



# The Broward Bulletin

May, 2024

<http://www.sierraclub.org/florida/broward> <http://www.facebook.com/BrowardSierra>

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

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

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## LEE GOTTLIEB – ADOPT A DUNE

ON THURSDAY MAY 2, 2024, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM, VIRTUALLY



**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000002IMvgAAG>

### **TOPIC: Volunteer-Based Coastal Dune Restoration Projects**

As a resident of South Florida for over 50 years, Lee began his professional career with the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation. Over the past 16 years, he has developed and implemented over 150 eco-action programs, engaging thousands of students, and adult volunteers. With this volunteer-based model, he has worked to restore crucial coastal habitats in the tri-county area.

During this time, he has forged relationships with many Fortune 500 companies, developing new “Green Team Building” opportunities that provide a venue for corporations to fulfill their community “give back mission statements”.

In 2020, during the Covid outbreak, along with a team of marketing experts, he created Adopt a Dune. The Adopt a Dune volunteer-based service model believes in engaging the community through outreach and education. The opportunity to be part of the solution will create an environment where a sense of ownership enhances the goal of successfully protecting our shoreline. The goal is to create a 100% continuous dune with native vegetation on the beaches in Florida. Lee’s presentation will cover the following topics:

- *Why is South Broward sand deprived?*
- *So how do we deal with the erosion issue?*
- *Where does most of the sand come from?*
- *Native Sand*
- *Beach Renourishment (Beach Fill) is it effective?*
- *Effects on the Coral Reef*
- *Another Option*
- *Climate Change Action Plan # 100*
- *The Adopt a Dune affiliates in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties.*

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## **Broward Sierra Group Earth Day 2024**

– Adriene Barmann, *Outings Chair and Vice-Chair*

On March 23rd, after the skies had opened and poured rain flooding Broward County for two days, including torrential winds causing debris to cover the roadways, the storm finally ended in South Florida just in time....

We received the green light from Anne Kolb manager Joanne Howe to move our event inside, and the Broward Sierra Group opened the doors to celebrate Earth Day at Anne Kolb Nature Center. As the sun and scattered clouds filled the sky, then began a day packed with inspirational art work, insightful presentations, and innovative solutions to address the challenges of climate change for all attendees to experience.





We were happy to welcome the art contest participants and their families, along with the honorable judges who participated in our annual **Trash Art** contest, where we challenge high school students to create pieces of art out of plastic that can't be recycled. We were so proud to host the insightful speakers and innovative exhibitors to showcase their work and research with the hope of raising awareness about the importance of protecting our planet and building resilient communities.



Our day began as the high school students were setting up at their assigned spaces in the Mangrove Hall, and soon after our Keynote speaker Adam Roberti captivated the audience with his presentation about the critical work that the Xavier Cortada's Foundation is doing around South Florida. Imagine using the power of art to engage people to learn about environmental concerns and Climate Change. By viewing and understanding the foundation's art exhibits, concerned citizens in diversified communities will have a better understanding about the effects of rising tides, intense heat, and the environmental challenges that affect Florida's resources.



Once the audience was charged up after Adam's incredible presentation, they were sent off to explore the innovative and engaging exhibitors inside the Anne Kolb newly renovated exhibit hall (because of the dangerous weather outside, we had the opportunity to move the exhibitors inside). All I can say is how lucky we were to have such incredible exhibitors. Just to name a few: Green Thumb landscaping, along with Community Greening, brought in non- invasive plants and trees that play a crucial role in supporting South Florida's delicate ecosystems.













And the winners of the Art Contest for Earth Day 2024 are:



Third Place Winner – Kyla Gray



Second Place Winner – Kayla Londeree





Broward County  
Vice Mayor, Beam  
Furr

First Place Winner -  
Zofia Chmielewska

Zofia's Mom,  
Katarzyna  
Chmielewska



**Broward Sierra Group's Earth Day Plastic Waste Art Contest Judges.**

Left to right: Plantation's Councilmember Jennifer Andreu, Executive Director Cortada Foundation Adam Roberti, Lauderhill's Commissioner Melissa P. Dunn, Broward County Vice Mayor Beam Furr, Hollywood's Commissioner Idelma Quintana, Artist Stan Milov and Art Teacher Andy Ruffner

For more photos of the event, check out our: [Facebook Page](#)

Our coral reefs and oceans were represented by AECOM. They are working in conjunction with the University of Miami Reef Restoration program to create hybrid coral reefs. Friends of Our Florida Reef / DEP's Coral Reef Conservation Program shared their research about how they continue to monitor the health of Florida's delicate reef system. Their restoration projects, as well as the scientific based techniques they have established continue to support coral reef resilience and recovery. And, of course, the Sea Turtle Oversight Protection continues to monitor sea turtle nesting activity and hatchling rescue efforts along Broward County's coastline.



This year we welcomed the Broward County Resilient Environment Department and Natural Resources and Water Conservation whose efforts have developed and implemented water conservation and resilience programs to promote sustainable water practices. Wetland conservation is a huge effort that they are managing as well. We were so happy to have Elaine Franklin representing the City of Hollywood's Sustainability Advisory Committee, who advertised opportunities to our attendees to collaborate with other local organizations and government agencies to advance sustainability projects in Hollywood.



We had two composting organizations which included Compost for Life and Renüable who composted our event. Learning new practices such as composting contributes to sustainability and resilience in Broward. We welcomed back League of Women Voters, The Right to Clean Water and Noto2.org organizations because we always support their initiatives and partner with them to share their expertise so together, we can reach a



more sustainable future. Broward Clean Air and Adopt a Dune continue to better Broward's natural resources for generations to come.

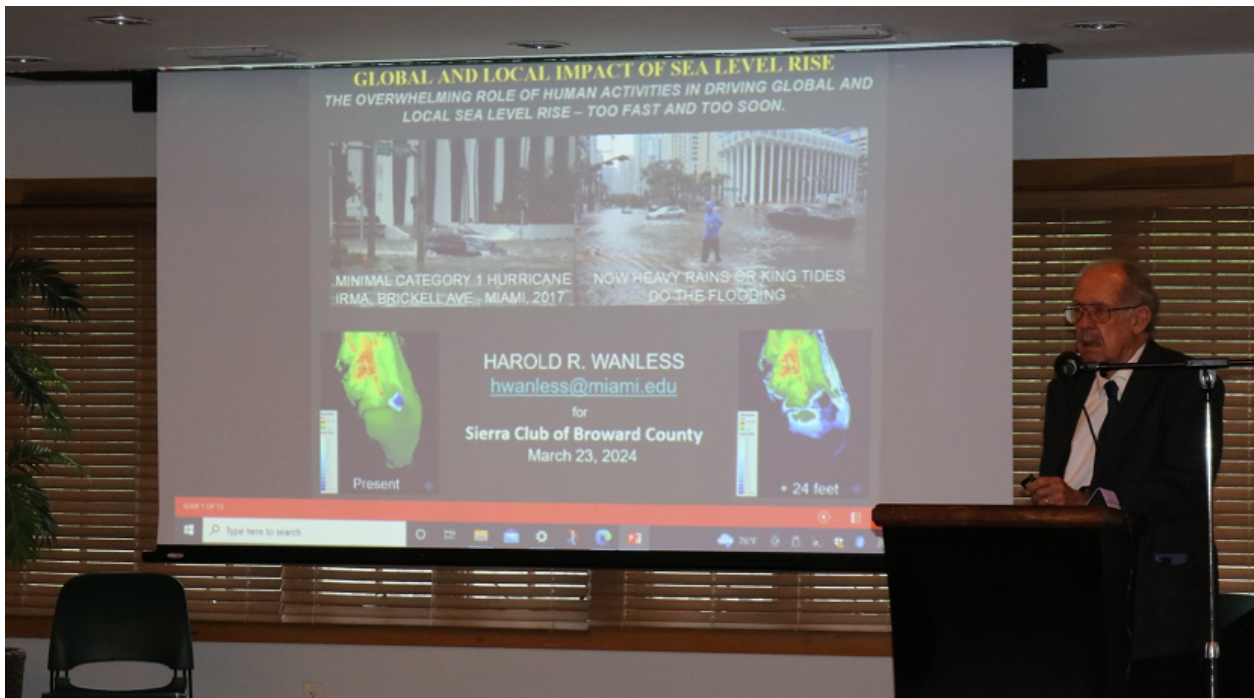
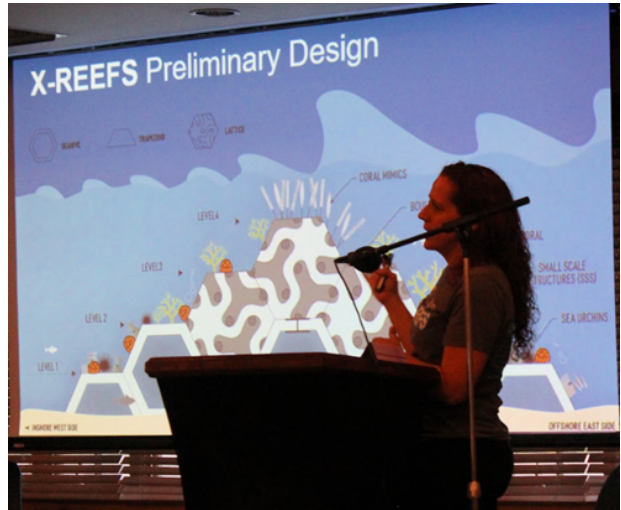


IKEA was our newest addition to represent a business that has adopted sustainability practices in their services to their customers. Friends of Anne Kolb kept the kids entertained with art projects, and our own Broward Sierra Group supported conservation efforts with interactive games and we showcased our new outstanding puzzle. The kids and families enjoyed putting the puzzle together, and understanding that our world's future is by choice.



Along with the outstanding speakers including Dr. Wanless who presented an overview of the health of our planet and oceans, and it was a somber eyeopener to many. But this is why we do Earth Day the Sierra club way, to win over commitments from our guests to become educated and more involved with our goals. Melissa Alexander, Vice President & Marine Turtle Permit Holder, Sea Turtle Oversight Protection did an inspirational presentation about sea turtles and finding balance between conservation and progress. Our final presentation was over the top! Tara Chadwick, and her 2 sons performed the Native American tradition - Papalotl (Butterfly) Project. Through dance and drumming they showed us how movements to music reflects the culture of the people, and it tells a story about how their folklore and lifestyles evolved. The audience participated and felt the passion of the music.









The wonderful music played by Sarah McCulloch and Raiford Starke in the exhibit hall created an atmosphere of bringing people together as they were exploring and connecting with the exhibitors. The food trucks were enjoyed by all. The general mood of the day was one of learning about living in an environment that is resilient and sustainable for future generations. This was our goal and we achieved it!



At the end of the day, I look back and I have to reflect about wonderful thoughts and especially much appreciation to the supportive volunteers who together made our Earth Day one to remember.

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## Right to Clean Water Petition 2024

### [THIS TIME LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!](#)

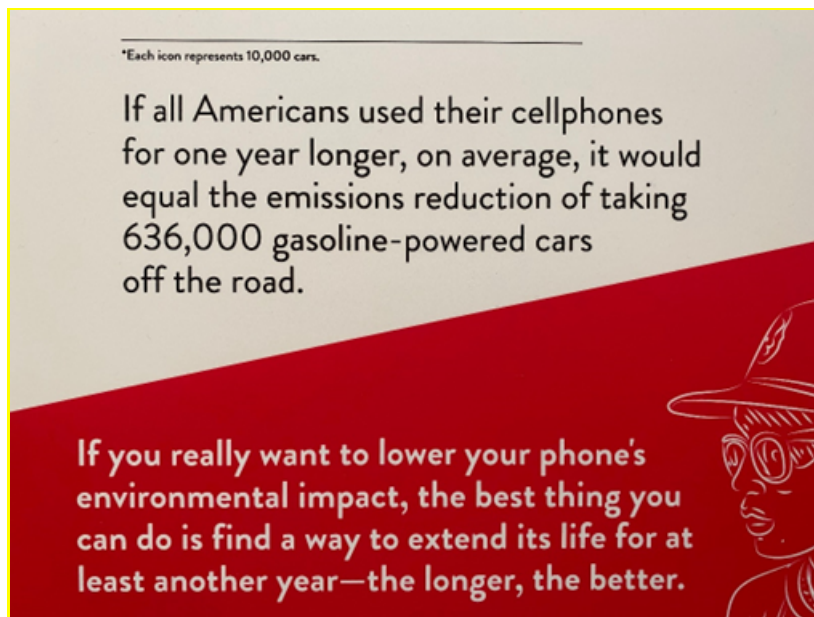
Hey Sierra members and non-members! Here is the [NEW RIGHT TO CLEAN WATER](#) petition for you to sign and send in. Even though you signed the old one last year, we need to start all over again with only the [NEW RTCW](#) petition's signatures.

Here's the website: [www.floridarighttocleanwater.org](http://www.floridarighttocleanwater.org)

Let's not miss this time and get it on the ballot in 2026!

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## Posted in the Smithsonian



## How to Control Your Sierra Emails

If you ever tire of the number of emails you get from the Sierra Club, please do NOT hit “unsubscribe” to our newsletter, The Bulletin.

That will cut you off from our newsletter as well as all the stuff you don't want. Instead, use the Manage Preferences option at the bottom of every email (even this one).

Once there, be sure to keep on subscribing to MY CHAPTER, the first option. The rest of the options? Decide for yourself.

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## From the Loxahatchee Group



Go to Sierra Club  
Loxahatchee [Website](#) for all  
our events

Join us for a Fascinating Zoom.

**What Does Water Want?**

**And Why We Must Learn to Respect That.**

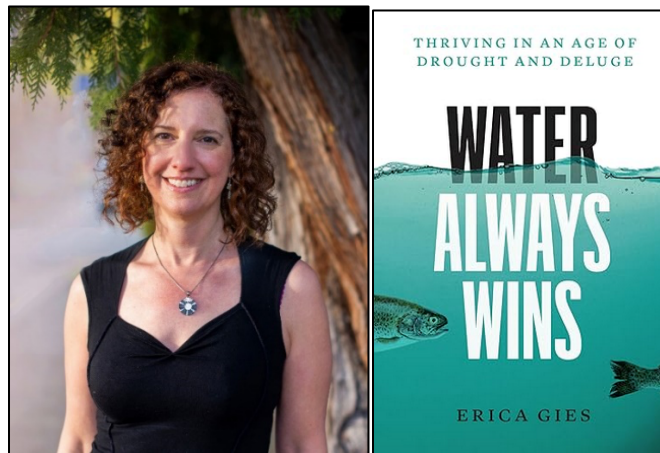


Photo credit to Jill Beale

**Thursday, May 23, 2024, 7:30 PM, Zoom Room opens at 7:15.**

**Program:** South Florida is already seeing sea-level rise, bigger rainstorms, and more frequent water scarcity, problems faced by much of the world. Climate change is definitely a factor, but another significant cause is human development choices: urban sprawl, industrial agriculture and forestry, and the highly engineered way we try to control water. We have erased much of water's natural slow phases -- wetlands, floodplains, meadows, and forests -- and that is altering the natural water cycle.

Yet sooner or later, as Erica's book makes clear, *Water Always Wins*. For us to win too, as climate change continues, we must move away from our controlling ways and instead seek out opportunities to work *with* water. That means fewer levees, canals, straightened rivers, and dams and more land returned to water for its natural processes. Putting ourselves first is no longer working, because we've undermined water's relationships and natural processes that sustain us.

**Speaker:** Erica Gies, author of [Water Always Wins: Thriving in an age of drought and deluge](#), winner of the Sierra Club's Rachel Carson Award for Excellence in Environmental Journalism.

Gies is an independent journalist and *National Geographic* Explorer who traveled to numerous places across the world to see how cutting-edge "slow water" practitioners are changing the culture of the human relationship with water, from oceans to rivers, wetlands, and more.

**[Register here](#) to receive the Zoom, Meeting ID and Call in Number.**

***We hope to see you at this informative meeting!***

## **Proclamation**

On April 17, 2024 Miramar's Mayor Wayne Messam presented Leah Weisburd, Chair of the Broward Sierra Group, with a Proclamation for forming a Junior Team of highschoolers, chaired by a dedicated Miramar resident, Anagha Iyer. In addition, Mayor Messam honored another Miramar resident, Kyla Gray, for being one of seventeen Broward high school students who participated in the fifth annual Broward Sierra Group's Earth Day plastic waste art contest, where she placed third and received the award of \$250.00 to further her education.





**Save the Date**

**NOAH SIEGEL-THE FRUITFUL FIELD ORGANIZATION**

**Thursday JUNE 6, 2024, 7pm-8:30pm Virtually -Stay tuned-might be changed to hybrid!**



**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q00002JuZGAA0>

**TOPIC: Regenerative Agriculture**