



Broward Sierra Bulletin



VOL. XLVIII NO. 10

OCTOBER 2026

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Get Ready to Vote! 2026 Midterm Elections

General Election: Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Voting is a powerful way to be part of your community and help shape what comes next in our democracy.

Make your plan, learn what's on your ballot, and encourage friends, family, and neighbors to join you. A simple conversation or reminder can help someone else feel ready to participate, too.

Let's support each other and show up to vote!

2026 Election: Candidate Endorsements

The Sierra Club is dedicated to electing leaders who share our values--water protection, wildfire prevention, clean energy job creation, or community transition efforts. Since our founding in 1892, we have worked to protect wild places, safeguard public health, and ensure that every community enjoys clean air, safe water, and a healthy environment.

[Learn more about Sierra Club's endorsements and the local candidates endorsed by Broward Sierra.](#)

Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet!



[Visit LWV's Vote411 now!](#)

- [Make Your Voting Plan](#)
- [Preview Your Ballot Information](#)
- [Find Your Polling Place](#)

Upcoming BSG Executive Committee Elections

Dear Members,

Well, it's election time for the BSG also! Broward Sierra Group is required to have elections for our Executive Committee (ExCom) every year to maintain the required seven-member count of Broward County members on the ExCom. This year, we need environmental advocates like you, to serve on the Executive Committee to help us make decisions concerning how we will be addressing environmental matters in Broward, the rest of Florida, and our country.

[Click here to learn more about the Executive Committee and the upcoming elections.](#)

Deadline to reach out for an interview with the BSG Nominations Committee: October 16, 2026.

In this issue...

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- *Register for Our BSG Coastal Dune Restoration*
- *Spotlight Issue: Data Centers – Special Report by Member Deborah Regen, Data Center Toolkit*

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October is Zero Waste Month!

GET INSPIRED

From skipping the plastic straw to bringing your own cup or growing your own herbs, small swaps like these make it easy to cut waste this October, one step at a time.



Join the Challenge!

Zero Waste Month is a global challenge sponsored by [Race to Zero Waste](#) inviting people, workplaces, schools, and communities to sign up and take on a zero waste action during October—proving that small steps add up to real change. [REGISTER HERE.](#)

Zero Waste Month – FREE Virtual Interview Series

During Zero Waste Month, [Race to Zero Waste](#) offers free educational content to thousands of individuals and organizations.

 **October 8: Back to Basics** - Recycle Hawai'i and Mālama 'Āina 'Ōpio talk about how 'zero waste' is basic family economy, reuse, repair, and repurposing. [Register Here.](#)

 **October 15: Zero Waste Values & AI** - Brian Sano of Intuitive AI and Jay Bassett talk about the impact of artificial intelligence and how we balance keeping up with the times and living up to our values. [Register Here.](#)

 **October 28: Zero Waste Holiday Plans** - Leading into the holiday season, plan to reduce waste! [Register Here.](#)

National Zero Waste Conference

Register for the National Zero Waste Conference, an annual two-day virtual educational and networking event produced by [Zero Waste USA](#).

Day 1 - Zero Waste Businesses and Institutions
Day 2 - Zero Waste Communities

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)



Join Broward Sierra Group & Adopt A Dune

For a Coastal Dune Restoration Volunteer Event



SIERRA CLUB
BROWARD GROUP



Help restore and protect South Florida's coastal dunes.

Saturday, October 24, 2026
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Volunteers will plant sea oats and native dune plants to restore habitat, protect the shoreline, and support nesting sea turtles, migratory birds, and shorebirds.

Limited to 20 participants.

You must register to secure your spot: [REGISTER HERE TO VOLUNTEER NOW.](#)

Volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by an approved adult volunteer or parent/guardian.

LOCATION:

Dr. Von D Mizell-Eula Johnson State Park
6793 N Ocean Dr.
Hollywood / Dania Beach, Florida

PARKING:

Parking LOT #2

WHAT TO BRING & WEAR:

- Shorts or long pants
- Light long-sleeve shirt or T-shirt
- **Closed-toed shoes** such as sneakers
- Hat or ball cap
- Reusable water containers and snacks
- Sunscreen

Native dune plants capture windblown sand, rebuild protective dunes, and create a healthier, more resilient beach for people and wildlife.



Spotlight Issue: Data Centers

Are AI Data Centers in SE Florida's Future?

Article by Deborah Regen, BSG Member

Data centers operate in countries worldwide to serve cellular and Internet providers. They are causing a certain amount of public distress because digital technology's rapid advance is outpacing our awareness of all its implications, both positive and negative. With the midterm election season underway, Broward Sierra members deserve to hear from elected officials and subject matter experts on whether we can expect the development of so-called "hyperscale" AI data centers in Broward County in the near future.

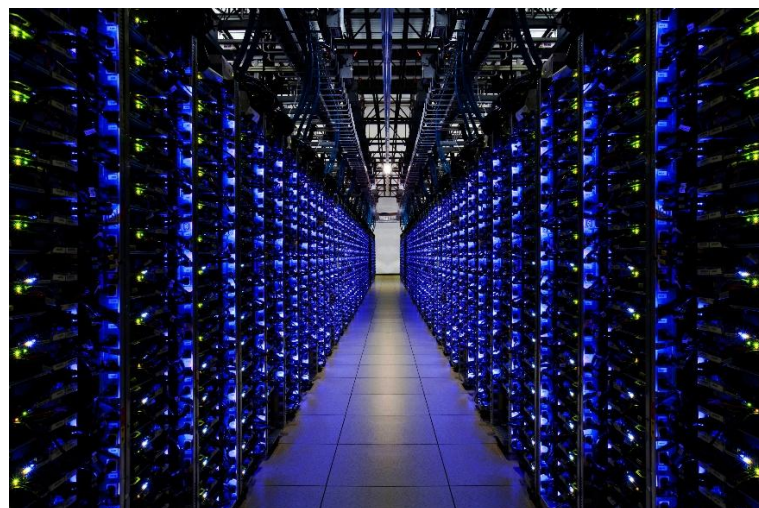
What is a Data Center?

A data center is a physical facility that houses servers, storage systems, and networking equipment, designed to store, process, and distribute large amounts of data. As demand for digital services grows, data centers will play an important role in enabling data availability across the digital ecosystem. On a global scale, power usage by data centers is expected to double by 2030 in large part thanks to generative AI.

➤ [Read more of Deborah's Article here.](#)



Outside View
Inside View



➤ [LEARN MORE](#)

Introducing the Florida AI-Data Center Toolkit

Sierra Club Florida launched its new AI-Data Center Toolkit – a free resource designed to help residents and local organizations understand and address the growing threats and impacts of AI-data center development in their communities.

AI-Data Centers in Florida: What's at Stake?

- Extreme Strain on Energy Grids
- Massive Water Consumption
- Public Health and Noise Pollution
- Minimal Economic Benefit

What's Happening in October?

[Sunset Stroll with Broward Parks \(\\$5 pp\) at Military Trail Natural Area in Pompano Beach](#)

Friday, October 16, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

4600 NW 9th Ave, Pompano Beach, FL 33064

[Birding in Natural Areas with Broward Parks at Military Trail Natural Area in Pompano Beach](#)

Sunday, October 18, 8:00 - 11:00 AM

4600 NW 9th Ave, Pompano Beach, FL 33064

[Permaculture In The Park](#)

Saturday, October 24, 9:30 - 11:30 AM

3299 Southwest 4th Avenue,
Fort Lauderdale, FL, 33315

[Feral Friends Showdown: A Live Painting Competition](#)

Friday, October 23, 6:00 - 10:00 PM

Cove Brewery, 1500 SE 3rd Ct #100,
Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

[4th Annual FLIBS Beach Cleanup](#)

Saturday, October 24, 9:00 - 11:00 AM

1100 Seabreeze Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

[International Bat Week - Bat Walk with Broward Parks at West Creek Natural Area](#)

Saturday, October 24, 7:30 - 8:30 PM

4660 W Hillsboro Blvd, Coconut Creek, FL 33073

Fundraising Pledge Drive for Local Programs!

The Broward Sierra Group asks for your help in funding several local community projects through December 31, 2026. Your contribution of any amount goes directly to these programs.

SEA TURTLE STRETCHER AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Funding Goal: \$1,668

Your generous contribution will help [MEEC](#) create two medical stretchers for their permanent sea turtle residents, Captain and Cane. Along with these medical devices, the education team will use funds to create a permanent education program geared towards K–12 groups.

Supporters will receive first chance access to a special day of service at MEEC to complete a beach cleanup or dune renourishment that includes a special tour of the property and sea turtle feeding.

[Please click here to learn more and make a contribution of any amount. Your support makes a difference in Broward!](#)

All proceeds benefit the Marine Environmental Education Center (MEEC).



All proceeds benefit Made in Broward's Longwing 4-H Food Forest.



MADE IN BROWARD: SUPPORT THE LONGWING 4-H FOOD FOREST

Funding Goal: \$500

Your contribution supports improvements to [Made in Broward](#)'s Longwing Food Forest, a non-profit organization and permaculture teaching garden committed to upcycling and sustainable production. They have built a solid foundation but need your support to connect their knowledge and experience with the public through signage, educational materials, website additions, and new events.

Supporters will receive a Made in Broward gift with Moringa Tea and Honey and a free tour of the garden!

[Please click here to learn more and make a contribution of any amount. Your support makes a difference in Broward!](#)

**BROWARD SIERRA & ADOPT A DUNE:
DUNE RESTORATION IN BROWARD**

Funding Goal: \$1,500

Your generous contribution will allow for three dune planting projects in 2027. Planting sea oats and other native dune plants requires many hands on deck. Since 2000, [Adopt A Dune](#) has engaged thousands of students and adult volunteers to complete more than 500 restoration projects and planted over 500,000 sea oats and other native dune plants.

Supporters will be the first invited to participate in the 2027 Broward Sierra dune restoration plantings through Adopt A Dune.

[Please click here to learn more and make a contribution of any amount. Your support makes a difference in Broward!](#)

All proceeds go toward the purchase of dune plants for restoration through Adopt A Dune.



**All proceeds benefit the Broward Sierra Group
Junior Team.**



**BROWARD SIERRA JUNIOR TEAM:
TALLAHASSEE LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Funding Goal: \$1,600

Your generous contribution will allow five [Broward Sierra Group Junior Team](#) members to travel to Tallahassee in March for the 2027 legislative session to lobby Florida legislators on behalf of environmental protection, climate change solutions, and responsible government.

Supporters will be invited to a special Junior Team presentation on the highlights of the trip to be scheduled following their return.

[Please click here to learn more and make a contribution of any amount. Your support makes a difference in Broward!](#)

**HELP MCARTHUR HIGH SCHOOL BEGIN
RECYCLING**

Funding Goal: \$1,235

The Broward County Public School District has made recycling its environmental initiative for 2026-27. The school has 48 classrooms and only 3 have recycling containers. They also need rolling bins for each floor or wing to deposit the classroom recycling. Two sophomore students from [McArthur Horticulture Club](#) have obtained endorsement from the principal to launch a program. November 15th is America Recycles Day and the students would like to roll out their program by November.

Supporters will receive a progress report in the new year.

[Please click here to learn more and make a contribution of any amount. Your support makes a difference in Broward!](#)

**All proceeds benefit the McArthur High
Horticulture Club.**



It's a Great Day to be a Mustang!



Congratulations to the 2026 Award Winners!

The Broward Sierra Group held our 2026 Gala Celebration on Friday, October 2, 2026, honoring our leaders and volunteers.

This year's Gala featured the presentation of Environmental Legacy Awards to Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr and former Broward Sierra Group Executive Committee Chair Leah Weisburd for their longstanding efforts to protect the environment.

Sunrise Mayor Mike Ryan received special recognition as our 2026 Environmental Changemaker Award recipient for his ongoing dedication as an elected official in developing and seeing through environmental policy and programs.

If you missed it, please join us next year for a special evening of joyfulness, community, and environmental advocacy! Thank you again to all our wonderful members, sponsors and supporters.



See more Gala photos here: [Broward Sierra | Facebook](#)



JOIN THE BROWARD SIERRA GROUP JUNIOR TEAM

The Broward Sierra Group Junior Team is a group of 13 to 18-year-old middle school and high schoolers who are passionate about:

- Sustainability and preservation
- Climate and wildlife advocacy
- Environmental education

[Learn more about the Broward Sierra Group Junior Team!](#)



BROWARD SIERRA GROUP JUNIOR TEAM

The Broward Sierra Group - Junior Team is a group of students in grades 7-12 who are passionate about

- sustainability and preservation
- climate and wildlife advocacy
- environmental education

JOIN TODAY!

For more information, contact Julie Long at jl525174@gmail.com

Awarded by the Broward County Commission

- ✓ Lobbied representatives and senators in Tallahassee
- ✓ Collected petitions for the Right to Clean Water in Florida
- ✓ Written and published letters to the editors in newspapers
- ✓ Spoken at commission meetings
- ✓ Tabled at events and reached 1000+ community members
- ✓ Supported candidates in their campaigns through canvassing

School service hours are available, and active members get free Sierra Club membership!



**BROWARD
GREEN
SCHOOLS**
CAMPAIGN™

JOIN THE BROWARD GREEN SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN!

Our Broward Sierra Group-Junior Team is making progress with its ongoing Green School Campaign. This is an endeavor to transition our public schools into 100% clean energy and attempt to lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Broward County Public Schools, the sixth largest district in the entire nation, could make a major impact by switching to clean energy: reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing indoor air quality for students, and significantly cutting energy expenses across the district.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE & SIGN THE PETITION SHOWN TO SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS!](#)