



SEPTEMBER 14 Program & General Meeting:

Meeting:

When: Wednesday, September 14, 2016

6:30 pm: Social Time

7:00 pm: General Membership Meeting and Program.

Location: Seminole Heights Public Library, 4711 Central Ave. Tampa (just south of Hillsborough Ave. and west of I-275, corner of W Osborne Ave.)

All Tampa Bay Sierra Club meetings are free and open to the public. If the Library parking lot is full, park in the fenced lot next door on the south side. For more information, contact Kent Bailey kent.bailey@florida.sierraclub.org

Program: Everything you didn't want to know about the aquifer in West Central Florida.

Speaker: Bob Howell

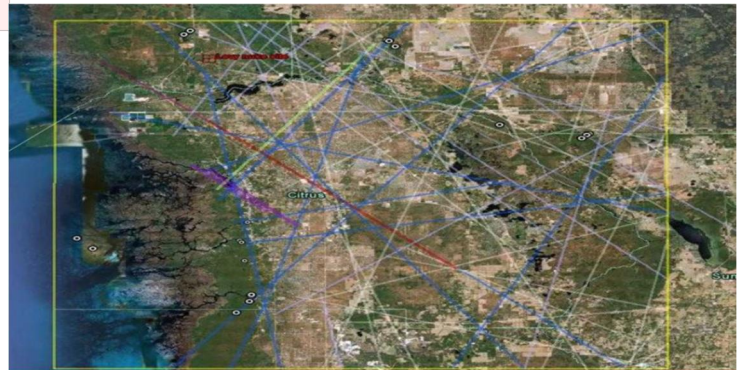
My name is Bob Howell and for the past 5 years or more I have been studying and investigating the karst aquifer in Central Florida. Although I'm not a hydrologist, geo-hydrologist, geologist or an engineer. I am a concerned citizen who has been fighting lime rock mining in Pasco

and Hernando Counties.

It is not a pretty picture and making it worse is the head in the sand attitude of South West Florida Water Management, Tampa Bay Water, other local governing bodies and the constant pressure from developers supported by the old boy networks in all the Counties I studied.

Because I am taking shots at the entrenched power structure my presentation is very detailed. However, every hydrologist, geo-hydrologist or geologist who has seen the presentation demands it.

Here is one picture that gets their heads turning. Explained in the presentation.



Sierra Club joins Gulf Restoration Network and Flint Riverkeeper in lawsuit to stop Sabal Trail pipeline

The Sierra Club, Gulf Restoration Network (GRN) and Flint Riverkeeper filed a lawsuit in the U.S. Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for its issuance of three Clean Water Act permits that would allow construction of the 515-mile Florida Southeast Market Pipelines Project, including the Sabal Trail pipeline. This project would transport fracked gas across 699 waterbodies, lakes, rivers, and streams and harm 1,958 wetland systems in three states: Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.

If built, the fracked gas pipeline would extend throughout Florida and southern Georgia over an area that provides drinking water to approximately 10 million people. We question the purpose and need for more fracked gas infrastructure in light of alternative sources of clean, low cost, low risk energy like wind and solar.

GRN, Flint Riverkeeper, and the Sierra Club alleges the

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers failed to provide proper notice and public participation. The lawsuit further charges that the planned pipeline fails to avoid, minimize or mitigate the adverse environmental impacts.

“Florida does not need more fracked gas infrastructure or gas plants,” said Frank Jackalone, Director of Sierra Club Florida. “The state already has the worst gas over-reliance problem in the country. It's time to solve that problem by capturing the tremendous economic and environmental benefits of clean energy including energy efficiency, solar, wind, and battery storage.”



2016 Executive Committee

Chair: Kent Bailey

(813)-986-7819

kent.bailey@florida.sierraclub.org

Vice-Chair / ICO Chair / Outings

Chair: Rocky Milburn

(813) 966-9785

rocky.milburn@florida.sierraclub.org

Conservation / Membership

Chair: Paul Thibault

paul.thibault@florida.sierraclub.org

Treasurer: Don Kruse

Energy Chair: Bob Howell

bob.howell@florida.sierraclub.org

Tabling Chair: Michael Newett

(813) 381-2620

michael.newett@florida.sierraclub.org

Ex-Com Member:

Tamara Pearson tamara.pearson@florida.sierraclub.org

[@florida.sierraclub.org](mailto:tamara.pearson@florida.sierraclub.org)

Ex-Com Member: Gary Gibbons

Ex-Com Member: Pat Kemp

pat.kemp@florida.sierraclub.org

Other Officers & Assignments

Secretary: Linda Hugues

Webmaster: Steve Tryon

(813) 980-2079

steve.tryon@florida.sierraclub.org

Newsletter: Corky Crowley

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corky.crowley@florida.sierraclub.org

Political Chair: Beverly Griffiths

(813) 210-4850

bev.griffiths@florida.sierraclub.org

Stadium Recycling Initiative:

Dave Varrieur (813) 503-6970

appraiserfl@outlook.com

Student Liaison Chair / Publicity

/ Outreach Chair: Lauren Jones

laurenjones1209@gmail.com

Sierra Florida Office:

727 824-8813

Tampa Bay Group web site:

<http://florida.sierraclub.org/tampabay>

National Office: 415-977-5500

Washington D.C. 202-547-1141

TAMPA BAY



OUTINGS

SIERRA CLUB

Join our **MEETUP PAGE** online where all outings are posted. Go to www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Groups-of-the-Greater-Tampa-Bay-Florida-Area/ and click on Join Us! Anyone can join the Meetup page to get regular no-

tices when new outings are added. Or for outings throughout the state go to florida.sierraclub.org/outings_browse.asp

Florida Seller of Travel Reference No. ST37115

To participate in the Sierra Club's Outings, you need to sign a liability waiver, call: (415) 977-5630 or www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/

September 10th/11th, OLT 101-201: Learn Basic First Aid, canoe and water safety with the Tampa Bay Group at Boy Scout Rd, Odessa, FL. Over the course of the weekend, participants will learn trip planning, risk and emergency management, recruitment and pre-trip screening, leadership and decision making skills, and group development. Sessions will be conducted as a large group inside as well as in smaller groups hiking on the local trails. No prior outdoor or outings leadership experience necessary. Lodging and meals included. For more details contact Rocky at (813) 966-9785 or tbi-co@live.com

Sat. Sept. 17 Hike: Blackwater Creek ELAPP, Hiking.

Join us as we learn about how ELAPP has developed the Blackwater Creek Nature Preserve and is providing protection for natural plant communities, the floodplain, and wildlife in Hillsborough County. The Preserve provides hiking trails through different wooded habitat areas with mature trees and a varied understory, as well as through palmetto prairie and riverine swamp. Contact Leader Rocky Milburn, at (813) 966-9785 or tbi-co@live.com

TAMPA BAY



ICO

SIERRA CLUB

Inspiring Connection Outdoors (ICO)

We are beginning our 17th season and have over 100 kids each month on tap to Explore and Enjoy the Outdoors.

Outings: Sept. 10th - Academy Prep of St. Peter, Crystal Springs Preserves, Anthony Sousa

Sept 17th - Boys and Girls Club, Crystal Springs Preserves, Emilie Joyce

If you would like to help or learn about this growing program, please contact Rocky Milburn, tbi-co@live.com or Emilie Joyce, emiliejoyce17@gmail.com.

Seeking 2017 Executive Committee Candidates! The Nominating Committee is now seeking candidates for election to Tampa Bay Group's Executive Committee. The Candidates must be Sierra Club members. They will be expected to promote the mission of the Sierra Club and participate in meetings, goal setting and planning activities. Terms are for two years. Please submit the name of any willing candidate before September 27 2016. Willing candidates not selected by the Nominating Committee may qualify by petition prior to November 1. Ballots will be sent out with our December newsletter and must be returned by January 2. For details, contact Nominating Committee Chair Mariella Smith at 813-601-2963 or public@mariellasmith.com

The Conservation Committee:

Join us for the Conservation Committee Meeting at **St. Paul Lutheran Church at 5103 North Central Ave., Tampa, FL.** We meet in the **Snyder Building** directly behind the church. Follow the Tampa Bay Sierra Club signs. Join us every second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. **In September Beverly Ward will speak on Environmental Justice.**

Wetlands: The Committee voted to recommend that the Executive Committee approve becoming involved in a court case by having an attorney representing the Tampa Bay Group file a motion to intervene to prevent Hillsborough County granting waivers in violation of the Land Code regulating the setback from wetlands, which requires 30 feet, whereas the County has been granting illegal waivers. The Tampa Bay Group will want the County to cease such alleged inappropriate actions by order of the court.

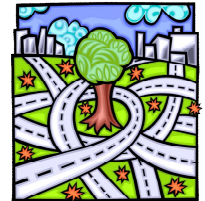
Fertilizer Ordinance: Louise Raterman, Kent Bailey and Cris Costello have worked hard and long on getting a fertilizer ordinance draft prepared and now it is on the agenda of the Temple Terrace Council for 4 & 18 October. The proposal amends the current ordinance to include a seasonal fertilizer ban and seeks a reduction in nitrogen applications all year. If you can appear at the council meetings in October in support of the ordinance changes it will be most helpful.

FWCC Critical Wildlife Areas (CWA): In two cases nearby, the FWCC is proposing increasing the barrier protecting bird nesting habitat islands from public intrusion from the postings now at the water line to a general 100' distance, but adjustments due to boating channels to 75'. There is some scientific research supporting 300', but the Audubon Florida and the FWCC staff arrived at the 100' distance. At a recent meeting regarding the Dot-Dash-Dit Islands in Manatee County a number of members of a camera club raised their opposition to the 100' line and proposed a line at 25' because they cannot get close-ups of the nesting birds at any greater distance. We plan to review the scientific data held by Audubon and the FWCC in order to support the general policy of the FWCC establishing the CWAs and to specifically support the greater barrier distance to prevent human intrusion and disturbance to the nesting birds. We plan to make our support known that we consider the 100' barrier to be an experiment, which may require future increases if the disturbances adversely affect these special nesting habitats. We will attend the 8-9 September meeting of the FWCC when the staff will present their final proposal on the CWAs, and again on 16-17 November when the Commissioners will vote on the final plan for the CWAs.

Parks Surveys: Please remember to take the following two surveys about the parks in Hillsborough County your responses will help in the development of the new Master Plan for parks: **Hillsborough County Conservation and Environmental Lands Management Survey** https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bEE0iEILbxC924Z <https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bEE0iEILbxC924Z>

Hillsborough Parks and Recreation Survey <https://planyourparks.metroquest.com> <<https://planyourparks.metroquest.com/>>

If you see something among these issues, or another issue that sparks your interest please contact us; then join with us. **Paul Thibault: Co-Chair Conservation Committee**



Tampa Bay Sierra Club is Mobilizing for Election Season! Sierra Club volunteers will be working to elect environmental candidates this fall. You can make a difference with only a few hours in the evening or on a weekend either on the phone or handing out literature to voters. Sign up for the Political Action Team with our Political Chair **Bev Griffiths** by calling **813-210-4850** or with an email to bev.griffiths@florida.sierraclub.org



The Sierra Club's Stadium Recycling Initiative: Now seeking volunteers for the **2016-2017** season to help recycle bottles, cans and plastics for the Tampa Sports Authority at Raymond James Stadium! It is fun, easy and a great way to get into stadium events for free! Here is how it works. Sierra Club volunteers show up 2 hours prior to the events and are assigned a recycling station and asks patrons to please recycle using the blue containers around the stadium. Then, we are allowed to go to the event for free! This includes all Tampa Bay Buccaneer and USF Bulls home games and some special events during the year. In order to get involved, you only need a Sierra Club membership and a great attitude. **Please email coordinator Dave Varrieur at appraiserfl@outlook.com to volunteer.**





SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group

September 2016



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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 Rucksack at www.sierraclub.org



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

SIERRA CLUB
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Palm Coast, FL 32142-6417

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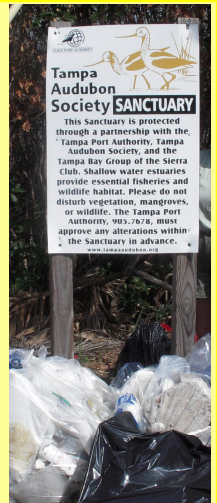
2016 Coastal Cleanup at Westshore Sanctuary: Join us at Westshore Sanctuary on **Saturday morning September 17 from 8:30 to 11:00.**

Directions to Site: From 1-275, take Westshore Blvd. exit and head south on Westshore. Turn right at San Jose Street. Follow San Jose until you reach an S-shaped curve. The Sanctuary is located on the right.

Volunteers, please wear closed-toe shoes, hat/visor and sunglasses. Be prepared to get wet and dirty. Gloves, trash bags, water and a light snack will be provided.

Tampa Bay Sierra Club and Tampa Audubon Society volunteers will partner to clean up the Sanctuary, a mangrove forest along Old Tampa Bay which serves as habitat for many wading birds and marine life such as horseshoe crabs and juvenile fish.

As part of this litter removal event, volunteers will collect data to identify the number and type of littered items. The data is then shared with Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful, the Ocean Conservancy, and local officials to assist them in determining future needs and projects within the community to reduce litter. Please RSVP to Site Captain, Bev Griffiths, text 813-210-4850 mobile or email bev.griffiths@florida.sierraclub.org or



Membership Report The Tampa Bay Group now has 2,142 members (June). There are 18 Groups in the Florida Chapter with a total of 30,635 members in June. Join us in protecting the environment. Contact Paul at paul.thibault@florida.sierraclub.org

