



Explore Enjoy and Protect the Planet September / October 2018

September & October Program & General **Meeting:**

When: Wednesday, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, 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

September 12 Program: Jerry Comellas:

Introducing the Rosebud Continuum Sustainability Center.

The Rosebud Continuum is working daily to create sustainable solutions to real world environmental challenges on their 15 acre site in Land O'Lakes. Thru their working relationship with the

USF Patel College of Sustainability the Rosebud Continuum has explored bee-keeping, restoration of native vegetation, conversion of food waste to methane, hydroponics and more. Student from the local high school regularly participate in activities there. The goal is to create a functional example that is both environmental and economic sustainable

October 10 Program: Cora Berchem: Challenges to Florida's Manatees.

Earlier this year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service down listed the Florida manatee's status under the Endangered



Photo by Cora Berchem

Species Act from "endangered" to "threatened". How will this affect the future of our manatees while they continue to cope with impacts from pollution, habitat loss, boat motors and more? How bad has the toll been from this year's terrible Red Tide? What can we do to insure the future of Florida's iconic marine mammal? Cora will update us on the current status of our manatees and provide advice on what we can do to protect their future.



SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 8 YOU WERE **THERE IN 2017. WE NEED YOU IN 2018!**

On September 8th, after months of organizing and movement-building, the Peoples Climate Movement will bring tens of thousands of people across the country into the streets. Joined by partners around the world, we will demand bold action on climate, jobs, and justice. Those demands will determine the future of our movement – and our world – for vears to come.

In Tampa join us for an Indoor Block Party - Town Hall

September 8, 2018 from 2:00 till 5:00 PM at St. Paul Lutheran Church 5103 N. Central Ave. Tampa. Please contact Danielle for more information and to RSVP at danielle@organizeflorida.org

In St. Pete join us for Rise Up Ringing - People's March / Rally / Meditation for Climate, Jobs and Justice

September 8, 2018 from 10:00 till 1:30 PM at Williams Park 350 2nd Ave. North St. Petersburg, Florida.

Please contact dayguestor 108@pm.me for more information and to RSVP and bring your bells!



2018 Executive Committee

Group Chairperson: Kent Bailey (813)-986-7819

kent.bailey@florida.sierraclub.org

Vice-Chair / ICO Chair / Outings Chair: Rocky Milburn

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rocky.milburn@florida.sierraclub.org

Treasurer: Don Kruse

Don.kruse@florida.sierraclub.org

Conservation: Nancy Stevens

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Membership Chair: Gary Gibbons

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Energy Chair: Bob Howell bob.howell@florida.sierraclub.org

Ex-Com: Pat Kemp

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Ex-Com: Paul Thibault

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Ex-Com: Karen Michalski karenkaymichalski@gmail.com

Other Officers & Assignments

Secretary: Linda Hugues

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Webmaster: Marcia Biggs marcia.biggs@florida.sierraclub.org

Political Chair: Beverly Griffiths

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Newsletter: Corky Crowley

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Stadium Recycling Initiative: Dave Varrieur (813) 503-6970

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

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/

Sat. Sept. 15 Hike Lake Dan ELAPP:

Leader Rocky Milburn. (Tampa Bay)

Sat. Sept. 22 Bike Courtney Campbell Causeway:

Leader Rob Norman. (Tampa Bay)

Sat. Sept.29, Paddle Weedon Island:

Leader Barbara Heineken. (Tampa Bay)

Sat. October 13, Wildflower Hike at Blackwater Creek ELAPP:

Leaders Rocky Milburn and Shirley Denton. (Tampa Bay)

Sat. October 20, Hike, Cypress Lakes Preserve:

Leader Gene Kelly. (Tampa Bay)

Sun. October 21, Paddle Snug Harbor:

karen.michalski@florida.sierraclub.org

Leaders Gary Gibbons and Al Tillson. (Tampa Bay)

Friday /Sunday October 26-28, Florida Chapter Outings

Conference, Myakka State Park

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

Seeking 2019-2020 Executive Committee Candidates!

The Nominating Committee is currently seeking candidates for Tampa Bay Group's Executive Committee **FOUR** open seats. Candidates must be Sierra Club members. You will be expected to promote the Sierra Club mission and campaigns, attend meetings, and assist with Group goals. Please submit the name of any willing candidate before September 5, 2018. Any candidate not selected by the Nominating Committee may qualify by petition and submitted by **September 20, 2018**. Ballots will be sent with the November newsletter and must be returned by December 1st. For details, contact Nominating Committee Chair, Karen Michalski,

<u>The Conservation Committee Report</u>: The Conservation Committee will meet on Monday, September 10, and October 8, at 6:30pm. Join us at <u>St. Paul Lutheran Church at 5103 North Central Ave., Tampa, FL.</u> We meet in the <u>Snyder Building</u> directly behind the church. Follow the Tampa Bay Sierra Club signs.

Thanks to everyone actively working - writing, speaking, attending meetings and generally making those in Government aware that we citizens do indeed care about our environment and are watching! You do make a difference!

WINS:

- Rocky Point Open Water Fill for Townhouse Development: Thanks to Kent and to a huge outcry from the local community and the public! Tampa City Council voted unanimously NO to Townhomes IN the Bay. Furthermore, the Tampa City Council approved a temporary halt to private development of submerged land and is writing a new ordinance.
- ★ Deep Sea Corals in Gulf of Mexico PROTECTED! We received a letter of thanks for our support: Thank you for writing the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council in support of Amendment 9 to protect deep-sea corals. The Council unanimously approved the measure which designates 21 sites (484 sq. miles) Habitat Areas of Particular Concern and restricts damaging fishing gear in most of the new areas
- Florida Amendment 1 Funds: A circuit court judge ruled that the Legislature was wrong when they spent Amendment 1 funds on existing operating expenses instead of new parks, restoration and protecting conservation lands.

Land Use: With the continued growth in Hillsborough County, there are frequent requests to change the Land Use Plan to allow increased density or build on sensitive lands. We are constantly having to push back to keep the planned balance between conservation and development. Let us know if you see a request that impacts our environment. We are currently opposing:

✓ **Seffner Land Fill in a Flood Plain**. RZ 18-0670 An RV Park owner that has been cited for dumping in a 100-year flood plain has asked for rezoning to accommodate 245 RV spaces plus a pool and clubhouse. The EPC has concerns that the plans show building in the known wetlands and that not all the wetlands on the property have been identified. Sierra Club has submitted a letter of opposition.

The Zoning Hearing Meeting will be August 20, when anyone can speak. They will become a party of record and then be able to speak at the BOCC meeting on October 19. Meeting at County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 2nd Floor, Boardroom

Please submit comments to: MonsantoI@hillsboroughcounty.org <mailto:MonsantoI@hillsboroughcounty.org>

✓ Balm Riverview: Another plan to convert Rural Land to a denser Urban, creating sprawl but asking to reduce land use fees! This one affects 4,413 acres! The Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) 17-21 and companion Land Development Code (LDC) 18-0370 Text Amendment to LDC PART 5.04.00 PLANNED VILLAGE will be heard together. BOCC review was continued to October 1.

Please submit comments to: Hearings@HillsboroughCounty.org <mailto:Hearings@HillsboroughCounty.ORG>

Silver Dollar Shooting Range: We continue to monitor the DEP progress on measuring the contamination in the neighboring property and plans to clean it up.

Trees: The City of Tampa is updating its tree ordinance. There is a group working to protect the trees. Let me know if you are interested in joining. Next workshop August 30, 9 AM at Tampa City Hall.

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

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 are still needed for 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



Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group

September / October 2018



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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

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P.O.BOX 421041

Palm Coast, FL 32142-6417

\$55 a Ton for Lime Rock

That is the latest contract price for lime rock used in Pasco County. This price is for a grade of lime rock used to fill and level already established lime rock roads – not road base grade lime rock. Lime rock has been declared "a strategic resource for Florida," and the clamor for more lime rock mines fills the air in Hernando and Pasco County.

This resource is so strategic that Cemex in Hernando has filed to mine 700+ acres across the road from the Brooksville Regional Hospital. Last time anyone checked, Cemex had 12,000 acres of approved for lime rock mining in Hernando. Cemex has said that the new acreage will result in no new employment for the county. When done, they will go back to mining the property they are currently mining – and do not commit to reclamation of the 700+ acres. This will leave a massive hole in the ground, contaminated water supplies, destroyed wildlife habitat, impacts to Peck Sink and Weeki Wachee Springs and a grand vista for patients at Brooksville Regional Hospital.

This for a strategic resource so vital that the Lago Verde Mine, coterminous with the boundaries of what is being called the 7 Diamonds Mine, has been closed for 4 months (for reasons unknown). While Cemex can send 50 hopper carloads of cement to Tampa, almost weekly, for export to who knows where? These mines are being vigorously challenged by local citizens including three different law suits. Go here for more information:

http://neighborsagainstmining.org/ https://www.facebook.com/noblasting/ http://noblastinginpasco.com/index.html