



SIERRA CLUB TAMPA BAY GROUP



Explore Enjoy and Protect the Planet May / June 2023

MAY MONTHLY PROGRAM – VIRTUAL

Wednesday, May 10, 2023 – 7:00pm

OWLS

Learn about the owls of Tampa Bay and the Rescue, Rehabilitation, and Release of owls that are sick, injured, or orphaned.

Speaker: Nancy Murrah
Founder and President of The Raptor Center of Tampa Bay



Photo by Nancy Murrah

Nancy Murrah spent many years as the Director of Learning for the one of the largest insurance companies in America. She is currently a Federally and State Permitted Wildlife Rehabilitator.

Today she dedicates her life to rehabilitating wildlife, especially birds of prey. Nancy is a native of Tampa Florida who is always teaching others about wildlife and the importance of conserving wild lands and clean water for animals and people alike. She is also a local writer of children’s stories, facilitator, photographer, and illustrator.

Join Zoom Meeting: Room opens at 6:45 and Program starts at 7:00pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83949261754?pwd=T1dNTINGOGk0bmtYVCtCWFFyNWNhUT09>

Tampa Summer Fertilizer Ban Kicks in June 1-September 30!

The summer rainy season is here and the heavy rain doesn’t water fertilizer in, it washes it away, right into the Tampa Bay, lagoons, rivers, lakes and the Gulf that are the source of our fun. And fertilizer pollution can cause algae blooms and kill fish. That’s why so many communities throughout Florida have restricted the use of lawn and landscape fertilizers from June-September. For more information on the fertilizer ban go to

www.BeFloridian.com



Hands Across the Sand
Dunedin Florida 2022

Annual Hands across the Sand

Saturday May 20 2023

Coming to a beach near you!

Say NO to filthy fuels and
YES to clean energy.

HANDS ACROSS THE SAND

Hands Across The Sand Is Coming To Your Beach or City



2023 Executive Committee

Group Chair / ICO: Rocky Milburn
(813) 966-9785
rocky.milburn@florida.sierraclub.org

Vice-Chair / Parliamentarian
Political Chair: Gary Gibbons
gary.gibbons@florida.sierraclub.org

Conservation: Nancy Stevens
813-380-1668
nancy.stevens@florida.sierraclub.org

Outings Chair: Shirley Denton
Shirley.denton@florida.sierraclub.org

Events/Tabling Chair: Michael Newett
Michael.newett@florida.sierraclub.org

Communication Chair: Rob Jordan
robert.jordan@florida.sierraclub.org

Plastics Chair/Media Contact:
Janet Stanko
janet.stanko@florida.sierraclub.org

Transportation Chair: Jim Shirk
jim.shirk@florida.sierraclub.org

Co-Treasurer: Don Kruse
don.kruse@florida.sierraclub.org

Other Officers & Assignments

Secretary: Kathy Crosby
kathy.crosby@florida.sierraclub.org

Treasurer: Andy Harris
andy.harris@florida.sierraclub.org

Recycling Chair: Barbara Heineken
Barbara.heineken@florida.sierraclub.org

Membership Chair / Volunteer Coordinator: Dianne Skripek
@florida.sierraclub.org

Program Chair: Bonnie Newett
bonnie.newett@florida.sierraclub.org

ICO Webmaster: Bob Rice
bob.rice@florida.sierraclub.org

Newsletter: Corky Crowley
corky.crowley@florida.sierraclub.org

Tampa Bay Sierra Club Stadium Recycling Initiative: Dave Varrieur
(813) 503-6970
dave.varrieur@florida.sierraclub.org

Media Contact: Cheryl Van Beek
cheryl.vambeek@florida.sierraclub.org

Outings Leader/Trainer: Ed Shindle
Ed.Shindle@florida.sierraclub.org

JUNE MONTHLY PROGRAM – VIRTUAL

Wednesday, June 14, 2023 – 7:00pm

Are We At War With Our Ecosystems?

Speaker: JOEL JACKSON

Who is Joel Jackson? ... a fierce environmental advocate for more than 50 years who helped create some of Hillsborough County's most popular parks and nature preserves.



A leader of the Hillsborough County conservation movement, Joel Jackson was a founding member of Save Our Bay in 1969, the first parks and recreation planner for the City of Tampa, and then he planned the County's development of Lettuce Lake, Upper Tampa Bay, and Alderman's Ford Conservation Parks, to name a few.

Joel was also instrumental in the creation of Hillsborough County's visionary program, ELAPP (Environmental Lands Acquisition and Protection Program), which has preserved more than 65,000 acres of valuable wildlife habitat.

In August 2022 Hillsborough County dedicated the nature center at Lettuce Lake Conservation Park in honor of Joel Jackson. The Joel Jackson Nature Center is located just east of the USF main campus.

Now retired, he is a wildlife and native plant enthusiast, a nature photographer, and often leads weekend native plant walks at Lettuce Lake Park.

Room opens at 6:45 and Program starts at 7:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83949261754?pwd=T1dNTINGOGk0bmtYVctCWFFyNWNNaUT09>

Conservation Committee

The next meetings will be **Monday, May 8, and Monday, June 12** at 6:30 via Zoom.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82573973582?pwd=ZDFFNVorYXVcTBVbk1RdXg3Qjh3UT09>

🗨️ **Trees:** Finally, the 2021 City of Tampa Tree Canopy and Urban Forest Analysis has been published and presented to City Council. As expected, it shows a large loss of trees – the tree canopy in Tampa has been reduced by 13% in 10 years. In South Tampa it is worse – 18% tree canopy loss in just 5 years. One cause is taking down trees for new buildings, especially single family homes that have been torn down, and their trees with them, and replaced by larger homes. The Mayor is pledging to “*act quickly and decisively to replenish our invaluable urban forest*”. We hope so, and look for the plan, people and money committed to make that happen. Tampa will be presenting the study results to the community – look for an announcement.

Water:

🗨️ **Tampa PURE** will come back to City Council on May 25. The city staff has asked Tampa Bay Water to look at using its wastewater and pay for and operate any wastewater reuse system. TBW said it would look at it.

🗨️ **Tampa Bay Water** as part of its planning, established a Long-term Master Water Plan Env Ad Hoc Committee. Gary Gibbons, Phil Compton, Caryle Camissa and myself attended the 1st meeting and provided questions and data needed to help evaluate several dozen options for additional water sources. Next meeting is May 16.

🗨️ **Land:** Tampa is updating the Future Land Use (FLU) categories in the comprehensive plan. You can find the document and submit suggestions at

<https://planhillsborough.org/city-of-tampa-future-land-use-assessment/> .

If you would like us to include your comments in the Sierra Club response, please send them to me. Unincorporated Hillsborough County is also updating its **Future Land Use (FLU)** and requesting Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group attend 3 workshops and provide input. Sabine Prather and I will attend the meetings and keep the group informed. All interested are welcome to attend the meetings and provide input.

🗨️ **Energy:**

7th annual Solar Co-op in Hillsborough County will kick off on May 4. Solar United Neighbors is kicking off their 7th rooftop solar co-op on May 4 from 11:30 to 1:30 at the **Clean Air Fair on Poe Plaza** downtown. Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group will once again partner with Solar United Neighbors and others. All are invited to attend.

🗨️ **Climate Change:**

IPCC Sums Up Latest Climate Science: Rapid Fossil Phase-out is Surest Path to Avoiding Climate Catastrophe, No Time For False Solutions - Center for International Environmental Law.

<https://www.ciel.org/news/ipcc-sums-up-latest-climate-science/>

🗨️ **Tampa Bay Ferry Alliance:** Formed to promote the commuter ferry from South Hillsborough County to MacDill Air Force Base

If you would like more information or would like to get involved with a project, contact Nancy Stevens at Nancy.Stevens@Florida.SierraClub.org.



Clean Air Fair

The Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County invites you to join us at EPC's 2023 Clean Air Fair and

"Invest Your Energy in a Brighter Future!"

Thursday, May 4th | 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Downtown Tampa | Poe Plaza (Franklin @ Jackson St.)

Environmental & Community Exhibits
Prize Drawings & Complimentary Refreshments
Environmental Photo Contest Exhibit
Live Music and Free Arbor Day Plant Giveaways

Solar United Neighbors 2023 Solar Co-op Launch!

**FREE to exhibit
and attend!**



**See Clean Air Fair
news at epchc.org**

For more info: Michelle Jenkins (813) 627-2600 Ext. 1271 or jenkinsm@epchc.org

Come see us at the Tampa Bay Sierra Clubs' Booth.

TAMPA BAY Tampa Bay Inspiring Connection Outdoors (ICO)



Join us on one of our outings and witness young students and their excitement of seeing the outdoors. It takes a village to organize our outings so thank you again to all our regular volunteers. PS - We are always looking for more

enthusiast helpers - come check us out some month! If you are interested in volunteering contact Rocky Milburn, at tbico@live.com



TAMPA BAY Outings are Back!



For updated outings please go to our schedule, which we will publish on [MeetUp](#) page online [Upcoming events](#) | [Sierra Club Groups of the Greater Tampa Bay Florida Area \(Saint Petersburg, FL\)](#) | [Meetup](#) and our website

<https://www.sierraclub.org/florida/tampa-bay>.

Florida Seller of Travel Reference No. ST37115

Participant Agreement Waivers will be required for all participants through advance registration, call: (415) 977-5630 or www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/

All trips have experienced, trained, certified leaders.



SIERRA CLUB

TAMPA BAY GROUP

Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group

May / June 2023



Nonprofit Org.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

TAMPA, FL

Permit No.

Address Changes:

Please call (415) 977-5653 or email

address.changes@sierraclub.org

Include your membership number located on the mailing label.

Tampa Bay Group

P.O. Box 1596

Thonotosassa, Florida 33592

Web:

florida.sierraclub.org/tampabay



Membership: Join today for just \$15.00 and receive a FREE Sierra Club 1892 style Trail Cooler Tote at www.sierraclub.org



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip _____

E-mail: _____

Check enclosed, made payable to *Sierra Club*

Please charge my: MasterCard Visa

Exp. Date: ____/____/____

Cardholder Name: _____

Card Number: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES INDIVIDUAL JOINT

INTRODUCTORY	\$15	\$20
REGULAR	\$39	\$49
SUPPORTING	\$75	\$100
CONTRIBUTING	\$150	\$175
LIFE	\$1000	\$1250
SENIOR	\$25	\$35
STUDENT	\$25	\$35
LIMITED INCOME	\$25	\$35

SIERRA CLUB
P.O. BOX 421041
Palm Coast, FL 32142-6417

F94QW3313 1

Powering with Sunshine *by Janet Stanko*

Are you thinking about going solar for your home? Sierra Club is joining with Solar United Neighbors (SUN) Hillsborough County, League of Women Voters and other public interest partners to help people save money on their utility bills. If you have a newer roof unobstructed by shade from trees, check it out—there is no obligation.

Through the Solar Co-op, you'll learn about rooftop solar energy and how to get the best rates and equipment from an installer. Coop members leverage bulk-purchasing power to get discounted pricing and a quality installation. Sign up to join & learn more:

<https://SolarUnitedNeighbors.org>.

In January 2021, my husband and I installed solar to supply our home energy and to power my plug-in electric car. We joined the Solar United Neighbors (SUN) coop to get the information we needed to evaluate solar for our home, select our solar system and installer. The coop is free and there is no obligation to purchase.

Going solar is not just about saving money, it's about doing our part to fight climate change. If you are curious about whether solar can supply your electricity needs, go to <https://SolarUnitedNeighbors.org>.

