FREE SIERRA CLUB SEMINAR: Protecting SE Florida’s Oceans & Coastal Heritage

Attention all SE Florida Residents, Ocean Lovers, and Activists: Are you concerned about climate change, sea level rise, and the increasing amount of plastic and chemical pollution changing the look, feel, and chemistry of our life-giving oceans and the seafood they provide Floridians and world citizens?

Then please join the SE Florida Sierra Marine & Water Quality Team and members of the Tri-County Sierra Clubs on Saturday, September 20th (9am-5pm), for a very special seminar featuring a host of outstanding speakers working in their respective fields. The event will be held at a prime location in South Broward County with ample parking (TBA), and is free to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

Each person who attends the Sept. 20 Seminar will be provided a raffle ticket towards an original piece of art by world-famous marine artist, Wyland, to be drawn at the end of the day - you must be present to win. Tickets will not be provided after 3pm.

Admission and parking is FREE to those who register online via Eventbrite. Coffee and light refreshments will be available throughout the day. Feel free to bring your own food/drink (non-alcoholic). You will be responsible for your own lunch, but there will be several dining options nearby.

Please register online to guarantee your seat(s).

Go to http://floridasierraocean2014.eventbrite.com for more information and to register for the seminar.

Online donations are optional, and cash or check donations can also be made at the door.

This is your chance to be part of a grass roots effort to affect real change in the future of our community.

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Sunday, August 17th: In August, instead of our regular Thursday General Meeting, we will be having our annual Broward Sierra Club Picnic on the Beach at the John U. Lloyd Beach State Park, 6503 N. Ocean Dr., Dania Beach, Pelican pavilion on Sunday, August 17th any time from noon on. (See page 3 for more information.)

Thursday, September 4th: Our speaker will be Cameron Jaggard, Senior Associate U.S.Oceans for the PEW Charitable Trust. His discussion will be on the importance of forage fish in the oceans food chain, and the problems they face.
The Broward Sierra News is available every other month in electronic format. Additionally, to keep you apprised of current Broward Sierra Club events, they will be listed on our website: http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward. If you would like to receive reminders of these events e-mailed to you, subscribe to our Yahoo newsgroup. The address is: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrowardSierra. Simply click on the blue “Join this Group” icon and follow the instructions. You may have to create a Yahoo ID first, which is easy and free. This will also allow you to sign up for any of the other numerous Yahoo groups. Also like our FaceBook page at www.facebook.com/BrowardSierra, and follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/BrowardGroup.

PIPELINE ON WHEELS

Excerpted from an article by Jessica A. Knoblauch, Earthjustice Quarterly Summer 2014

Explosive crude oil is rolling into the middle of America’s cities under cover of night. Oil rail shipments have increased 6,000 percent in the last 6 years, which adds up to about 800,000 barrels of oil transported across America per day, according to the National Transportation Safety Board. However, this increase goes without the same regulatory scrutiny as do other hazardous materials. For example, trains carrying chlorine are totally restricted from travel through the middle of cities. Not so for volatile crude oil. Rail accidents have skyrocketed, spilling oil, starting fires, causing explosions and tragically costing lives. 69% of the tank car fleet are old cars prone to puncturing. These were designed to carry grain, corn syrup and other harmless materials in the 1960’s. These trains roll through small towns, under big cities, over bridges and in pristine wilderness areas. More crude oil was spilled in U. S. rail incidents in 2013 than was spilled in nearly four decades.

Increase of rail traffic, unmarked rail cars, inadequate regulation, proximity to peoples’ homes and schools, unprepared fire departments, police and first responders, all contribute to big disaster when an incident occurs. Many low-income communities along tracks risk a higher rate of dangerous industrial accidents and are not told what is in the tanks charging through town. Residents are living surrounded by a higher number of pollution sites, and suffer higher numbers of diagnosed cancer, heart disease, asthma and rare auto-immune diseases.

To read the full article, learn more about crude oil cargo, and what progress Earthjustice is making toward the fight for social environmental justice, public awareness, advising counties and city councils, petitioning Congress for regulatory laws, accident statistics, please go to http://earthjustice.org/features/pipeline-on-wheels. Earthjustice is the legal arm of Sierra Club and other environmental organizations.

Seminar, continued from page 1

Cris Costello, Sierra Club Florida Chapter staff Water Quality expert and campaign organizer will give the opening introduction and the closing.

NOTABLE SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Scott Striplind, Surfrider Foundation, Subject: Beach Erosion and Surfrider’s Dune Project

Dr. Harold Wanless, University of Miami, Subject: Sea Level Rise and its Impact on South Florida

James Byrne, The Nature Conservancy, Subject: Caribbean Coral Biology 101 and Anthropogenic Stressors

Sarah Winter Whelen, American Littoral Society & Healthy Oceans Coalition, Subject: Introduction to USA’s National Ocean Policy

Cameron Jaggard, PEW Charitable Trusts, Subject: PEW’s Forage Fish Campaign

Representative Mark Pafford Florida House of Representatives (D)

In addition to the expert speakers, local nonprofit organizations will be present to provide information and opportunities to participate.

For more information contact Scott Sheckman Email: scott@isheck.net Phone: 310-741-7617

Make sure to register and guarantee your seat at http://floridasierraocean2014.eventbrite.com
Local Sierra Club Outings & Events

To preserve a place, you must believe in it.
To believe in it, you must see it.

AUG. 16, SAT. PANTHER HABITAT OUTING. We will be traveling by car and going to Panther Country! Once there, we will go on a 1.3 mile hike on a trail that will introduce us to the habitat of our Florida Panthers. This will be in August, so it will be hot and there will be mosquitos. You need to bring water and bug repellent. Long sleeve shirts, long pants and a wide brim hat are recommended. After that we will drive thru the Fakahatchee Strand State Park on the James Scenic Trail. This is a beautiful wooded area. Maybe we will see a bear! We will have lunch under a shady tree, so bring your sandwich, etc. It is estimated that this outing will take about 5 hours. The cost will be $10 for members and $13 for non-members to cover expenses. Also there will be a fee for entry into the State Park. There is room for only 5. Call Darryl Rutz at 954-892-1740 if you want to reserve a seat or have any questions.

AUG. 17, SUN. BROWARD SIERRA CLUB’S ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC AT THE BEACH, any time from noon on, at John U. Lloyd State Park in Dania Beach, Pelican Pavilion. Come have fun and enjoy the food, beach, swimming, snorkeling, and just plain lounging and socializing with other environmentally-minded folks. We’ll have some short updates, as well as plenty of educational and interesting conversations on local and national environmental issues. This yearly fundraising event raises money to support the Broward Sierra group’s activities and environmental causes. A contribution of $10 for members/$12 for non-members will be gratefully accepted. There will be veggie-burgers and drinks supplied, but please bring a dish or beverage of your choice to be shared. Please also bring your own recyclable plates and utensils, in order for us to leave “nothing but our footsteps” behind, and set an environmentalists’ example. Adults & kids welcome. Please RSVP to Judy at judykuchta@yahoo.com 305-308-8913, so we can make sure we have enough food for everyone. For further information, please contact Judy at 305-308-8913 or Max at 954-296-3411.


SEPT. 6, SAT. BEGINER LEVEL KAYAK LESSON AT BEAUTIFUL WEST LAKE PARK IN HOLLYWOOD. You will learn from one of the best instructors in Broward County Parks, and have time to practice your new paddling skills. Approximately 2½ - 3 hours. Cost only $35. Leader: Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com>.

SEPT. 20, SAT. FREE SIERRA CLUB SEMINAR: PROTECTING SE FLORIDA’S OCEANS & COASTAL HERITAGE. Please join the SE Florida Sierra Marine & Water Quality Team and members of the Tri-County Sierra Clubs for a very special seminar featuring a host of outstanding speakers working in their respective fields. The event will be held at a prime location in South Broward County (TBA), and is free to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. The public is invited to register for this important seminar for free, donations are accepted. A $3 (or more) donation is requested from our Sierra members not able to attend, to help support our seminar. For more information contact Scott Sheckman at scott@isheck.net or 310-741-7617. You can register, and donations can be made at http://floridasierraocean2014.eventbrite.com.

OCT. 10, FRIDAY NIGHT. MOONLIGHT KAYAK AT WEST LAKE PARK IN HOLLYWOOD. Kayaking by moonlight is magical. Learn about lake and mangrove night wildlife life from the park staff while you are enchanted. Cost $35. A $3 donation to Sierra club is suggested. Leader: Max Goldstein 954-296-3411 <maxgold@yahoo.com>, Assist: TBA.

OCT. 18, SAT. NATIVE PLANT IDENTIFICATION with Dr. Phil Busey. We’ll meet at 9:00am at Oakland Park’s Lakeside Sand Pine Preserve (you must provide your own transportation), 2820 NW 27th Ave. (http://tinyurl.com/sandpine), a rare, 5.4 acre remnant scrub natural resource owned by the City of Oakland Park. This site contains varying age classes of sand pine trees and other characteristic scrub species, walking paths, an observation deck overlooking the lake, and a open air nature center. Then we’ll go to Broward County’s Secret Woods Park where we will observe and identify a very different group of native plants until 12:00 pm. Suggested donation $3 members, $5 non-members (plus admission charge of $1.50 per person at Secret Woods). Leader: Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com>.

NOV. 15 - 16, SAT.- SUN. FISHFEATING CREEK PADDLE AND BASE CAMP. Details TBA. Leader: Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com>.

We would like to invite you to come on one of our fun and educational outings! If you have any questions about an outing, please check with the certified Sierra Outing Leader listed for the outing. Some of the outings need no experience; others require some level of proficiency. All participants are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the Liability Waiver before you choose to participate in an outing, contact the leader of the outing or go to <www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>.

Unless otherwise stated, the costs for each outing represent a best estimate of actual shared expenses, for food and transportation and other direct expenses.

For sign-up, payment and further information, please contact the outing leader.

LOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE: <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>
THE PEOPLE’S CLIMATE MARCH
– From Michael Brune, Sierra Club Executive Director

This September, world leaders are meeting in New York City for a historic summit to address climate change. It’s time for America to lead with real solutions to reduce climate pollution — solutions that will inspire leaders around the world and compel them to take action in their own countries.

So let’s make it happen. Join me in New York this September for the biggest climate march ever, where tens of thousands of us will urge President Obama to lead the world in the climate fight.

GOING, GOING, GONE?

Sea turtles date back nearly 90 million years and are among the Earth’s oldest surviving species. All 6 species of sea turtles are protected under the Endangered Species Act. Sierra Club has mounted a major effort to defend and preserve threatened habitats before their inhabitants are gone forever.

Help protect our animal friends; because once they’re gone, they’re gone.

Join the Sierra Club and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag! (While supplies last)

☐ Yes, I want to join the Sierra Club! I want to help safeguard our nation’s precious natural heritage and receive a free Sierra Club Weekender Bag. My payment is enclosed.

Name ________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________
City _______________________________ State _____ Zip _____________
Phone (optional) (_____) __________________________________________
E-mail (optional)  ________________________________________________
Cardholder Name _______________________________________________
Card Number ____________________ Exp. Date ____/____

Contributions, gifts or dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include $7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and $1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Membership Categories

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Enclose check and mail to: Sierra Club
P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

Who: You, your friends, neighbors, family, tens of thousands of others
What: The People’s Climate March
When: Sunday, September 21st
Where: New York City
RSVP: sc.org/ClimateMarch

This is the perfect moment — we’re taking to the streets right before world leaders will gather in New York City. We can make sure that President Obama gets the message: Lead the world in addressing climate change.

That’s why I’m not just asking you to come to the largest climate march ever — I’m asking you to bring your friends and family, your neighbors, folks from your church, and anyone you can get your hands on. RSVP now!

We all know that the world needs to shift to 100% clean energy and we need to do it fast. While we’re making that transition, we need to work to curb the climate pollution coming from our existing power plants and make sure that new climate-wrecking projects like the Keystone XL pipeline don’t get built.

You’ve been fighting those projects, you’ve been pushing your communities to go solar, you’ve been raising your voice against new coal plants. Now’s your chance to walk side by side with your fellow climate activists and make this the biggest climate march ever.

DONATE TO PROTECT FLORIDA’S WILDLIFE HABITATS

You can help protect the Florida Panther and other native flora and fauna through litigation and education. This fund, The Sierra Club Foundation was created by your Broward Group. Your tax-deductible gift will support our conservation work and lawsuits challenging the National Park Service and other agencies that seek to reduce or cause harm to Florida’s natural resources.

Please make your check payable to:
The Sierra Club Foundation
In the notes, write “Broward Sierra Group”
Mail your donation to: Broward Sierra, P.O. Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355

Photo from 2009 Climate March in London