Outings play a big role in the Sierra Club Mission. John Muir said that people should go out into the woods and enjoy nature, for then they would become its protector. And our outing team has spent a lot of time planning and implementing many terrific outings for us to participate in and enjoy.

We are lucky in Florida to be able to enjoy nature all year round. Usually we reserve the water outings for the summer months and more rigorous activity for the winter months. Here are some of the outings that the Broward Outing Team have organized over the past several years. The most popular was the moonlight bike ride on the Shark Valley Trail. Some of our many other great outings were: floating down the Ichetucknee River Springs, Camping and Stargazing at Markham Park, Lake Okeechobee Rim Bike Ride, 10,000 Island Kayak Trip, Kayak Lessons on West Lake, Panther Habitat Hike and Fakahatchee Drive Thru, Turtle Walk, Moonlight Kayaking on West Lake, Local Native Plant Identification, Camping and Kayaking in Fishcathing Creek, Biking Around Retention Area 3, Birding Walk in Retention Area 5, Wet Big Cypress Hike, Biking to the Miccosukee Indian Arts and Craft Festival, Hiking the Big Cypress National Preserve Wilderness Trail, Loxahatchee River Kayaking and Kayaking the Turner River. Also we have easy access to the outings sponsored by the Miami and Loxahatchee Groups.

Shortly the Broward Outing Leader’s will be getting together to plan next year’s outings. This is where you come in. If you have any special outing or type of outing request, or you’re interested in becoming an outings leader, contact Judy Kuchta (at 305-308-8913 or judykuchta@yahoo.com) or Darryl Rutz (at 954-892-1740 or dmrtz2@msn.com).

Some of our outings have not been that well attended, so we want to make sure we are getting the word out. When you get the email that the newsletter is available, make sure you check out the outings. And at any time, you can see the outings offered by the Sierra, Miami & Loxahatchee groups at www.sierraclub.org/florida/broward/outings-events. You can also always download the latest copy of the newsletter at www.sierraclub.org/florida/broward/newsletters.

See you on the trail!
Local Sierra Club Outings & Events

Aug. 1, Sat. Kayak, Canoe, Snorkel at Indian Key. 10am–4pm. Launch from the entrance to Tea Table Key, the left (ocean) side of the highway. It is a short paddle from there to Indian Key, an interesting island with a fascinating history. It is also on a coral reef so the swimming and snorkeling is great. Lots of aquarium type fish to see. And the water is exceptionally clear. We have canoes available, or bring your own paddle gear. Some paddling experience necessary. Bring water, lunch, sunblock, hat, camera and any safety gear you will need to enjoy the day. Carpooling highly encouraged. Rating: Leisure to Moderate. This is a fundraiser for our Inspiring Connections Outdoors (ICO) program (https://sites.google.com/site/icomiami/home) Suggested minimum donation: $25. For more information contact Outing Leader: Mark Walters 305 632 7514 mark.walters@sierraclub.org

Aug. 9, 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, Jetty Pavilion. See below.

Oct. 17, Sat. Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park Swamp Walk. Copeland, FL. Join us for a guided swamp walk in a lush environment filled with ferns and bromeliads. Learn what type of habitat is required to grow more native orchid species (including the famous ghost orchid) in a wilderness setting, than anywhere else in the U.S. Rated moderate due to uneven footing, mostly under water. Cost TBA. For more information contact Outing Leader: Jackie Fisher 954-434-2855 jsf812@bellsouth.net.

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 <http://vault.sierraclub.org/outings/national/participantforms/forms/individual_waiver.pdf>.

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

LOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE: <www.sierraclub.org/florida/broward>

COME ONE,COME ALL!!
Broward Sierra Club’s Annual Summer Picnic at the Beach
Vegetarians and non-vegetarians welcome
Sunday, August 9, starting at noon

John U. Lloyd State Park, 6503 N. Ocean Drive (A1A), Dania Beach (Jetty Pavilion)
Come have fun and enjoy the food, beach, swimming, snorkeling, and just plain lounging and socializing with other environmentally-minded folks.
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 is a $4 entrance fee at the park, per car with 1 person, $6 fee for 2 or more in the same car.
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 or 305-308-8913, so we can make sure we have enough food for everyone. For further information, please contact Judy at the above or Max at maxgold@yahoo.com or 954-296-3411.