

Broward Sierra Rews

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FLORIDA EMBRACES 21ST CENTURY ENERGY POLICY Governor Crist Leads with Executive Order

- By George Cavros, Conservation Chair



With the stroke of a pen, Governor Crist ushered in a brave new energy future for Florida. On July 13, 2007 at a Climate Summit held in Miami, he signed Executive Orders 07-126, 127 and 128 that will ultimately provide the state more energy security, create jobs and protect the environment for future generations.

The Governor cited global climate change as one of the most important issues facing Florida and he committed Florida to becoming a leader in reducing greenhouse gases (GHG) in the preamble to the executive orders. In furtherance of that policy, he mandated executive agencies to promulgate the following rules and regulations:

* Immediate adoption of rules by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that reduce GHG emissions throughout the state to 2000 levels by 2017, to 1990 levels by 2025, and by 2050 reduce GHG levels to 80% of 1990 emissions.

Broward Sierra Programs

Wednesday, Sept. 5th: Practical Energy Solutions for the Home. Presented by Paul Farren, the owner and CEO of the Energy Store in Hollywood, Florida. Paul is a member of the Hollywood Green Team Advisory Commission and is regularly interviewed by television, newspaper and internet



media on renewable energy and sustainability issues.

The meeting and program will be held at the Anne Kolb Nature Center in Hollywood (see map on next page). This month we will meet in the Exhibition Hall instead of the Mangrove Hall where we usually meet.

Tuesday, Oct. 2nd: Wilderness 99. An exciting and stunningly beautiful video presentation by Pat Welsh, on his 2005 solo kayak trip along 99 miles of rivers and bays of the Wilderness Waterway in the Everglades.



The meeting and program will be held at the Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Rd. S., Coconut Creek

Doors open at 7:00 PM. Committee reports begin at 7:30, and the program begins at 8:00. The meeting is open to the public at no charge.

- * The Public Service Commission is charged with adopting a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) that requires electric utilities to produce at least 20% of their electricity from renewable sources with a strong emphasis on wind and solar (joining 22 other states with a RPS).
- * Beginning with the 2009 model year, automakers will have to reduce GHG pollutants, such as carbon dioxide, by 25% for cars and 18% for sport utility vehicles, and the adoption of a statewide diesel idling reduction standard.
- * The PSC must allow consumers to generate their own electricity and sell it back to the utility at the retail rate (net metering).
- * The state building commission must rewrite building codes to increase energy performance of new construction by 15% from the 2007 Florida Energy Code for Building Construction by January 1, 2009.
- * A Governor-appointed Action Team on Energy and Climate will be appointed to make recommendations by November 1, 2007 to implement a cap and trade approach to reducing GHG emissions and propose strategies for coordination of energy policy in Florida.
- * State agencies and departments will have to reduce GHG emissions faster than the rest of the state: 10% from current levels by 2012, 25% lower than current levels by 2017, and 40% lower than current levels by 2025 thereby leading by example.

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We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Why not join us right now? Come along on an outing. Get involved, learn about local issues and how they affect you and your community. Just use the membership form on the back cover.



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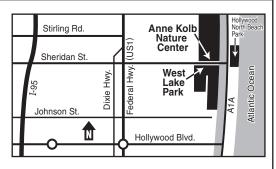
Membership Corrections -

To expedite any membership change (new addresses, etc.) or problems with your membership records please send your name, member number, old and new address or problem to:

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If further assistance is needed, please contact your local Membership Chair, Andrea Saifman 954-817-1749.

Broward Sierra Club's General Meetings are held the first Tuesday or Wednesday of every month (See schedule below). This month's meeting and program will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 5th at the Anne Kolb Nature Center. Take I-95 to the Sheridan St. exit. Go East past Federal Hwy. The entrance to Anne Kolb Nature Center will be on your left (About 1/2 mile after the sign for West Lake Park on the right, before the Intracoastal Bridge - see map). Doors open at 7:00 PM. Committee reports begin at 7:30, and the program begins at 8:00. The meeting is open to the public at no charge.



Next month's meeting will be back at the Fern Forest Nature Center.

Executive Committee Meetings

Held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm, in room 430a of the Broward County Governmental Center. For details call Barbara Curtis at 954-946-7359 or e-mail her at Legalbarb@aol.com.

GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE AND LOCATIONS

In order to make our meetings more accessible to members in both the Northern and Southern parts of Broward County, we will be meeting at Anne Kolb Nature Center on the first Wednesday of every odd numbered month, and at the Fern Forest Nature Center the first Tuesday of every even numbered month.

Wed., September 5th: Anne Kolb Tues., October 2nd: Fern Forest

Wed., November 7th: Anne Kolb Tues., December 4th: Fern Forest

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Governor Crist, continued from page 1

I have often criticized state policy makers for their inability to think "outside the box" in creating a "clean energy economy" that would diversify Florida's economic base while helping to reverse the worst impact of global climate change. Not anymore. Crist's executive orders are everything we could have hoped for and more. Carl Hiaasen, of the Miami Herald, may have stated it best when he wrote: "it's official: Charlie Crist is the un-Jeb . . . regardless of party affiliation, people want their children to have breathable air and drinkable water — and they'll support candidates who feel the same way." Crist, a populist politician, understands his constituents' genuine concern about climate change and its impact on future generations — and acted on it.



The Climate Summit was the culmination of years of hard work by state-wide environmental groups in promoting clean energy policies, coupled with the election of a forward-thinking governor. The Summit also featured a rousing speech by Robert

F. Kennedy, Jr. attacking corporate polluters – focusing on how dirty utilities have gotten a "free ride" by letting society "pick up the tab" for negative environmental and health impacts on the ground caused by utility pollution. The finale also featured Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger of California. The "Terminator" remarked, "it's time to say 'hasta la vista' to greenhouse gases." He warned that Crist's bold initiatives would be attacked. Unfortunately, Schwarzenegger was right.

Not long after the Climate Summit, Florida House Speaker, Marco Rubio (R-Miami), focused his

criticism in an editorial on the costs of moving to a clean energy economy. Rubio failed to explore the cost of inaction, of business as usual. What Crist understands is that global warming is one of the most important issues we face this century and that Florida is particularly vulnerable to the impacts. The crisis is so compelling that anything short of a major shift in the way we produce and consume energy will not be enough.

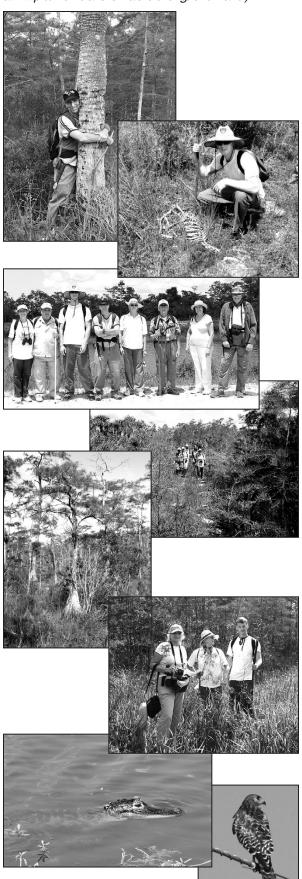
In October 2006, Nicholas Stern, former World Bank chief economist, released a report for the British government. He found that prudent action today would cost less than adapting to a warming world. His conclusion is that if we don't act, "the overall costs and risks of climate change will be equivalent to losing at least 5 percent of global Gross Domestic Product each year, now and forever. If a wider range of risks and impacts is taken into account, the estimates of damage could rise to 20 percent of GDP or more."

It is a mistake to assume that emissions reductions will result in rising electric costs. According to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, policy changes to promote efficiency (such as those in the Governor's executive orders) can help Florida consumers save up to \$25 billion in lower electric bills and simultaneously create up to 12,000 new jobs over the next 15 years. The cheapest kilowatt-hour is the one not used.

Now that the Governor has laid the framework for a clean energy future, the bigger challenge lies ahead in ensuring that the executive agencies issue rules that effectively carry out the Governor's mandates. This will require the continued diligence of the environmental community. As you've come to expect, the Sierra Club will continue to keep you informed as Florida positions itself as a national leader on clean energy.

PHOTO GALLERY

June 2007 Everglades Addition Lands Hike (For more photos, see Sierra Tales on our webiste at http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward)



Local Sierra Group Outings

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

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SEPT. 1 - 3, SAT. - MON. (LABOR DAY WEEKEND) THE CLYDE BUTCHER FESTIVAL, EVERGLADES CITY. Explore this funky city, "Smallwood's store", the historic Everglades Rod & Gun Lodge, tour the areas near 10,000 Islands on the National Park's fleet, or fish, canoe, kayak or slumber. It's all up to you. Limit 16. We'll share the rooms and their cost, approx. \$ 25 to \$50 a night. Leader: Barbara Curtis, 954-946-7359

Assist: TBA.

OUTINGS LEADER TRAINING EVENT

SEPT. 29, SAT. OUTINGS LEADER TRAINING 101 AND **102.** 9:30am to 5:30pm. These are the mandatory classes required to become a Sierra Club Outings Leader. It's also a refresher course for leaders to update their certifications, and is open to members from all counties in South Florida. *Cost: free, lunch included*. Central Broward location to be announced.

Leaders: Charles Hunt <sierra@smartsolutions.com> and Judy Kuchta, 954-924-5001 <judykuchta@yahoo.com>



Oct. 7, Sun. Broward Group Outings Leader Planning Day. 10:30am to 2:30pm. Outings Leaders get together and plan the Group's outings for the rest of 2007 and into the summer of 2008. Non-leaders are welcome too. Location TBA. *Cost: Free.* Leader: Judy Kuchta, 954-924-5001 < judykuchta@yahoo.com>



Oct. 6 - 8, Sat. - Mon. Discover Beautiful Oleta River
State Park. Paddle down the river towards the bay plus enjoy a

leisurely trail walk at nearby Greynolds Park. Camaraderie 'round the campfire and spend cool nights in the air-conditioned group cabins. Rated moderate. Limit 8. Cost: \$100 members, \$130 non-members.

Leader: Alan Nowell, 305-253-4250 <mrhitnmiss@aol.com> Asst: Kaatje Bernabei, 305-223-6551 <kaatjebernabei@bellsouth.net>



Oct. 13, Sat. Urban Bicycling in the Lantana Area. 8am. Rated leisure. Limit 20. *Cost: Free*. Leader: Ron Haines, 561-964-1995 <RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net>



Oct. 27 - 28, Sat. - Sun. Jonathan Dickinson State Park Camping. Join us for car camping, hiking and canoeing and BBQ. Rated leisure. Limit 10. *Cost:* \$25 members, \$30 non-members. Leader: Ed Zaret, 305-586-3564

We would like to invite you to come on one of our fine educational outings! If you have any questions about an outing, you can check with the certified Broward Sierra Outing Leader in charge of the outing. Some of the outings need no experience; others require some level of proficiency. All participants in Sierra Club outings 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>.

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

You may call the Sierra Hotline for updates at 954-567-2841 LOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE: http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward



SIERRA CLUB HATS & TOTES



Sierra Club apparel is created with organic cotton, renewable resources, and technical synthetics produced to have the least impact on the environment!

The Sierra Club black twill cap has a fabric closure, adjustable brass buckle and hideaway closure with the Sierra Club logo embroidered in white on the front. Price: \$7.

The waterproof Sierra Club Excursion/Tote Bag is gray with black trim and is ideal for shopping or camping/beach trips. With convenient top zipper, comfortable shoulder straps and tasteful Sierra Club logo on the side. Price: \$10.

Purchase both cap and tote as a "set" for \$15! Please add shipping and handling costs: \$3.50 for 1st item, \$1 for each additional item (please note that each "set" counts as 2 items). Please allow approx. 10 to 20 days for delivery. Due to incredibly discounted pricing we are unable to offer exchanges; returns accepted only for defective merchandise. Please include your check made out to "Broward Sierra Club" along with this order form, and mail to: Broward Sierra Club, PO Box 350432, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335.

Name:	
Address:	
City/State/Zipcode: _	

Qty	Item	Price/each	Shipping	Price/total
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	Tote	\$10		
	Hat & Tote Set	\$15		
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FLORIDA HOMETOWN DEMOCRACY

We have until January, 2008 to collect 611,000 verified Florida Hometown Democracy petitions in order to make the November 2008 ballot.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce has vowed to destroy the Florida Hometown Democracy initiative with a \$65,000,000 campaign! Yes, that's millions.

The Chamber has also created a Trojan horse petition called "Florida Growth Management Initiative Giving Citizens the Right to Decide Local Growth Management Changes."

Be sure not to sign that petition, thinking it's the Florida Hometown Democracy petition. Please spread the word so that others will not be fooled.

If you haven't yet signed the FHD petition, there was a copy of it in the Summer Florida Chapter newsletter, The Pelican. You can also print the petition from the FHD website <www. floridahometowndemocracy.com>. Please sign the petition, make or print out copies, and get at least 4 friends or family members to sign them (if they are registered Florida voters). Return the signed petitions, and please make even a \$10 donation, to:

Florida Hometown Democracy, Inc.

P.O. Box 636

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Double size ad (3-3/4" x 4")	\$95	\$255
1/2 page ad (7-3/4" x 5")	\$195	\$525

If you would like to place an ad, please contact Max Goldstein at 954-296-3411 or email him at <maxgold@yahoo.com>.