

**From:** Debbie Matthews <treehuggerdeb@gmail.com>  
**To:** <dmatthews@de-simone.com>  
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**Subject:** CauseWays - March 2009



March /2009

### In This Issue

[General Meeting - Feb. 9th - 7:00 PM](#)

[Festival Volunteers Needed](#)

[Everglades Need the Sugar Lands](#)

[Seagrass Awareness Month](#)

[Sierra Club PICNIC](#)

[DEP Protecting Lesser-Know Reefs](#)

[Navy Underwater Sonar Training](#)

[Green Mobility Network](#)

[Outings - 2008 - 2009](#)

[Environmental Meetings and Happenings Around Town](#)

[Committees](#)

[Contact Info](#)

### Quick Links

[Register Now](#)  
[Newsletter Archive](#)  
[Related Topics](#)  
[More On Us](#)

### Join our list

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### Greetings!

Hello everyone. I know there have been a few of you that have had trouble reading this newsletter. The columns are too wide, it is troublesome and irritating to scroll all over. I am working on this issue, it is not as easy as it sounds to fix it. I have a template that I work with, and it has to be a certain width. Some of you are running outdated browsers and software, and that is part of the problem. In order to make this newsletter more "user-friendly", I have manually gone in to each "block" to make it more narrow, so hopefully everyone can read it without constantly scrolling. Please keep in mind that we have PDF versions of the newsletter on our website as well. Thank you for your patience!

We are approaching Earth Day, and there are many events to volunteer for and/or to attend.

We hope you will all come to our Annual Picnic in April. I hope to see you all there!

### General Meeting - Speakers

General Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at the Coconut Grove Sailing Club. The social time starts at 7:00 PM. At 7:30 PM we make announcements, and the speaker starts at approximately 8:00 PM.

### March 9th- 7:00 PM - Coconut Grove Sailing Club - 2990 South Bayshore Drive

Why not bring some cookies, baked goods, cupcakes and share it with friends at the meeting? Start the Sierra New Year off with our get-together at the Coconut Grove Sailing Club. Great venue, and good company.

Bill Walker will be our speaker for March. Bill will talk about how he became obsessed with hiking the entire 2,175 mile Appalachian Trail in one hiking season despite never having even spent one night outdoors. He set off in the spring of 2005, very determined but equally inexperienced. Needless to say, he made one rookie mistake after another. His 6'11" height earned him the trail name, Skywalker, and was the envy of fellow hikers. But it proved to be a double-edged sword, as he was more vulnerable to weight loss, cold weather, etc.

Along the way he met a colorful cast of characters that he will discuss. He had an epiphany about the outdoor life and the environment. What a great way to see the country--on foot. A person can't immerse himself or herself that deeply in natural beauty for that long and not come away with a new outlook on our natural wonders.

He will also talk about some of the more notable sections on the AT and give some good ideas as to good section hikes for people of varying abilities.

He also wrote a book, Skywalker--Close Encounters on the Appalachian Trail, that is an irreverent narrative that should appeal to non-hikers, as much as hikers. He will have copies there to sell at a reduced rate, if anyone is interested. We might be able to talk him into

autographing them for us too!

The Miami Group holds a general meeting each month for people to come and meet fellow Sierrans, hear a guest speaker on an environmental topic, sign up for outings, and volunteer to help on issues in South Florida. The Sailing Club where we now hold out meetings is located at 2990 South Bayshore Drive, Coconut Grove, right next to Peacock Park. Meeting night is the second Monday of every month and doors normally open at 7 p.m. We start with outings signup and socializing and the guest speaker/program begins at 7:30 p.m.

Next Month, join us to hear Ben Ruttenberg, Biologist from Biscayne National Park.

#### **Festival Volunteers Needed**

We need volunteers to man tables at upcoming festivals. It is fun, and you get to help inform others in our community what The Sierra Club Miami Group is all about.

We will have a booth at the Annual Native Plant Day sponsored by the Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society.

This free event will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2009 from 9 am - 4 pm.

It will be held at A.D. Barnes Park, Natural Area -- 3401 SW 72nd Avenue, Miami.

The 13th Annual Miami Riverday Festival will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2009, 11 am to 4 pm, at Jose Marti Park, SW 4th Street and SW 4th Avenue. Sierra Club would like to have a booth at this event too!

We need volunteers for EarthFest at Crandon Park on April 19, 2009. All time slots are open. This is a great event, loads of fun, with tons of Environmental booths, food, music, etc.

The Green Urban Living Center and Green Team of Miami Dade College, North Campus will be hosting an Earth Day 2009 event on April 15, they would love to have Sierra Club table at this event, are you interested?

Please contact Maria Papazian [m.papazian@miami.edu](mailto:m.papazian@miami.edu)

### **Everglades Need the Sugar Lands**

The first thing you should know about Florida's pending purchase of U.S. Sugar lands (a.k.a "the sugar deal") is that everyone's trying to kill it. No, not just a few people. It's so many, they have to sit and take a number. We've got an Indian Tribe, a pair of sugar barons, entire towns, high schools, editorial boards, the Florida Legislature, and yes, even an environmental group.

The next thing you should know is that this \$1 billion plus sale must go through or the Everglades has no chance of survival. As environmentalists, we understand the problem: Lake Okeechobee is separated from the remaining Everglades by more than a half million acres of sugar farms. These sugar farms have been pumping out phosphorus for decades and altering water levels to the detriment of the Everglades. In order to clean, store and move enough water for the Everglades to survive, we have to buy land. If we don't, the Everglades will continue to be taken over by a cancer of phosphorus-loving cattails in the north, and dried into dust in the south.

There are a myriad of arguments made against the deal. Here are a few: The Miccosukee Tribe says it opposes the deal because it will strip funds from other restoration projects. That would be a valid point if it wasn't also true that few other projects work unless you have the land to clean the water. Florida Crystals, which has launched two lawsuits and is lobbying to kill the deal, objects to a \$50 an acre seven-year leaseback to U.S. Sugar. We, too, would have preferred the state to use all the land now, but the lease terms were set by the parties, not us. Seven years is a long time to wait, but in year eight, time is on our side.

The underprivileged communities around Lake Okeechobee, like Clewiston and Belle Glade,

are opposed because these are company towns and the sale comes during an ever-deepening recession. While one cannot underestimate the personal suffering that will most likely take place, we can see a brighter, stronger future there. After the purchase, the Lakeside communities will have seven years to transition to a new economy - one that is economically empowering and environmentally sustainable.

One concern that lingers is that of the 187,000 acres to be purchased, the state may be forced to sell a sizable percentage of the land back to a private entity as "surplus" because it can't afford the financing. The extent and nature of such a resale is not clear. It's something we need to watch vigilantly, but even that threat is not reason enough to oppose the sugar deal.

By this summer, if all goes well, the state of Florida will be holding the deed to one third of the state's sugar lands. It means we won't have to spend tens of billions of dollars in the future. It means that we can clean up phosphorus before it heads south. It means an end to fish kills in the Caloosahatchee basin and Indian River Lagoon. It means fires won't ravage Shark River Slough and erode the organic peat that keeps the Everglades out of the sea. It means everything is possible.

But if we do nothing, we will simply return to the box we've created, and the death of the Everglades will continue.

Help the Sierra Club Everglades Committee now at this important time. Help us to reach out to non-environmental organizations and activate our friends. Help us explain that despite the pitfalls and uncertainties, Governor Crist's sugar deal is a once in a lifetime opportunity to restore the Everglades. To get involved, call (305) 860-9888 or email: [jonathan.ullman@sierraclub.org](mailto:jonathan.ullman@sierraclub.org)

By Jonathan Ullman, Everglades Coordinator

## Seagrass Awareness Month

### Seagrass Awareness Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay's seagrass community supports hundreds of species of fish, sea turtles, manatees and other wildlife at various stages of their development and provides multiple functions that contribute to a healthy and viable marine ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, seagrass habitats help protect Miami-Dade County's water quality by stabilizing bottom sediments and helping to absorb the excess nutrients from land run-off; and

WHEREAS, many recreational and commercial fishery species require a healthy seagrass habitat, including stone crab, shrimp, spiny lobster, yellowtail snapper, gray snapper and blue crab and in 2008 alone, seagrass communities in Miami-Dade County contributed to an estimated \$2.8 million commercial harvest of these species; and

WHEREAS, while more than 145,650 acres of seagrass were reported in Miami-Dade County in 1995, more than 11,000 acres had propeller scars and county residents and visitors are encouraged to help raise awareness about reducing impacts and preserving the delicate seagrass in this area; and

WHEREAS, awareness of the dangers facing seagrass, a vital natural resource, will help to create an understanding of the ways seagrass damage can impact both the economic and ecological value of our marine resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Carlos Alvarez, Mayor of Miami-Dade County, I, Dennis C. Moss, Chairman of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, and I, Katy Sorenson, Sponsoring Commissioner of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 2009 as Seagrass Awareness Month.



## 2009 Sierra Club PICNIC

Mark your calendars! The Miami Group's Annual Sierra Club Picnic will be held at A. D. Barnes Park on the afternoon of Sunday, April 26. Once again we have reserved Shelter Number 2, the lake view shelter. Picnic details will appear in the April Causeways.

Advance tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children, aged 5 to 14 years old. After Friday, April 24, the prices will increase to \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Buying your tickets early will help us to know how much food and drink to buy and prepare. You can make your reservations and pay in advance at the March and April monthly meetings or before April 24 by sending your check, care of Sierra Club Outings, to Jim Gross, 6470 SW 74 St, Miami, FL, 33143. For more information, call Jim at 305.665.2401 or e-mail at JMGross3013@aol.com.

## DEP Working to Protect Lesser-Known Florida Reefs

Increased outreach, development of coastal construction guidelines and continued monitoring among 2008 accomplishments-

MIAMI -The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) continues to implement programs and increase public awareness to protect the more than 239,000 acres of coral reefs that lie north of the Florida Keys. The CRCP's recently developed Best Management Practices (BMPs) for coastal construction, combined with the sixth consecutive year of biological monitoring and increased public awareness are increasing protection of these reefs, which play a crucial role both in Florida's environment and economy.

"Natural resources are at the core of Florida's prosperity and quality of life and coral reefs are one of the state's most valuable resources," said Lee Edmiston, Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (CAMA) Director. "I applaud the ambitious efforts and successes of the Coral Reef Conservation Program and look forward to projects planned in 2009."

The 239,000 acres of coral reefs and associated reef resources lie within a four-county area that stretches more than 100 miles from the northern boundary of Biscayne National Park in Miami-Dade County to the St. Lucie Inlet in Martin County. These reefs are part of the third longest reef system in the world which annually sustains more than 71,000 jobs and generates \$6.3 billion dollars in sales and income for Florida.

As part of their conservation and protection efforts, the CRCP manages the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative (SEFCRI), working with partners and stakeholders to direct the implementation of 140 projects that were developed as part of Florida's Local Action Strategy for the protection of regional coral reefs, and are linked to the goals and objectives of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force's National Action Plan.

The SEFCRI local action strategies target maritime industry and coastal construction impacts, land-based sources of pollution, fishing, diving and other uses, awareness and appreciation and reef injury prevention and response.

Some of the projects completed by the CRCP in 2008 include:

- The development of BMPs to guide the construction, management and monitoring of coastal construction projects that will directly or indirectly impact coral reefs. The BMPs are intended to serve as a guide for coastal construction engineers and firms, environmental managers, planners, regulators and resource users in the coastal construction industry. The completion of the sixth year of annual biological monitoring of coral reefs throughout the region, which is used to track coral status, develop trends and monitor the overall health of the reef ecosystem. In addition, funding for the monitoring has been secured for three more years along with the establishment of additional monitoring sites.

- The completion of a coral reef teacher training workshop by fifty area teachers, selected from more than ninety applicants.

Evaluations from the program indicate that the resources and material covered in the class will reach 14,000 plus students in the 2008-2009 school year alone.

- The distribution of public service announcements to local television and radio stations, as well as 55 hotels and seven movie theaters within the four-county region to educate residents and visitors about the regions extensive and vulnerable coral reefs.

"2008 was a very productive year. With the support of our partners, the CRCP has completed many of the short-term action strategies that comprise the SEFCRI," said Chantal Collier, CRCP Manager. "Together we have accomplished a great deal, but we still have a lot of work to do and we look forward to another successful year of improving the protection of Florida's coral reefs."

Scientists from all over the world attribute the degradation of coral reefs to a combination of global stressors including climate change and ocean acidification, coupled with regional and local stressors such as declining water quality associated with land-based sources of pollution, overfishing, and the destruction of habitats associated with coastal development.

To help combat this degradation, the CRCP and SEFCRI are continuing their protective activities. A variety of short-term projects are slated for completion in 2009, including:

- The installation of coral reef signage to educate boaters at marinas and boat ramps within Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Martin counties.
- The creation of maps identifying benthic (the collection of organisms living on or in sea bottom) habitats in Miami-Dade County.
- Developing alternatives to minimize or eliminate hard bottom and reef impacts from anchoring activities in designated anchorages at the Port of Miami and the Port of Palm Beach.

The Florida Department Coral Reef Conservation Program, the newest program of CAMA Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas, was established in 2004. CAMA also manages three National Estuarine Research Reserves in the state, 41 aquatic preserves and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. CAMA's programs and activities are designed to help Floridians better understand and conserve the state's resources through research, education and preservation.

For more information on DEP's Coral Reef Conservation Program and the SEFCRI, visit <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/coastal/programs/coral/>.

For more information on DEP's Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas, visit <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/coastal>.

## Navy Underwater Sonar Training Range in Jacksonville

The Navy wants to put an Underwater Sonar Training range in Jacksonville, just 30 miles from the only calving ground of the North Atlantic Right whale. There are only about 300 of these whales left, they are the worlds rarest large whale.

Since 2006 the Northeast Florida Sierra Club has been protesting the location of a Navy Underwater Sonar Training Range in the waters off the coast of Florida. We (Sierra Club Jacksonville), were initially joined in our protest by a very loud and well organized outcry from the North Carolina Chapter and the Virginia Chapter at the public meetings held in their states. They eventually were so successful that the Navy decided to move the focus south to Florida.

Here in Jacksonville only Sierra Club showed up and protested. It would have been nice if hundreds of people in this Navy town would have protested and supported us. Most people in Jacksonville are more interested in sucking up to the Navy than saving whales. The well organized commercial fishermen associations in NC and VA do not exist here. We could not even get whale researchers at Marineland to testify as they did not want to see their government contracts jeopardized. The press didn't even attend the meetings.

What can we do? I don't know, but I think it is time to contact your FL State Representative and let them know where we stand.

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/representatives.aspx>

## Green Mobility Network

Green Mobility Network is changing the climate for Earth-friendly transportation by helping South Floridians start bicycling, walking or running as part of their daily routines.



The volunteer group, started by four bicyclists in 2007, embraced pedestrian issues almost from the beginning as members recognized that walking and bicycling are threatened in similar ways by the prevailing car culture. It's not that Green Mobility is anti-car; it simply works for a healthier balance of transportation modes.

The group's most visible activity is perhaps the free bike valet it has operated at several local festivals and at the monthly Bike Miami Days in downtown Miami. "We're oping every festival will eventually include bike valet," Green Mobility chairman John Hopkins said. "We don't need to run it. We'll happily teach anyone how we keep the bikes safe and make sure they get back to their owners." In fact, the department store La Epoca and the Downtown Development Authority both operated a valet site during the Feb. 21 Bike Miami Day.

Speaking of Bike Miami Day: This event is a sort of street party, modeled on the famously popular *ciclovía* held each Sunday in Bogota, Colombia. Miami's version was launched in November 2008 with nearly 2,000 people walking, skating or bicycling downtown streets that were closed to cars for six hours. The next events are March 14, April 26 and May 17; check [miamiblog.wordpress.com](http://miamiblog.wordpress.com) for further dates.

The *ciclovía* was one of the ideas that Green Mobility pitched to Miami Mayor Manny Diaz in February 2008 as it asked for the city to undertake a comprehensive bicycle program. The city's first bicycle plan was adopted last October, and in January 2009, Collin Worth of the city's capital improvements office was given part-time responsibility for bicycle planning. New bicycle parking, bike lanes and other facilities are in the works.

Green Mobility's next big project is Complete the M-Path, a campaign to promote, improve and extend the multi-usepath in the shadow of the Metrorail -- a valuable asset for neighborhood walkers and bicycle commuters. Terry Connor, who commutes by bike between Coral Gables and Brickell Avenue, is leading the project.

"Not every bicyclist needs a path," Hopkins notes. "But many do, until they gain the skill and confidence to ride on the street. Paths and greenways help the cycling community grow, and, more important, they help the larger community stay healthy."

To follow Green Mobility's work, check out the Web site [www.greenmobilitynetwork.org](http://www.greenmobilitynetwork.org). If you like what you see, you can join right there. Other good sources for bicycling news are Hopkins's blog, Spokes 'n' Folks, [www.spokesnfolks.blogspot.com](http://www.spokesnfolks.blogspot.com), and the Florida Bicycle Association, [www.floridabicycle.org](http://www.floridabicycle.org).

#### MIAMI GROUP 2008-2009 OUTINGS SCHEDULE

#### MIAMI GROUP OUTINGS INFORMATION

Our outings are listed as Leisure, Moderate, or Strenuous. Be realistic about your physical condition and the degree of challenge you enjoy. Come ready to paddle, bicycle or hike and share the work. There are no passengers on our outings, only participants. Family trips are open to everyone. Once you have made a reservation, we ask that you make a serious commitment to attend the trip. Cancellations are detrimental to our program. Our outings leaders are unpaid trained volunteers.

Camping trip fees typically include food, transportation, canoes and campground fees. Trip participants need to furnish their own tents, backpacks, sleeping bags, and personal gear. Because of changing costs, outing fees listed may be changed at the opening of the trip.

If you are interested in a trip, call or e-mail the trip leader and ask for details or come to the signup table at the general meetings. Reservations open at the general meeting three months in advance of the trip. At the leader's discretion, reservations close one week before the date of the trip. Please sign up early for planning purposes. All reservations must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit. Make all checks payable to Sierra Club Outings. Please write the name and date of your trip on your check and include your phone number. Deposits are \$10 on trip fees of up to \$100 and \$20 on trips over \$100. Fees on trips of \$15 or less are to be paid in full with your reservation. Full payment is due 30 days in advance of the trip. Please send all payments to the trip leader.

If you must cancel, call the leader or assistant leader as early as possible. If you cancel 30 days or more in advance, your deposit will be refunded. If you cancel less than 30 days in advance, you lose your deposit. If you cancel 7 days or less in advance, you will forfeit all fees at the discretion of the leader.

## 2008 - 2009 Miami Group Outings Schedule

April 2008

**April 26 - Annual Sierra Club Picnic.** Join your friends for a fun day at the Miami Group's annual picnic. Details: TBA. Leisure. Leader: Jim Gross, 305-665-2401, e-mail: JMGross3013@aol.com. Assts: Lee and Diane Jacobs, 305-667-6962, email: eeljac@bellsouth.net.

### South Florida Group Outings

#### Training Events:

**March 28 - Outing Leader Training OLT 201.** A requirement for Outing Leaders who want to lead overnight trips away from cars. Location in the Tampa Bay Area. For more details contact: Rudy Scheffer, 727.726.8375 or email: rudy@adventuresworldwide.com

**March 21-22 - 9:00- 5:00 The University of Florida is sponsoring a SOLO Wilderness First Aid (WFA) course at Paynes Prairie State Park.** <http://www.floridastateparks.org/paynesprairie> Cost is \$150 (tuition only) for the 16 hour course. No CPR just WFA. Receive a two year certification from SOLO. Instructed by UF staff. Contact Rudy Scheffer at 727-726-8375 or e-mail: [rudy@adventuresworldwide.com](mailto:rudy@adventuresworldwide.com).  
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**March 7-8 - Backpack to Bee Island in Myakka River State Park.** 11 mile loop trail. Discover and explore a Florida grassland prairie park and learn how it is being restored. We camp under large old oaks and hike through varied habitat. Leader Ben Berauer, 727-392-2821 or bfberauer@aol.com. (Suncoast)

**March 13 & 14, 7 PM to 7 PM - Yes, this is a 24-hour event! Muir Trek™ through J. W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area.** This sunrise to sunset journey, conducted in the "here and now," emphasizes the Muir-inspired qualities of zest, celebration, joy, and adventure. The focus of the Muir Trek is on the individual in the natural world, not the group. Group bonding is not emphasized on a Muir Trek. Instead, the day is accented with leader inputs which include readings from John Muir's journals and which help the participants explore their own perceptions and experiences in nature. More info about Corbett can be found at [http://myfwc.com/recreation/jw\\_corbett/default.asp](http://myfwc.com/recreation/jw_corbett/default.asp). We will camp at the Everglades Youth Camp and spend the day Saturday exploring the natural area. Moderate. Limit 10. \$30. Joan Hourican, 561-306-2462, [hourican@fau.edu](mailto:hourican@fau.edu).

**March 15 - Paddle the Estero River and picnic dinner at Koreshan State Park.** Canoe rentals available at the park for only \$5/hour plus tax per boat. The two hour paddle will take us upstream into the "Estero jungle". We'll work up an appetite for a picnic dinner in the park afterwards. Optional stroll through the bamboo forest alongside the river. Park entrance fee is \$4 per car. Limit: 10 boats. Reserve with Em at 239-472-8973. (Calusa)

**March 19-20 - (Thursday/Friday) Women's Chassahowitzka River Kayak&Canoe Trip on Friday.** We will learn more about this 30,000-acre National Wildlife Refuge as we paddle the river. Nearby camping available on Thursday night. Please reserve at least a week in advance. Sue Brandon, brandon11@earthlink.net , 813-622-1800 (Suncoast)

**March 21 - Shark Valley in Everglades National Park** for a 15-mile bike ride. Link: <http://www.florida-outdoors.com/9trail-sv.htm> Bike rentals are available. Lots of wildlife to be seen and a tower to climb halfway through with a terrific view of flat Florida everglades terrain. We'll find somewhere tacky and funky for lunch afterwards and then head home. Shark Valley is about an hour and 40 minutes from Lantana. FREE except for bike rentals and park admission. Moderate. Limit 19. Ron Haines, 561-964-1995, RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net.

**March 28 - Public Transportation Adventure and Mangrove Park Ecowalk in Boynton Beach.** Explore the mangrove system along the Intracoastal waterway and hopefully see migrating birds from the short walking trail and boardwalk. More info can be found at [www.boyntonbeach.com/points/mangrove/index.html](http://www.boyntonbeach.com/points/mangrove/index.html). Meet your leader at the Boynton Tri-Rail station and we'll take the free trolley to the park at 9:46. This is a great opportunity to explore a natural area via public transportation! After the walk, we will have lunch at a local restaurant (at your own expense) and then return to the Tri-Rail station via trolley. Leisure. Limit 10. FREE.

Sabrina Carle, 561-732-4486, [Carles@bellsouth.net](mailto:Carles@bellsouth.net).

**March 28 - Hike the Alligator Creek Trails at the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (near Punta Gorda).** We will begin with a leisurely one-mile interpretive walk lead by a center volunteer. Those that are interested in additional hiking will continue for 2-3 miles at a more moderate pace on other trails. Bobcat, bald eagles, gopher tortoises, and red-shouldered hawks inhabit the pine flatwoods. The exhibits at the visitor's reception center and the Nature Gift Shop are open from 9-3. Reserve with Brigita at 239-337-1857 [bbgahr@embarqmail.com](mailto:bbgahr@embarqmail.com) (Calusa)

**April 11 - Ocean to Lake Trail Day Hike.** We'll hike from Riverbend Park west of Jupiter to the Jonathan Dickinson State Park marina. The total distance is 11 miles. More details are available at <http://lox.floridatrail.org/our-trails/the-ocean-to-lake-trail/> Strenuous. Limit 10. \$5. Donna Brown, 561-317-8288, [donnabrownintl@gmail.com](mailto:donnabrownintl@gmail.com),

### Environmental Meetings and Happenings Around Town

Friends of the Everglades Glades Walk 2009 will take place on Saturday March 7 at Shark Valley. Experience the beauty of the Everglades on bike or foot while raising funds to protect and preserve this natural wonder. For more information and to register, visit [www.everglades.org](http://www.everglades.org) or call 305.669.0858.

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### MIAMI ROWING CLUB

**CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO**

**OUR 36TH MIAMI INTERNATIONAL REGATTA**

**ON SATURDAY MARCH 7th**

This event is FREE!

FROM 7 AM TO 5 PM  
AT 3601 RICKENBACKER CSWY  
KEY BISCAYNE FL 33149

INTERNATIONAL FOOD, MUSIC, GIVE-AWAYS

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT  
FRANCISCO CANO  
305 244 23 94  
[FCANO@IPCOMIT.COM](mailto:FCANO@IPCOMIT.COM)

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Native Plant Day - March 14th - 9:00 AM - 4 PM

**A.D. Barnes Park, Natural Area**  
**3401 SW 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL**

Programs, nature walks, hands-on activities!

Plant sales and raffles!

Learn about attracting birds and butterflies to your yard and ask experts questions about plants, cuttings, insects, wildlife, the environment, and landscaping.

Come and enjoy the day at this lush, 20-acre park with native forest, butterfly garden, wildlife as well as recreational activities.

Sponsored by:  
Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society and Miami-Dade County Parks  
This and much, much more...all FREE!

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### **Environmental Educator Providers of Miami-Dade**

Learn more about recycling in South Florida by visiting the Reuter Recycling Facility. Our newly renovated education room displays Waste Management's waste stream process, including information on recycling, waste to energy plant, and the landfill. To schedule a presentation, please contact Shiraz Kashar via email at [Skashar@recycleamerica.com](mailto:Skashar@recycleamerica.com).

Please visit [www.miamidade.gov/conservation](http://www.miamidade.gov/conservation) for information on the Every Drop Counts Poster Contest for elementary students.

The 13th Annual Miami Riverday Festival will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2009, 11 am to 4 pm, at Jose Marti Park, SW 4th Street and SW 4th Avenue.

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In Celebration of Seagrass Awareness month:

At Crandon Park Visitor and Nature Center (Marjory Stoneman Douglas Nature Center)

Seagrasses - Florida's Hidden Flora  
Wednesday March 15th - 6 PM to 7:15 PM

Creatures of the Not So Deep  
Thursday April 9th - 6 PM to 7:15 PM

Biscayne Bay's Hidden Secret  
Tuesday April 14th - 6 PM to 7:15 PM

Refreshments will be served at all these presentations.

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### **GLEE Creates Green Jobs!**

Green Living & Energy Education is seeking experienced sales professionals or fundraisers Keyswide to help identify and approach potential exhibitors and sponsors for GLEE's 4th Annual Green Living Expo, on March 28. Some leads provided, good potential and 20 percent commissions. For more information, send resume and email relating experience to GLEE's Program Coordinator Bridget McDonald at [info@keysglee.com](mailto:info@keysglee.com).



If you'd like to keep up to date on what's happening with environmental issues in the Keys, subscribe to the Green Living & Energy Education (GLEE) monthly online newsletter. It's free and provides current information about what the cities and the county are doing about reducing their energy consumption. The newsletter provides a helpful calendar of

monthly events, news about GLEE activities, and information about how to get involved in the effort to make the Keys more sustainable.

To subscribe, go to [www.keysglee.com](http://www.keysglee.com) and click on the subscribe button on the upper right hand portion of the page.

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Last Saturday of each month - EarthSave Potluck dinners

Call below for more information.

Free to EarthSave members and first-timers - \$5 for non-members  
Bring a vegan\* dish that serves 8-10 and your own plate & utensils  
(\$1 eco-fee for not bringing your own place setting)  
We welcome everyone no matter what your dietary preference

\*Vegan means free of all animal products: no meat, fish, eggs, dairy,  
honey, hydrogenated oils or chemical additives

Not sure what to bring? We suggest organic green salad or fresh fruits

EarthSave Miami  
305-228-1116 · [miami.earthsave.org](http://miami.earthsave.org)  
A local Chapter of EarthSave International

### Committess

Conservation - Shirley Lowe  
Environmental Education - Maria Papazian  
Membership - Volunteer for this position! Email Debbie Matthews at [treehuggerdeb@gmail.com](mailto:treehuggerdeb@gmail.com)  
General Meeting Programs - Shalom Mayberg  
Website - Betsy Grass, [Miami-Webmaster@florida.sierraclub.org](mailto:Miami-Webmaster@florida.sierraclub.org)  
Web Assistant - Volunteer for this position! email [Miami-Webmaster@florida.sierraclub.org](mailto:Miami-Webmaster@florida.sierraclub.org)  
Newsletter - Debbie Matthews  
Newsletter Assistant - Volunteer for this position! email Debbie at [treehuggerdeb@gmail.com](mailto:treehuggerdeb@gmail.com)  
Festivals - Maria Papazian  
Festival Greeters - Volunteer for this position! call Maria at 305-519-0877  
Political - Kent Harrison Robbins  
Student Outreach - Megan Fast  
Legislative - Volunteer for this position! Email Debbie at [treehuggerdeb@gmail.com](mailto:treehuggerdeb@gmail.com)  
Treasurer - Betsy Grass, [Miami-Webmaster@florida.sierraclub.org](mailto:Miami-Webmaster@florida.sierraclub.org)  
Outings - Jim Gross

### Contact Info for Sierra Club Miami Group

Chair/Newsletter Editor: Debbie Matthews - [treehuggerdeb@yahoo.com](mailto:treehuggerdeb@yahoo.com)  
Vice Chair: Barbara Lange [bjlange@bellsouth.net](mailto:bjlange@bellsouth.net)  
Secretary: Stephen Mahoney [rsmahoney@bellsouth.net](mailto:rsmahoney@bellsouth.net)  
Treasurer: Betsy Grass  
Conservation Co-Chairs: Barbara Lange /Shirley Lowe [shirleylowe107@gmail.com](mailto:shirleylowe107@gmail.com)  
Everglades Chair/Energy Chair: Mark Oncavage 305-251-5273  
Education Chair/Festival Chair: Maria Papazian- 305-519-0877  
ICO: Mark Walters - [mark@icomiami.org](mailto:mark@icomiami.org)  
Outings Chair: Jim Gross-[JMGross3013@aol.com](mailto:JMGross3013@aol.com)  
Outings Sec: George Fedorko - 305-254-1716  
Political Chair: Kent Harris Robbins  
Ads: Georgia Guerra [georgiapg@msn.com](mailto:georgiapg@msn.com)

**Program Director:** Shalom Mayberg [mrmayberg@hotmail.com](mailto:mrmayberg@hotmail.com)

**Board Members:** Barbara Lange, Betsy Grass, Debbie Matthews, Kent Harris Robbins, Maria Papazian, Mark Oncavage, Megan Fast, Shalom Mayberg and Stephen Mahoney

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends, family and colleagues. Also, do you want to contribute to the newsletter? Share your nature photograph(jpg format please)? Email them to me, and I will put them in!

Debbie Matthews  
Miami Sierra Club - Newsletter Edition

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