



Broward Sierra Bulletin



February, 2024

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<https://www.meetup.com/Broward-County-Sierra-Club-Group/> •

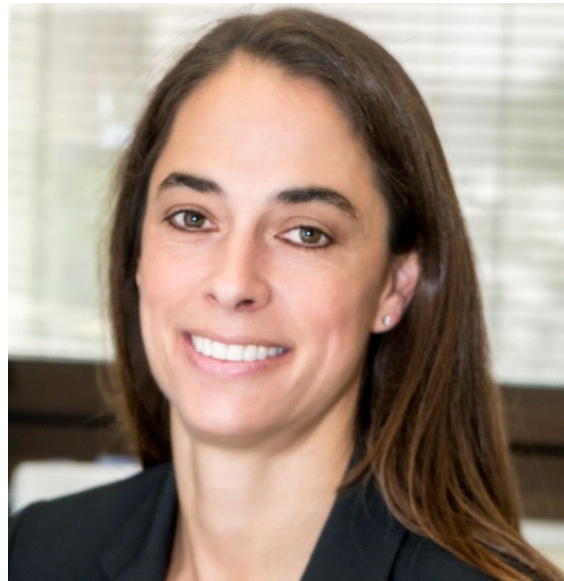
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[To join the Sierra Club, click here.](#)

February general meeting features

DR. JENNIFER JURADO

**BROWARD COUNTY DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER,
RESILIENT ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**



TOPIC - Planning for Resilience in Broward County

On February 1, 2024 promptly at 7pm virtually

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

[Click here to register](#)

Dr. Jurado's presentation will provide an update on county-wide and regional resilience initiatives, with a focus on planning for flood and heat risk. She will also discuss the development of the Broward Community Resilience Plan.

Dr. Jennifer Jurado is responsible for leading climate resilience and environmental planning initiatives for Broward County, FL. Areas of particular focus include sea level rise adaptation, sustainable water resource management, shoreline protection, coastal resource conservation, and clean energy projects. She works extensively with internal and regional stakeholders to advance county-wide resilience planning informed by future conditions scenarios, including resilient infrastructure design standards and redevelopment strategies, while fostering public-private partnerships key to large-scale initiatives. Current priorities involve the application of climate information and economic risk assessments to inform a basin-level county-wide resilience plan. Dr. Jurado has been a participant in the four-county Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact since its formation in 2009. She serves on the board of directors for the American Society of Adaptation Professionals and the American Geophysical Union's Thriving Earth Exchange. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Miami in Marine Biology and Fisheries.

WE PROUDLY ANNOUNCE

The sixth annual Broward Youth Climate Summit will be at Pompano Beach High School, 600 NE 13th avenue, Pompano Beach, FL 33060 on February 9, 2024, from 8am-12pm.

Anagha Iyer, Broward Sierra Group's Junior Team chair, has been invited to present to students in grades 5-12.

The theme for this year's Summit is Forecasting the Future.

Anagha's presentation will be an introduction to

Zero Waste

In addition to Anagha's presentation, Broward Sierra Group will have a table there for you to meet with some of our junior team members and our Executive Committee Secretary, Pat Turpening. Please stop by and say hello!



Help Slow Climate Change by Minding Your Money!

The fossil fuel industry polluting our atmosphere can't exist without money from banks and investors. The Big Four Dirty Banks — Bank of America, Chase, Citibank, and Wells Fargo — have funded over \$1 Trillion dollars' worth of new fossil fuels projects since the 2016 Paris Treaty Accord.

Here are **TWO** ways you can help change this:

1. Tell COSTCO to use a different credit card company- Costco is one of the most popular retailers in the country – but it's got a problem. Its credit card is issued through Citibank – the second-largest funder of fossil fuels in the world, the largest American funder of coal, and one of the largest funders of projects that violate human rights and Indigenous sovereignty.

With 129.5 million members – about one-third of American shoppers – Costco is one of Citibank's largest credit card users. Costco has a lot of leverage in persuading Citibank to stop funding fossil fuels -- or taking its business elsewhere.

To get megabanks like Citibank to transition away from fossil fuels, we need its largest clients – like Costco – to demand change. And to get Costco to demand change, we need you.

[Tell Costco to drop dirty Citibank as its credit card issuer, for communities and our climate.](#)

[Click here to read and sign a petition telling Costco to clean up it](#)

2. If you own a Condominium in Florida, ask them to move their accounts out of The Big Four Dirty Banks and into a cleaner depository! We don't want our Condo Association funds bankrolling the climate crisis through the Big Four Dirty Banks and thus contributing to the increase in property insurance costs!!!

If your Condo Association keeps its money in one of these four banks, it could be funding fossil fuel projects. Medium-size condo associations, like home-owners associations, can have a million dollars in reserve funds being used by these banks to fund fossil fuel expansion. A million dollars of loans by banks to the fossil fuel industry produces the same amount of carbon emissions as about 30 vehicles.

And because such fossil fuel projects contribute to climate change, they are leading to more rapidly intensifying tropical storms and increased flooding that helps drive higher insurance premiums for our residences.

Where you come in: If we can shift our Condo Association deposits in Florida out of the Big Four Dirty Banks to banks or savings associations that do not fund the fossil fuel industry, we can help change that.

If you are a Condo owner or just willing to help create and implement the Third Act Florida Condos for Clean Energy Campaign, [please fill out our campaign survey by clicking on this link! HYPERLINK "https://forms.gle/MnzRwwDoNpnxRVuW8"](https://forms.gle/MnzRwwDoNpnxRVuW8)

Upcoming Outing

--Adriene Barmann, Outings Chair

Adriene has scheduled a hike on February 10 at 9 AM in the morning at the Flint Pen Strand Trail with Robert E. Lucius Ph.D., who is the Executive Director of the CREW Land & Water Trust. This trail is located in Bonita Springs, and it is in the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Water Shed. It has five hiking trails to choose from.

It recharges the aquifer, filtering impurities, and helping with flood control. It is also home to a multitude of native species which includes the Florida Panther, Black Bears, deer, alligators and a variety of birds.

Come join us as Dr. Lucius leads us on this remarkable hike. Please check for more details on Meetup and Campfire to sign up. After our hike, we will have lunch and relax.

Outing at CREW Bird Rookery

--Adriene Barmann, Outings Chair

What a better way to end 2023 than by taking a hike in the deep woods! I feel very lucky that our Broward Sierra group was fortunate enough to have Robert Lucius, Ph.D, the executive director of CREW Land & Water Trust to lead us on an unforgettable hike on the CREW Bird Rookery Trail. As all 11 of us walked along the trail near the maple cypress swamp, Dr. Lucius educated us all about the history of the Rookery swamp which was an area where logging of the

old growth Cypress Trees took place. Those trees had been used for rebuilding Europe after the war back in the mid 1900's. The ground that we walked on was once used by a train rail to transport the harvested Cypress Trees to a nearby wood mill. We also learned about the bird plume trade that devastated native bird populations for decades.

As we walked through the woods, Dr. Lucius pointed out the different plants and trees, and we were lucky enough to see all kinds of warblers, water birds and hawks. The alligators were hiding under the deep water that day, but we did see a couple of otters running down the trail.

We had a great day with cool weather and it was filled with learning and exploration. We truly appreciated the wonders of nature, and the beauty of the forest. We enjoyed our day, and appreciated what we learned from Dr. Lucius. After the 6 mile hike we munched on some snacks and shared some funny stories with our new found friends. We learned about other areas to hike in the vicinity, and we definitely agreed that we were going to explore them in the future.

Our day was special, because we learned about the importance of the CREW watershed for the environment. The preservation of these natural areas helps to filter the drinking water for surrounding communities and replenishes the aquifer. The 60,000 acres of pristine forest provide a safe home for wildlife, and a place to enjoy the natural world surrounded by nature's beauty.

We all agreed that we will certainly be back!

I am including some amazing pictures taken from some of our participants, as well as Robert Lucius, Ph.D.

A big thank you to Robert Lucius, Ph.D, who is a true nature rock star!!!!

Myakka River State Park Outing in December

---Adriene Barmann, Outings Chair

As I think about our amazing Myakka River State Park Camping trip that we all enjoyed last month, it makes me feel so happy how much our group really enjoyed the outdoors and the beauty of Mother Nature's beautiful places that remain protected in Florida. The hike to the 'Deep Blue Hole' was spectacular, and the pictures of the gators in the water, and the Roseate Spoonbills, and the other birds was surely a treat for us to appreciate! The weather was perfect that day, and the animal skull just added another level of discovery of nature's beauty, even if it was a skull that was left on a perfect natural foundation for future hikers to view.

Our meals were not only a special time to sit outside to talk and laugh, they were delicious! Thanks to Max covering breakfast both Saturday and Sunday, Alfredo's lunch spread was perfect for our hungry hikers after returning from our Deep Blue hike. And my chili never made it back home, because everyone finished

it!! I always believe the best part of our camping trips is when we meet in our kitchen area and dine outside together. A big thank you to Michael for bringing all his camping toys for us to use and enjoy! The kitchen setup was over-the-top.

And what a better way to close our amazing camping trip on Sunday than with such a great guided kayak adventure tour by Biotica Ecotours! Chris and Kris, our fabulous biologist /naturalist tour guides, taught and shared with us about the entire ecosystem of the Myakka River. From the history of the park, the water quality in the river, to the water levels inside the park that reached 11 feet high during Hurricane Ian (yikes!). They were so knowledgeable and friendly, and they enjoyed educating us about the wildlife and the ecosystem of the river. We saw so many gators, and learned about their behavior. They pointed out the various birds, as well as the plant life that is so important to maintain a healthy habitat both for the river, its ecosystem and the wildlife. We finished the tour feeling so enriched and thankful for the opportunity to learn about Myakka River! We definitely agreed that our experience was surely one to remember! A huge thank you to Co-leader Alfredo for arranging the tour👏👏.

I wanted to thank everyone for making this camping trip a memorable one!! This is why I do these outdoor activities, to bring everyone one step closer to enjoying nature. I look forward to more outdoor adventures with the Happy Camper Crew!!!! Keep your eyes open for another camping trip in the beginning of March!!!

[Insert Adriene's pictures from Myakka here]



CALLING ALL BROWARD STUDENT ARTISTS!

**WANT TO WIN \$1000 FOR YOUR ORIGINAL ART
MADE FROM TRASH OR RECYCLED STUFF?!**

Here's how it works:

Step 1 – **Be cool.** That means you are between age 14–18, live in Broward County, and have visited the link on the right and registered to enter.

Step 2 – **Help the earth.** Pick up trash or gather recycled materials that usually end up in the landfill or worse.

Step 3 – **Make something amazing.** Use those materials to create an original art piece like a sculpture, mixed media item, installation, etc...

Step 4 – **Show off your art.** Registered entrants will have a chance to display their original artwork at the Broward Sierra Earth Day event on Saturday, March 23, 2024. Contest starts at 9:00am, in Mangrove Hall

Step 5 – **Win cash prize!** Top prize is \$1000, second place is \$500 and third is \$250.

Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in programs, services, and activities must contact Broward Sierra Group at 954-328-9447 at least seven (7) business days prior to the scheduled meeting or event.

REGISTER NOW to
learn more important info



SCAN HERE

or visit here:

[https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?
formcam-paignid=7013q000002HhX7AAK](https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcam-paignid=7013q000002HhX7AAK)

BROWARD SIERRA GROUP

WELCOMES ALL TO

EARTH DAY 2024

A FREE FAMILY EVENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

AT THE ANNE KOLB NATURE CENTER

751 SHERIDAN ST. HOLLYWOOD, FL

THIS YEAR'S THEME:

UNITING BROWARD THROUGH RESILIENCE



**YOUTH ART
CONTEST**



**HIKING &
KAYAKING**



**EDUCATIONAL
VENDORS**



**HANDS-ON
ACTIVITIES**



**LIVE MUSIC
& GOOD FOOD**

There's something for everyone at this fun, free, educational and entertaining event!

Visitors can enjoy:

- Nature hikes and kayaking around the natural mangrove areas of the park.
- Live music.
- Food trucks.
- Art displays from our annual Youth Plastic Waste Art Contest, with judging and prizes announced on site.
- More than 14 exhibitors with hands-on activities and information about conservation and environmental efforts.
- Notable guest speakers using art to educate about climate change and sea level rise.
- Updates about Earth's rising temperature and climate change, Florida Panther news and updates, and using meditation to connect with nature.

• Much, much more! •

Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in programs, services and activities must contact Broward Sierra Group at 954-328-9447 at least seven (7) days prior to the scheduled event.

**From our neighbors to the north,
The Loxahatchee Sierra Group**



Join us for a Road Trip!

Saturday, February 17, 2024

[Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute \(HBOI\)](#)

5600 US-1, Fort Pierce, FL 34946

Sierra Club members are invited to join for a trip to HBOI, one of South Florida's premier research institutes. Activities begin at 10:30 a.m. with a 90-minute tour of the Indian River Lagoon from a pontoon boat where we will participate in research activities with a guide who will conduct real-time data collection, survey underwater habitats with a remotely operated vehicle, and help us identify many of the over 4,000 plant and animal species in the Lagoon, including over 50 threatened or endangered species.

At 1:00 p.m., after a bring-your-own-lunch break, enjoy a 90-minute guided tram tour of HBOI's 144-acre waterfront campus and research facilities including the marine rescue area, the necropsy lab, and aquaculture labs. The tour includes a photo-op in front of the iconic Johnson Sea Link deep-sea submersible, the vessel that conducted critical research in the eastern Gulf of Mexico in the aftermath of the Deepwater Horizon/BP Oil Spill in 2010.

End the day with a self-guided tour of the Ocean Discovery Visitor's Center. The Center's exhibits and live displays highlight current research projects, notable discoveries, marine life, and environments from coral reefs to sea grass beds, including demonstrations of HBOI's sustainable aquaculture systems.

The fine print:

- The cost including the Boat Tour, Campus Tour, and Ocean Discovery Center is \$75.
- The maximum number of participants is 25.
- Transportation is not provided to HBOI which is located about a 1-1/2 hr. drive from West Palm Beach. Detailed instructions will be provided. Bring a friend and carpool!
- Participants will meet at the J. Seward Johnson Education Center on the HBOI Campus no later than 10:15 a.m. The boat departs promptly at 10:30 a.m.
- Participants must bring their own lunch. Water fillers are available.
- Walking is limited but there are several steps to negotiate to reach the boat.
- The activities are child-safe so bring them along (12 or older) for a fun and educational day.
- Tickets are not refundable but are transferable.

Join us for this unique opportunity and experience! Have questions? Contact Mary Mertz, marymertz@me.com.

[Register here:](#)

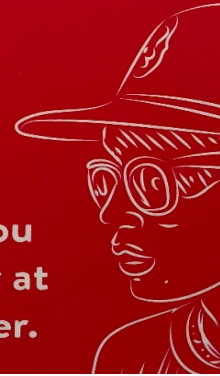


This is posted in the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History display on the many elements which power modern cellphones.

*Each icon represents 10,000 cars.

If all Americans used their cellphones for one year longer, on average, it would equal the emissions reduction of taking 636,000 gasoline-powered cars off the road.

If you really want to lower your phone's environmental impact, the best thing you can do is find a way to extend its life for at least another year—the longer, the better.



Volunteering with Broward Sierra feels this good!
Today's your lucky day because our amazing team has the perfect spot for you!

Communications

Programming

Membership

City Liaison

E-mail Leabird@comcast.net or call 954-485-4711 for more info

SAVE THE DATE!

Our Thursday, April 4, 2024 – 7pm-8:30pm

Presenter will be

Sam Van Leer and Jackeline Bonilla

from the Urban Paradise Guild

More information will be announced soon.