Provisions for the draft Landscape & Fertilizer Best Management Practices Ordinance

All landscape companies must be registered with Lee County.

- There must be at least one professional on site at all times who is Florida Green Industries Institute trained and certified.

Fertilizer shall not be applied June 1-September 30.

Exemptions: Golf courses provided that they are following the Florida Golf Course Best Management Practices and agriculture covered under the FL Right to Farm Act or livestock operations not covered under FRFA both utilizing FDACS BMPs.

Phosphorus content; 0.25 lbs. P2O5/1000 ft2 per application nor exceed 0.50 lbs. P2O5/1000 ft2 per year.

Nitrogen content; no less than 50% slow release nitrogen is required. No more than 4 lbs of nitrogen per 1000 ft2 in any calendar year.

Fertilizer shall not be applied to any water body or impervious surface.

A spreader deflector is required to be used near all waterbodies/wetlands and impervious surfaces.

Mandatory 10 foot no fertilizer buffer zone near all waterbodies and wetlands measured from top of bank.

Homeowners are encouraged to follow the practices outlined and referenced in the ordinance and to seek education with the Lee County Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Landscape Program; however education is not currently mandatory. Lee County has a one (1) year grace period before the ordinance goes into effect however violations will still be subject to a warning.

HOMETOWN DEMOCRACY

Finally, some good news!! We won our case against the State at the 1st District Court of Appeal – they unanimously ruled that the ridiculous anti-FHD revocation statute is unconstitutional! The Florida Legislature is currently rushing to pass even more spurious anti-petitioning roadblocks which we believe to be also patently unconstitutional.

Here's where the State says we are today in our petition count:

Required for review by Attorney General:	61,113
Required to have initiative on the ballot:	611,009
** Number currently valid:	585,935
** Number currently revoked:	13,182
** Total number valid:	572,753

The numbers have moved since the “deadline” because a lot of petitions submitted before February 1st were not counted. Now they

have been, although some supervisors of elections still haven't posted them up. Yes, we asked them to do so several times.

Plus, there are about 67 different ways to count petitions in Florida , all depending on which county you live in!

We plan to do something about that in the next week or so. So send petitions and **donations**. Our battleground before now was in the streets....petitioning....now the battlefield moves on to the courts.... things should be getting interesting soon!

Best,

Lesley

Article published Apr 23, 2008

By BRENT KALLESTAD

State appeals court rules in favor of citizens group

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP)

People cannot take back their support once they sign petitions to get citizen initiatives on a ballot, an appeals court ruled Wednesday in a case over whether voters should have a say in changing infrastructure and development plans.

The 1st District Court of Appeal said a law that let people take back their signatures is unconstitutional, so it overturned a trial court's ruling.

The Legislature passed the law at the request of business organizations. They then used it to revoke thousands of signatures obtained by proponents of Hometown Democracy, an initiative that would require voter approval of changes in plans laying out where new roads, homes, businesses and other development can be built. Hometown Democracy then sued.

The appeals court's seven-page ruling said revoking signatures burdens the initiative process with requirements not found in the Florida Constitution. Instead, the constitution gives citizens the right to propose amendments without legislative assistance.

"The court got it right," said Ross Burnaman, co-founder of the Hometown Democracy political action com-

Barney Bishop III, president and CEO of Associated Industries of Florida, was a leader in the signature revocation effort. He said it allowed people to change their minds "because they perhaps weren't told the real truth at the time to begin with."

Burnaman, of Tallahassee, and fellow lawyer Lesley Blackner, of Palm Beach, started the initiative as a response to public officials they believed were too willing to give developers everything they want while ignoring citizen protests.

But in an all-out effort to defeat the proposal, builders, developers and other business leaders wrote and called petition signers to suggest they had made a mistake.

Hometown Democracy narrowly missed the 2008 ballot after Secretary of State Kurt Browning rejected a request to delay ballot certification until all signatures submitted before the Feb. 1 deadline were verified.

The law is one of several steps the Legislature has taken in recent years with encouragement from business leaders to make it more difficult to pass initiatives. They contend initiatives such as Hometown Democracy could slow growth and harm the state's economy. *(LB: Yeah, the same crew that crashed the economy with overbuilding.)* Burnaman and Bishop agreed the issue may wind up being resolved by the Florida Supreme Court.

"We're not out of the game yet," Bishop said.

Associated Press Writer Bill Kaczor contributed to this report.

Koreshan, Sierra Club host Earth Day celebration

By Elizabeth Wright

5:50 p.m., Saturday, April 19, 2008

Colorful streamers hung from tree branches at the Koreshan State Historic Site, and drummers performed at the center of the old Estero settlement, after speakers took to the stage to talk about water quality and conservation.

This was how the Calusa Group of the Sierra Club marked Earth Day at Saturday's celebration.

Free kayak rides along the Estero River encouraged families to linger outdoors, while vendors showcased bamboo clothing, non-toxic cleaning supplies, jewelry and nature-themed artwork.

The event, one of several in the area celebrating Earth Day, drew hundreds of people.

Among them was Naples resident Rob Anderson, who said he heard about the event from a yoga instructor.

"I have an interest in all this," he said. "You've got to educate people."

Along with the music and food, local hiking groups provided information on places to explore around Southwest Florida, and a variety of environmental groups encouraged involvement beyond the annual event.

Volunteers there encouraged actions as small as adding a native plant to yard landscape. Many left the park with free seedlings to try that were plucked off a red, child's wagon beside one of the booths.

The plants were dune sunflowers, explained Jim Wohlpart, a San Carlos Park resident and a volunteer with Estero Bay Buddies, the group handing out the donated plants.

"It gets a beautiful yellow flower to it," he said, showing a picture of the full-grown plants, which grow in the area's sandy soil and won't need extra water.

"It's good for the kind of climate we have," he said. "We try to encourage as many native plants as possible."

For a group that does everything from clearing trails to holding fundraisers to helping support the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve, the connection between the bay and inland backyards is the quality of the water that leaves a residential area, then flows through creeks and rivers out to the bay and beyond.

The fewer fertilizers and chemicals along the way, the better.

Or, as one woman explained it to two young children after looking at exhibits on some of Southwest Florida's waterways: "Too much bad stuff in the water causes problems."

Education -- whether it's for children, seasonal visitors or full-time residents -- is part of the purpose of the event, Wohlpart said.

"It's a way of creating a new ethos," he said of concern for the environment, and for him, concern about climate change. "Unless we change our way of relating with the earth, we aren't going to have much of an earth left."

Earth Day has been sparking events promoting environmental awareness around the country for more than a quarter century.

The Koreshan park event, now in its seventh year, grows a little bit more each time it is held, he said.

One newcomer this year was Marti Daltrey, a volunteer with the advocacy group Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association.

"It contributes to algal blooms and red tide," she

Hybrid solar water heater installed on Cullum Hasty's home.

Carter Quinalin

The Calusa SETI (Solar Energy Technology Initiative) project began with the protest of the proposed coal fired power plant at Okeechobee. It was noted that if you spent the money that was going to be used to build the power plant on large scale application of small scale solar thermal projects, you could easily save more energy than the power plant would produce. Well, the power plant project got killed but the SETI project continues to promote the simple premise that we have the renewable energy technology at our finger tips to produce some very meaningful carbon dioxide emission reductions as well as save money for consumers. We just have to "Do It".

In an ongoing effort to show the simplicity and cost effectiveness of this technology, a demonstration project was completed at Cullum Hasty's home in Bonita Springs. The project was designed to demonstrate both high and low technology approaches to solar water heating. This "Hybrid" system, as I like to call it, uses both passive and active components to produce a more cost effective system with a high level of reliability, performance, and ease of maintenance.

The passive component was a simple "tank in the box" or Integral Collector Storage (ICS) system that can be made from materials readily available at any home improvement store for less than \$300. It will produce approximately 6000 Btus/day of low grade thermal energy and seamlessly integrate into any conventional or renewable source water heater. I like to call it the "thousand pounder" because it displaces approximately 1000 pounds of CO2 emissions per year. This unit then feeds the existing water heater which was then retrofitted with 4 state of the art vacuum tube solar collectors. Vacuum tubes have the unique property of working very well in low sun conditions. So, even when it's pretty cloudy, this type of unit will produce some very high temperatures.

By retrofitting the existing electric storage tank, and adding the various solar energy components, this system is very cost effective. On an individual installation, the entire material cost is about \$1250 to deliver approximately 18,000 Btu's/day. This particular application was sized for 2-3 people so larger installations would be comparatively more expensive, but with economies of scale from large volumes of installations, the cost could be significantly reduced.

Environmental groups threaten action over fouled Florida waters

By Eric Staats Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Clean water advocates plan to ask a judge to speed up a deadline for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to adopt new standards to control pollution in Florida waters plagued by toxic algae such as red tide. The Florida Wildlife Federation, the Sierra Club and the Conservancy of Southwest Florida sent a letter Tuesday to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Stephen Johnson notifying the EPA of their intent to sue the agency in 60 days for failing to uphold the Clean Water

Act.

The groups cite a 1998 pledge by the EPA to set numbers limiting nutrient pollution. The EPA's plan called for states to set the limits by 2003 or the EPA would set the limits. The EPA recently allowed the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to delay new standards for nutrient pollution until 2012. "This is way overdue," Conservancy President Andrew McElwaine said.

EPA spokeswoman Dawn Harris-Young, in Atlanta, referred questions to the EPA's office in Washington, D.C., where officials couldn't be reached for comment later Tuesday. Nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus found in fertilizers and wastewater, have fueled blooms of toxic blue-green algae that have overrun the Caloosahatchee River, the St. Johns River, the St. Lucie River and Lake Okeechobee. In coastal waters, rafts of floating seaweed have fouled Southwest Florida beaches.

Red tides, blooms of microscopic algae, have become more frequent and more intense. Red tide causes breathing problems for humans and can kill fish and manatees. Algae blooms also rob waters of oxygen, creating dead zones that smother marine life.

Despite the threats posed by nutrients, Florida hasn't adopted a number that nitrogen and phosphorus levels cannot exceed.

Instead, Florida's rule says nutrient concentrations cannot "be altered so as to cause an imbalance in the natural populations of aquatic flora and fauna." That leaves too large a loophole for polluters to swim through, critics say. "EPA has basically let everyone off the hook," said Monica Reimer, an attorney for Earthjustice, which is representing the three environmental groups. The groups aren't asking for any particular standard, only that the EPA set a deadline by which a standard is adopted, she said.

The DEP cites complications in determining how much of a nutrient is too much. Some effects of nutrients are naturally occurring, and the effects result from long-term exposure, DEP spokeswoman Dee Ann Miller wrote in an e-mail. Florida has developed a numeric standard of 10 parts per billion for phosphorus in the Everglades, but the process was time-consuming and expensive, Miller wrote in her e-mail. "We are working on the development of a more cost-effective means of deriving numeric nutrient criteria but it is an emerging science," she wrote.

Numeric standards for the rest of the state would make it easier to develop plans to cut pollution and provide a way to track progress, according to the groups' letter. That doesn't mean the EPA can't hold Florida to its existing narrative standard, said Linda Young, director of the Clean Water Network of Florida. "A numeric criteria would be great _ if they set a good one," she said. The

WARNING TO ALL GARDENERS REGARDING UNREGISTERED PESTICIDE PRODUCTS FROM SCOTTS!

(from a news release April 23, 2008)

The EPA is ordering Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, located in Marysville, Ohio, to **stop selling** and **distributing** two pesticide products that have not been registered with the EPA. The products are “**Garden Weed Preventer + Plant Food**” and “**SLS Fertilizer With .28 Halts.**” These products have not been registered and are labeled with invalid EPA registration numbers. The safety of these products has not been reviewed by the EPA. To protect public health and environment, pesticide products must be registered with the EPA.

If you think you may have purchased one of these unregistered products, look at the **EPA number** on the label. If you see the numbers **62355-4** (garden weed prevention products) or **538-304** (SLS fertilizer), **you have an unregistered product. Store the item in a cool, dry place such as a storage shed or garage and contact Scotts or your retail outlet.**

EPA will post any new information on their website www.epa.gov/reg5rcra/ptb/news/ If you have further questions regarding this stop sale, please call **888-838-1304** to speak with an EPA pesticides specialist.

The National Pesticide Information Center has a **hotline number** you can call on the West Coast. The number is **800-858-7378** and is open daily from 6:30 am – 4:30 pm **Pacific time.**

EPA and the Ohio Department of Agriculture have begun an inquiry to determine how many of these products have been manufactured and delivered. EPA has strongly encouraged Scotts Miracle-Gro to voluntarily recall the products. As of today, EPA’s only enforcement action has been to issue this stop sale order. Under the FIFRA statute, a company could be fined \$6500 each time an improperly registered pesticide is distributed.

Fertilizer Bill

Linda Young, Director, Clean Water Network of Florida

Dear Friends of Florida's waters - The sponsors of the Fertilizer bill have conceded and the bill, which was discussed in Committee this morning, is dead. There was no strong commitment by the sponsors to bring it back this session. The bill, as presented this morning still contained local government pre-emption language.

Congratulations to everyone who worked hard to defeat this very wrong legislation which would have created even more pollution in our waters and less power for ordinary citizens and local governments. Good bye and good riddance to the Fertilizer Bill!!!

Continued from page 7

Clean Water Network has been among groups that have filed a series of lawsuits seeking to overturn the way DEP determines whether a water body is polluted and must be cleaned up.

A report late last year from the DEP found that Naples Bay isn’t polluted by nutrients, a designation that had set up the potential for a cleanup plan in 2008. Instead, the DEP set a 2013 and 2018 deadline to lower levels of copper and bacteria, respectively, in Naples Bay. The city of Naples adopted a law earlier this year restricting fertilizer use with the aim of keeping it from washing into coastal waters.

Membership

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Enclose check and mail to **Sierra Club**
P.O. Box 52968 Boulder CO 80322-2968
Calusa Chapter 3303

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