

Broward Sierra News



SIERRA CLUB

FOUNDED 1892

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DEC 2009 / JAN 2010

SIERRANS BIKE HIKE IN DAVIE

– By Phil Busey, Broward Sierra Conservation Committee Chair

On a breezy Saturday in November, a dozen Sierra Club members and friends bicycled 8 miles through western Davie.



Our bike hike was organized by Sierra Outings Leader Jackie Fisher, who started us off with a sumptuous brunch at Robbins Open Space Preserve. We bicycled the Westridge-Robbins Park trail

between pristine estates and rough agricultural lands, and Linear Park Trail alongside the C-11 canal. We visited Broward County's Long Key Nature Center and saw historical areas open only by prior arrangement. Long Key is one of Seven Islands of Sam Jones, and one of the few permanently dry areas when Davie was entirely within the Everglades.

With over 160 miles of recreational and equestrian trails, Davie residents successfully fought to maintain green areas accessible to the public. Davie's 700 acres of parks and open space include two large Broward County parks with bike and equestrian trails, Tree Tops Park and the brand new Vista View Park, which has a mountain bike trail. Other preservation areas, the Farm Park, Sunny Lake, and the Van Kirk property have recently been protected under the Town of Davie's 2005 Open Space Bond Referendum, and Broward County's 1989 Open Space Bond, and by grants from the Trust for Public Land and the Florida Communities Trust.

Davie's open space preservation has also been helped by the Davie Area Land Trust, a not-for-profit organization preserving historical and agricultural land, wildlife habitat, and scenic preserves. In accord with state statutes, property owners can voluntarily grant a conservation easement to a governmental body or charitable corporation or trust, to retain land or water in its natural state and eternally restrict future use of a property, while benefiting from a property tax deferral. With the largest land area of any city in Broward, and low population density, Davie will stay green only with relentless effort.

Preservation areas, while protecting water and wildlife, have opponents. Some voters say that too much tax money is spent on conservation easements and parks used only by a few horse riders. The preservation view is that green space is not only irreplaceable, it improves nearby property values and increases taxable valuations, thereby reducing taxes for others. Besides, all who choose to can use the parks. There have been issues with the agricultural classification, but overall, with good enforcement of the law, much land has been permanently spared from development.

Using the Broward County Bicycle Suitability Map, you would not realize that the Town of Davie has many additional miles of recreational trails suitable for bicycle use. Several Davie recreational trails interconnect with trails and bicycle routes in other cities. According to mapmyride.com there are a number of Broward bike rides from 1 to 100 miles using Davie trails.



We completed our short journey on the Robbins-Vista View Trail, another paved trail not normally known to outsiders, but marked on brochures available at the Town Clerk's office.

If you believe in saving what's left of Broward, call me at 954-579-3932 or email philip@busey.org.

<http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrowardSierra>

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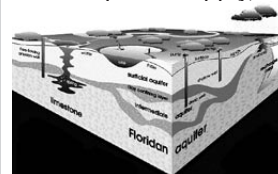
We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Why not join us right now? Come along on an outing. Get involved, learn about local issues and how they affect you and your community. Just use the membership form on the back cover.

Broward Sierra Programs

Thursday, Dec. 3rd: Annual Broward Sierra holiday party and pot luck dinner. Please bring main dish, salad or dessert (beverages will be supplied). We will also be having raffles for Sierra Club t-shirts, bags, caps, water bottles, etc. (Raffle tickets are \$3 each or \$5 for 2.) **Please join us at 7pm for this evening of fun, food, conversation, and great raffles.**



Thursday, Jan. 7th: "Hydrogeology and Groundwater Use in Southeastern Florida." Ronald Resse (Hydrologist, U.S. Geological Survey, Florida Water Science Center) has studied and mapped the aquifers in southeastern Florida over the last 20 years. The primary aquifers include the Biscayne and Floridan. This discussion will include the basics of the aquifer systems and confining units, the various groundwater uses for public supply, and how they have evolved. Uses



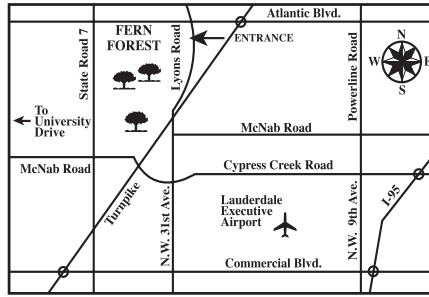
include direct withdrawal with minimal treatment, withdrawal of brackish water with treatment by reverse osmosis, and aquifer storage and recovery.

The Meetings are held at the Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Rd. S., Coconut Creek (see map on next page). 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.

Broward Sierra Club General Meetings

Broward Sierra Club's General Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at the Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Road South, Coconut Creek, just south of Atlantic Blvd. on the west side of the street. (Between Atlantic and Commercial Blvds., Lyons Road, south of Atlantic is the same street as NW 31st Ave., north of Commercial). **Make sure to check our website for changes.**

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.



Executive Committee Meetings

Second Tuesday of each month. Contact Brion Blackwelder at 954-262-6135 for time and location.

The Broward Sierra News is published every other month. To keep you apprised of current Broward Sierra Club events, we will have them all listed on our website: <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>. If you would like to receive reminders of these events e-mailed to you, you will need to **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 other Yahoo newsgroups, of which there are many.



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

The Broward Sierra Club Leaders

- Executive Committee Chair**
Brion Blackwelder 954-262-6135
- Secretary**
Louis Serra 954-442-0880
- Treasurer**
Max Goldstein 954-296-3411
- Conservation Chair**
Phil Busey 954-579-3932
- Marine Issues / Energy Issues Chair**
Pedro Monteiro 954-525-3324
- Political Chair**
Matthew Schwartz 954-865-4306
- Legal Chair**
Mara Shlackman 954-523-1131
- Everglades Chair**
Matthew Schwartz 954-865-4306
- Outings Chair**
Judy Kuchta 954-924-5001
- Education Chair**
Ina Topper 954-722-9944
- Fundraising Chair**
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- Membership Chair**
Andrea Saifman 954-817-1749
- Volunteer Coordinator**
Anita Lind 954-983-3709
- Program Chair**
Barbara Curtis 954-946-7359
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- Newsletter & Web Site**
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Open - to volunteer, contact
Max Goldstein 954-296-3411

Broward Sierra News is published every other month for the members of the Broward County Group, Florida Chapter of the Sierra Club. Subscriptions are available for non-members. Send inquiries to: **Broward Sierra News**, P.O. Box 350432, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335

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: **Member Services**, 85 Second Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3441. 415-977-5653 or e-mail changes@sierraclub.org or membership.services@sierraclub.org. If further assistance is needed, please contact your local Membership Chair, Andrea Saifman 954-817-1749.



Broward Sierra Executive Committee Election Ballot

MUST BE POSTMARKED BY DECEMBER 31, 2009.

Please vote for up to 4 candidates.

4 people will be elected to the EXCOM board this year. The Nominating Committee has selected 4 candidates. If you have a joint membership, both members should select candidates for office by using the "First Member" and "Second Member" spaces. When you have completed your ballot, **clip on the dotted line** and mail to:

Broward Sierra Club,
P.O. Box 350432, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335

All valid ballots must have either a printed newsletter mailing label on the reverse side or your membership number in the space provided:

Membership number:

Please vote for up to 4 candidates

	First Member	Second Member (if applicable)
Brion Blackwelder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Phil Busey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew Schwartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ina Topper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Write-in Candidates

_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Please print your name in the space of any volunteer positions you would be interested in.

Fundraising Chair _____

Newsletter Mailing Coordinator _____

Program Coordinator _____

Outings Leader _____

TELL DEP HOW TO RECYCLE 75%

— By Dwight Adams, Florida Sierra Club Waste Minimization Committee Chair

The 2008 legislature charged the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to submit recommendations to the Legislature by January 1, 2010 on how to achieve 75% recycling of municipal solid waste (MSW) by 2020.

DEP's recommendations (posted at www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/recyclinggoal75) are not adequate to reach 75%, even if the rate is artificially inflated by counting incinerated MSW as recycling. [At the time of this printing, we do not yet know what happened at the November 5, 2009 hearing in Tallahassee.]

Mandatory recycling in the commercial sector must be followed with a timetable for source separation of all recyclables by all waste generators, to include multi-unit housing within two years, and single-family housing within four years. We already ban disposal of batteries, tires, motor oil, fluorescent bulbs, etc. It's the only way to keep these materials out of landfills and incinerators — think voluntary speed limits. Yes, enforcement with fines for violations will be necessary.

DEP recognizes the importance of organics recycling to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from methane generation in landfills that is 25 times more harmful than CO₂. The DEP recommendation to capture landfill gas is a backend solution that should be replaced by one that keeps organics out of landfills in the first place.

15%-25% of MSW is organics, consisting of food, food-soiled paper, and other items suitable for biodegradation by anaerobic

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DEP, continued from previous page

digestion (AD) or composting. AD of organic MSW would produce about 500 MW of



power statewide, enough for 400,000 homes. Compost is valuable for landscaping, mulching, and as a planting medium in environmental horticulture.

Disposal of organics by grocery stores and the food industry should be banned beginning in 2015 to give jurisdictions time to establish biological treatment facilities. Collection of organics is the essential feature of all recycling programs throughout the country that achieve high recycling rates – 75% cannot be reached without it.

Counties will need State assistance to build the infrastructure to handle 75% recycling provided through a \$2/ton surcharge on landfilled waste and unredeemed deposits on beverage containers.

What you can do:

- Contact Mike Sole, DEP Secretary, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., M.S. 49, Tallahassee, FL 32399, and tell him DEP's preliminary recommendations must be strengthened.
- Write a letter to your newspaper.
- Go to <http://depflorida.com>, join the forum and voice your opinions.

FLORIDA HOMETOWN DEMOCRACY AND AMMENDMENT 4

floridahometowndemocracy.com

The new Florida Hometown Democracy web site is up and a must see. You can follow up on lead-ins to a number of news stories from around the state. Especially look at the top link for Campaign Materials; you will find downloads for bumper strips, t-shirts, yard signs and the FHD slide show in two formats. There are also links to You Tube videos about FHD.

Everything you need is there to get actively engaged in saving Florida from further ravages by the growth industry. **Opponents of Amendment 4 continue to broadcast disinformation and we need folks to counter at every opportunity.** Use the comment option to challenge the lies that you see in news stories, columns, op-eds and on blogs.

Kick-off events have been taking place all over the state. FHD is gearing up to alert and arouse our citizens to participate in actions that began once our ballot initiative was approved for the November 2, 2010 ballot. The momentum must continue!

Local Sierra Group Outings

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



NOV. 28, SAT. HIKE THE BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE WILDERNESS TRAIL. We'll hike 8 miles on a wilderness trail off a section of the Florida National Scenic Trail, north of Alligator Alley (about 50 minutes from Downtown Ft. Lauderdale). You will learn the difference a few inches of elevation makes to the local flora, as you trek through cypress forest, hammocks and prairie. Rated leisurely w/ identification of birds, wildflowers and butterflies. Bring your own lunch, which we'll eat on the trail. *Cost: \$3 members, \$5 non-members.* (Broward Group) Leader: Kathleen Rhoad 954-627-2665 <katrhoad@prodigy.net>



DEC. 4 - 6, FRI. - SUN. BAHIA HONDA STATE PARK CAMPING. Enjoy the beautiful beach, the fresh air, visit Key West and relax before the hustle and bustle of the holidays. Limit 6. Adults only. Rated leisure. *Cost: approx. \$65 to \$85.* (Broward Group) Leader: Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com>



DEC. 6, SUN. SWAMPWALK AND HIKE IN THE BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE ADDITION LANDS. Sierra hikes in the beautiful Addition Lands of Big Cypress continue with about 5 - 6 miles of walking through mixed terrain. Depending on how much rainfall we've had, you'll probably get your feet wet. But you'll also have lots of fun experiencing a true wilderness area in Broward's backyard. Rated moderate difficulty. *Cost: \$4 members, \$5 non-members.* (Broward Group) Leader: Matt Schwartz <matthew3222@yahoo.com>



DEC. 19, SAT. HIKE THE BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE WILDERNESS TRAIL. We'll hike 8 miles on a wilderness trail off a section of the Florida National Scenic Trail, north of Alligator Alley (about 50 minutes from Downtown Ft. Lauderdale). You will learn the difference a few inches of elevation makes to the local flora, as you trek through cypress forest, hammocks and prairie. Rated leisurely w/ identification of birds, wildflowers and butterflies. Bring your own lunch, which we'll eat on the trail. *Cost: \$3 members, \$5 non-members.* (Broward Group) Leader: Kathleen Rhoad 954-627-2665 <katrhoad@prodigy.net>



JAN. 10, SUN. HIKE THE BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE WILDERNESS TRAIL. See Dec. 19. (Broward Group) Leader: Kathleen Rhoad 954-627-2665 <katrhoad@prodigy.net>



JAN. 15TH - 18TH, FRI. - SUN. SOUTHWEST FLORIDA BIRDING & WILDLIFE FESTIVAL at Rookery Bay near Naples. At the Rookery there's kayaking, guided walks, a boat trip, plus speakers who cover wildlife from eagles to panthers to wading birds are featured. We'll tent camp at Collier Seminole Fri. and Sat. night. There are many nature walks, including an early morning trip to a marsh area. Previously we saw 16 different species of birds, including Roseate Spoonbills, Osprey, Ducks, Coots, and Herons of all kinds. We could even hear Sand Hill Cranes. Later we saw eagles fighting over nesting sites. *Cost: members \$75, non-members \$85.* Must be paid in advance. (Broward Group) Leader: Barbara Curtis 954-946-7359 <legalbarb@aol.com>



JAN. 24, SUN. HIKE AND SWAMPWALK IN THE SELDOM EXPLORED ADDITION LANDS SOUTH OF I-75. This is an area of marshes, sable palm hammocks and of course cypress - one of the most pristine areas remaining in all of South Florida. As in the December hike, water conditions will depend on how wet it's been - but expect to get wet. About 5 - 6 miles. Rated moderate difficulty. *Cost: \$4 members, \$5 non-members.* (Broward Group) Leader: Matt Schwartz <matthew3222@yahoo.com>



FEB. 6, SAT. HIKE THE BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE WILDERNESS TRAIL. See Dec. 19. (Broward Group) Leader: Kathleen Rhoad 954-627-2665 <katrhoad@prodigy.net>

Check our website for changes or newly scheduled outings.
(Click on "Outings and Events" at <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>)

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>. Florida Seller of Travel Ref. No. ST37115

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

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

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, RECYCLERS

– By Ina Oost Topper, Broward Sierra Club Education Chair

I'd like to talk a little bit about all the 'stuff' we buy for the holidays, often to be discarded after use. For instance, THIS time around, how about reusing the many sheets of aluminum foil (which only covered the turkeys ever so lightly) for wrapping up the left over turkey meat, veggies, rolls and, with foil that looks hardly used, the big chunks of cake, pies, cookies etc. You'll find that not only does it save some pocket change in these meager times, but with so many leftovers, all those big plastic containers might not fit in the fridge as easily as tightly wrapped foil items. As for decorations, I just gathered a whole bunch of orange colored, half burned Halloween candles from different spots and they'll look great in a harvest themed centerpiece for the dining table or elsewhere in the house at Thanksgiving. As for the multicolored ribbons, decorations or other related items you may use for festivities in December, JUST know the red stuff (esp. paper ribbons) can be rolled up (around a pencil for instance) to magically reappear for your Valentine's Day party. And all the green stuff can be kept, just to reappear at a St. Patrick's day get together. As for all the giftwrapping, may I suggest looking at www.tightwad.com (environmentally friendly and creatively decorated brown bags, coffee cans, chocolate boxes, etc.) What impressed me greatly, just the other day, was the arts & crafts class at an assisted living facility where the residents were busy stringing used styrofoam cups, upside down and painted, to be used as garlands in the dining hall. How about THAT as a preholiday activity for the kids? I'm sure y'all will have more ideas, we'd just like to get you thinking: less waste, better environment AND saving some dollars in the process. And the leftover sparklers and legally obtained small fireworks after New Year's Eve? DON'T just waste them by using them a few days later; store them in an airtight (recycled) cookie tin. There's always the 4th of July, 5 months & 4 days later! Happy environmentally-friendly holidays to all!



THE FLORIDA SIERRA CLUB WASTE MINIMIZATION COMMITTEE WISHES YOU A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

Please remember to BRING YOUR OWN BAGS every time you shop as your gift to the Earth. Be an environmental trendsetter - the more places you use your own bag and the more people who see, the more it will inspire others to do the same!

DAN S. ARNOLD III

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ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR

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Fax: (954) 462-1335
dan@danarnoldlaw.com

ADVERTISE IN THE BROWARD SIERRA NEWS

Placing an ad in the Broward Sierra News does more than reach thousands of local, environmentally sensitive readers. It also helps to offset the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter, making it possible to continue to alert you to issues of local importance and the actions you can take, as well as inform you of events, outings and meetings of the Broward Group of the Sierra Club.



	<u>1 issue</u>	<u>3 issues</u>
Business card size ad (3-3/4" x 2")	\$55	\$150
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.

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) _____

Check enclosed, payable to Sierra Club Mastercard Visa AmEx

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



	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT		INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
Introductory	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25		Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49	Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

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P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968

DONATE TO THE SIERRA CLUB BROWARD GROUP



You can donate directly to our environmental work here in Broward County. Your donation will support our county-wide environmental programs, including our efforts to protect Florida panther habitat in South Florida. Contributions and gifts to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.

Please make your check payable to:

Broward Group of the Sierra Club

Mail your donation to: Broward Group of the Sierra Club,
PO Box 350432, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335