



SIERRA TAMPA BAY GROUP CLUB

Explore Enjoy and Protect the Planet

July / August 2018



ANNUAL JOINT MEETING:

Tampa Bay Sierra Club, Suncoast Native Plant Society & Tampa Audubon Society

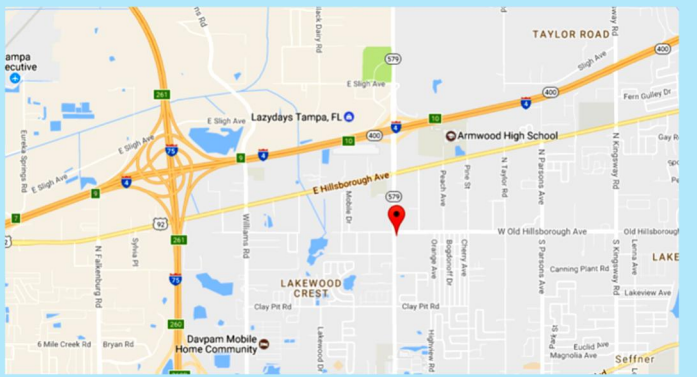
When: Wednesday July 18, 2017

5:30 pm - Social Time, join us in the Bette S. Walker Discovery Garden in the Atrium of the Extension Center.

6:15 pm - Potluck Dinner

7:00 pm - Program

Where: Hillsborough Cooperative Extension Service 5339 County Road 579, Seffner



Tampa Bay Sierra Club, Suncoast Native Plant Society & Tampa Audubon Society Invites you to the 2018 Annual Joint Meeting.



This is our annual get together with our friends from Suncoast Native Plant Society and Tampa Audubon Society to socialize and share a great potluck dinner. Plates, utensils, cups and beverages will be provided. Please bring your shareable food. A label would be useful for those who suffer with allergies.

Arrivals please bring potluck dish to kitchen. Social time in the Betty S Walker Discovery Garden in the Atrium of the Extension

7:00 pm Program: Heather Young, Senior Environmental Planner, from the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, is setting up a climate compact for our region beginning with a technical advisory committee. Hear how it is going and what is involved!

August Program & General Meeting:

When: Wednesday, August 8, 2018

6:30 pm: Social Time

7:00 pm: General 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 at kent.bailey@florida.sierraclub.org

August 8 Program: Surfriders Rise Above Plastics Coalition



Surfriders from the Rise Above Plastics Coalition will talk about plastics in our oceans. Each year humans are adding 8.8 million tons of plastic to the estimated 300 million tons of plastic that is already in the oceans. Why is this happening and what can you do to stop it? The RAP Coalition is educating consumers and recruiting "Ocean Friendly" restaurants and businesses willing to significantly decrease single-use plastic waste in addition to advocating for sustainable policy at the city, county, and state level.



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



2018 Executive Committee

Group Chairperson: Kent Bailey
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Vice-Chair / ICO Chair / Outings Chair: Rocky Milburn
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Treasurer: Don Kruse
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Conservation: Nancy Stevens
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Energy Chair: Bob Howell
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Ex-Com: Paul Thibault
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Ex-Com: Karen Michalski
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Other Officers & Assignments

Secretary: Linda Hugues
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Political Chair: Beverly Griffiths
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Stadium Recycling Initiative: Dave Varrieur (813) 503-6970
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ICO Webmaster: Bob Rice
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Sierra Florida Office: 727 824-8813

Tampa Bay Group web site:
<http://florida.sierraclub.org/tampabay>

TAMPA BAY



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! Receive notices when new outings are added.

Florida Seller of Travel Reference No. ST37115

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

Please check details on these outings as well as others at the Tampa Sierra Club website.

Sun, July 15, 2018 8:00 am Withlacoochee River Paddle:

Join us at 29295 Lake Lindsey Rd, Brooksville, FL at 8:00 am. We will paddle a lovely section of the Withlacoochee River starting from River Ratz Cafe, and paddling south to around Hog Island and back. This should be an easy to moderate paddle, with and optional lunch at River Ratz at the end. Discover the beauty of this lovely river that starts in the Green Swamp and flows north to the Gulf. Kayak / canoe rentals from Nobleton Outpost / River Ratz (352) 796-7176. Bring your own PFD (life jacket) and a whistle which are required by Florida Law and Sierra Club. Bring sunscreen, sunglasses, water, and snacks. Leader: Ben Berauer at 727-217-5971, bfberauer@SuncoastSierra.org (Suncoast).

Sat, July 21, 2018 7:30 am Myakka ecosystem Hike:

This is the peak season for summer wildflowers other unique Florida features that many folks don't notice. The specific location depends on the current habitat and hydrologic conditions. Hiking seven to ten miles. Group size limited Reserve with Bill Lewis 941-355-2156, (Manatee-Sarasota Group).

Sat, July 28, 2018 4:30 - 9:00 pm Sunset Sea Kayak Trip:

Join us at Unnamed Road, Clearwater Beach, FL. Sunset sea kayak trip to Caladesi Island. Have to provide your own kayak and PFD. About a 2 hour round trip paddle from the Dunedin Causeway. Suggested donations are \$2 for Sierra Club members and \$5 for non members. For information contact Rudy Scheffer at rscheffer47@gmail.com or (727)-542-6403 (Suncoast).

Sat, Aug 11, 2018 7:30 am Myakka ecosystem Hike:

This is the season for Indigo snakes and gopher tortoises to hatch. Also the beginning of the fall bird migration. The specific location depends on the current habitat and hydrologic conditions. Hiking seven to ten miles. Group size limited Reserve with Bill Lewis 941-355-2156, (Manatee-Sarasota Group).

The Conservation Committee Report: The Conservation Committee will meet on Monday July 9, and August 13, at 6:30pm. Join us 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.

Silver Dollar Shooting Range Zoning: County Commissioners denied the Silver Dollar zoning request! Thank you to everyone who contacted the county commissioners. You made a difference! They will now have to remove 3 Shooting Stands, in addition to the 3 already removed that were facing directly into the wetlands. This will minimize future contamination of the surrounding area from the lead shot. Next Up: Making sure the contamination is cleaned up and advocating for ELAPP to preserve the Clearwater Property.

Hillsborough County Charter Review: We are delighted that the proposal to change the county commissioners from 4 single district and 3 at large to 9 single district members was abandoned after a massive public outcry. Thank you all who voiced your opposition - your voices were heard.

Rocky Point - Open Water Fill for Townhouse Development: Sierra Club is working with the Dana Shores neighborhood association and other groups to oppose filling in part of the lagoon near Rocky Point to build townhomes. June 28: Item TA/CPA 17-10 requesting a land use change from Water to Residential-35 will be heard at Tampa City Council Meeting. Plan to attend or write the City Council members asking them to deny this proposal

Trees: The City of Tampa is updating its tree ordinance. There are two areas to watch:

Tree Removal: The builders would like more certainty that they can remove certain trees to build. Hence their proposal in February and the tree code amendment we've been opposing as currently written. Neighbors are interested in preserving the tree canopy. We are working on a solution that satisfies both.

Tree Mitigation: A new proposal would require mitigation of any trees removed to be replaced not by equivalent trunk size, but by canopy size and other factors. We are hoping to add wording to get the replacement trees closer to where trees were removed, perhaps even on private property.

Sprawl Wars: Another plan to build dense developments in **Rural Land**, creating sprawl but asking to reduce land use fees! This one affects 4,413 acres in the Balm Riverview Area and would redefine the rural RP-2 designation from 2 homes per acre to 3 homes per acre. There is a total of more than 15,000 acres in this category in the county. There are two items:

Balm Riverview Comprehensive Plan Text Amendment application (CPA) 17-21 and companion.

Land Development Code (LDC) 18-0370 Text Amendment to LDC PART 5.04.00 PLANNED VILLAGE. Please plan to attend these upcoming Public Hearings, or write your County Commissioners asking them contain sprawl and to deny these two amendments.

July 12, 6:30PM: Public Meeting, Riverview High School, 11311 Boyette Rd., Riverview, FL 33569. This is an opportunity to hear the developers plan and provide feedback to them.

July 23, 5:30 PM: HCCC Planning Commission, County Center, 18th floor, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd. This is an opportunity to speak out to the County Commissioners against sprawl.

Protection of Deep Sea Corals in Gulf of Mexico: Sent a letter to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council urging increased protection in 15 hot spots and adding 8 sites as Habitat Areas of Particular Concern

Nancy Stevens: Conservation Chair, Tampa Bay Sierra Club, nancy.stevens@florida.sierraclub.org 813-380-1668



Tampa Bay Inspiring Connection Outdoors (ICO)

We want to Thank all the volunteers, leaders, and parents who made the 2017-18 season such a wonderful success. We will be planning our 2018-19 season at the **Annual August ICO Meeting (TBA)**. If you are interested in volunteering please contact **Rocky Milburn, 813-966-9785, tbico@live.com** for more information.



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group

July / August 2018



Nonprofit Org.
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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



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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

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Florida Judge Rules in Favor of Conservation Groups on Constitutional Amendment for Land Acquisition

Florida Circuit Judge Charles Dodson ruled today in favor of environmental organizations that the land conservation constitutional amendment overwhelmingly approved by voters requires funding to be used for land acquisition, and restoration and management of those lands, not for other purposes. Frank Jackalone, Sierra Club Florida Chapter Director said, "After four years of blatant misappropriation of taxpayers' money, the Legislature has been forced by the Florida Courts to obey the voters mandate that it use a dedicated source of state funds to preserve and protect Florida's natural lands."

75%
VOTED
YES ON 1

The Sierra Club's Stadium Recycling Initiative: Now seeking volunteers for the **2018-2019** season to help recycle bottles, cans and plastics for the Tampa Sports Authority at Raymond James Stadium! 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. It is fun, easy and a great way to get into stadium events for free! This includes all USF Bulls home games and 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 dave.varrieur@florida.sierraclub.org**

