

THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE

This is the last issue of the printed newsletter that you will receive. To receive the electronic newsletter:

1. Verify that your email address is in the Sierra Club database by sending it to: philip@busey.org
2. Whitelist, or remove from your bulk mail folder, mail sent: "To: Sierra Club - Broward County Group <alert@sierraclub.org>"

If you do not have email, please call Phil Busey at 954-579-3932 or send a letter to: Broward Sierra, PO Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355 The ExCom will attempt to accommodate those who do not have email.



Broward Sierra News



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Vol. XXXIII No. 4 AUG. / SEPT. 2011

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

Graphic design & layout by www.carolewalsh.com
Printing by The Press Room
3721 SW 47 Ave. #301, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314
(954) 792-6729 • www.thepressroom.net



Recycled paper, soy ink

SIERRA CLUB / BROWARD COUNTY
P.O. Box 550561
Davie, FL 33355

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SAY NO TO POWERLINES ACROSS EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

– by Matthew Schwartz, Broward Sierra Conservation Chair
matthew3222@yahoo.com

On June 22nd, Sierra Club members joined the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), Clean Water Action, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, Tropical and South Florida Audubon, South Florida Wildlands, as well as local students and environmentalists, to say NO to Florida Power and Light (FPL) powerlines across Everglades National Park. The meeting was held at the west campus of F.I.U. and was conducted by the National Park Service (NPS).



In a nutshell – FPL owns an old utility corridor inside the current park boundary which was supposed to have been acquired by the NPS years ago. Now anxious to use this corridor to bring electricity from an expanded Turkey Point nuclear plant to Broward and other points north, FPL has resisted all attempts to acquire this corridor. Instead, the plan they favor is to give up the existing corridor in exchange for the current eastern edge of the park (originally acquired to allow for the ecological restoration of the East Everglades and Shark River Slough).

The FPL proposal calls for 3 sets of powerlines up to 150 feet tall and carrying as much as 500,000 volts of electricity each. Likely

Continued on page 2

We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Why not join us right now? Come along on an outing. Get involved, learn about local environmental issues and how they affect you and your community. Just use the form on the back page, or go to our website at <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>, and click on the "Become a member" link.

Broward Sierra Club's General Meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month at the Fern Forest Nature Center. In addition to committee reports, each month we have an educational program on conservation or ecological issues.

DIRECTIONS:

The Fern Forest Nature Center is located at 201 Lyons Road South, Coconut Creek, just south of Atlantic Blvd. on the west side of the street. (If you are coming from the south, NW 31 Ave. becomes NW 46 Ave., and then Lyons Rd., as you pass under the turnpike). **Make sure to check our website for changes or updates of the programs.**

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.

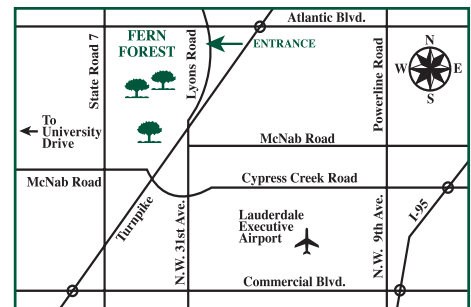
Sunday, August 7th: Annual Picnic

at John U. Lloyd Park, Dania Beach - Pelican Pavilion
- 11 am to 6 pm (See Outings on page 3)



Thursday, Sept. 1st: A Presentation by Kelli Whitney, naturalist for Long Key Nature Center and Tree Tops Park, on the history, activities, and general information about the parks. (See page 3 for information on our outings in these beautiful natural areas here in Broward County.)

Thursday, Oct. 6th: Robert Hartsell will be speaking about Nova University's Environmental Law Program, which he heads.





The Broward Sierra Club Leaders

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philip@busey.org

Vice Chair

Ina Topper 954-722-9944
irtopper2000@cs.com

Treasurer

Max Goldstein 954-296-3411
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Secretary

Open

Conservation Chair

Matthew Schwartz 954-634-7173
matthew3222@yahoo.com

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Ina Topper 954-722-9944
irtopper2000@cs.com

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Mara Shlackman 954-523-1131
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Outings Chair

Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913
judykuchta@yahoo.com

Political Chair

Brion Blackwelder 954-262-6135
blackwelderb@nsu.law.nova.edu

Program Chair

Barbara Curtis 954-946-7359
legalbarb2@yahoo.com

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carole_walsh@comcast.net

Executive Committee Meetings

are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month. Contact Phil Busey at 954-579-3932 or philip@busey.org for time and location.

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 550561, Davie, FL 33355

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. Phone 415-977-5653 or e-mail: <address.changes@sierraclub.org> or <membership.services@sierraclub.org>

The Broward Sierra News will be available every other month in electronic format. Additionally, to keep you apprised of current Broward Sierra Club events, they will be 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 any of the other numerous Yahoo groups.

FPL, continued from page 1

ecological impacts include damage to sensitive wetlands, impacts on wildlife and endangered species (including bird collisions and electrocutions), and the spread of invasive plant species throughout the area. The scenery of the unique and beautiful sawgrass prairies of the east Everglades would be marred forever.



Endangered wood stork colony along the proposed FPL powerline route.

Photo by Matt Schwartz

You can help. The Sierra Club fully supports **ALTERNATIVE 3**

"FPL property would be acquired by direct purchase or, as a last resort, by condemnation by the NPS. There would not be any construction of transmission lines and associated fill pads or access roads in the Expansion Area."

If you receive this newsletter before July 25th, please go online and enter some brief comments on the public comment form available at www.tinyurl.com/5s5deua

The 5 questions asked by National Park Service on their comment form are completely optional. You can skip right to the open comment box and let our federal employees know – in your own words – how you feel about this issue. More detailed information can be found on the project home page here at www.tinyurl.com/3ksrng9

If it's already after July 25th, written comments can be mailed to:

National Park Service Denver Service Center
– Planning Division
Attn: FPL Project Planning Team
P.O. Box 25287
12795 West Alameda Parkway
Denver, CO 80225-0287

NITROGEN NIGHTMARE

– by Phil Busey, Broward Sierra Chair

The human caused increase in global reactive nitrogen is a really big deal. Reactive nitrogen is on a scale similar to that of our expanded carbon footprint, in its potential effects on climate and ecosystems.

Humans now make over 60% of earth's reactive nitrogen, more than 165 teragrams per year (directly through the Haber-Bosch synthetic process, and indirectly through burning fossil fuel and planting crops such as alfalfa associated with biologically nitrogen fixing bacteria). This human caused increase in global reactive nitrogen is much greater than the human caused increase in atmospheric CO₂ (from about 280 ppm in 1800 to 390 ppm in 2010). Big reactive nitrogen numbers have other potentially big and unpredictable consequences.

Nitrogen is an important essential element for living organisms, fundamental in proteins, DNA, and other molecules. But the vast majority of the earth's nitrogen occurs in nonreactive forms that cannot be absorbed by plants, such as the diatomic molecule N₂ which makes up 78% of the atmosphere.

In contrast, reactive nitrogen in natural sources as well as synthesized fertilizers, in such forms as ammonia and nitrate, can be absorbed by plants and strongly stimulates growth of food, feed, and energy crops. First produced industrially in 1913 and supporting Germany's wartime explosives production, today most reactive nitrogen is in fertilizer, which was a cornerstone of the Green Revolution. It is estimated that 40% of the world's population would not be alive today except for the increase of reactive nitrogen used in fertilizers.

Much reactive nitrogen is also made through biological nitrogen fixation by bacteria, often nodulating bacteria associated with the roots of leguminous plants such as alfalfa, soybean, and peas planted by people.

Although produced naturally, biological nitrogen fixation is a huge source of global reactive nitrogen added by humans, and each additional atom of reactive nitrogen from a natural source such as a crop plant adds to the global nitrogen budget the same as one atom of reactive nitrogen from a chemical factory. Both become soluble and can flow to coastal oceans, stimulate

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



Are you concerned with the recent backslides in environmental protection, and want to be more involved in making a difference?

Consider serving on our Executive Committee (Excom) and help with our efforts. If you would like to run for a position on the Excom, contact one of the members of the Nominations Committee (below), before August 31st, to submit your name for nomination.

In accord with Sierra Club Broward Group Bylaws, the ExCom appointed the following Nominations Committee members who will nominate Sierra Club members to run for elected office as members of Sierra Club Broward Group ExCom. Nominations Committee members are:

Barbara Curtis 954-946-7359
legalbarb2@yahoo.com
Judy Kuchta 305-308 8913
judykuchta@yahoo.com

(Plus one non-ExCom member still to be appointed)

There are four ExCom positions to be filled and the Nominations Committee will attempt to nominate at least six candidates for the four positions, to be elected by secret ballot of the members, not later than December. To conform to other deadlines required in the Bylaws, the closing date for name submissions by the Nominations Committee is not later than August 31, 2011.

So if you would like to submit your name or the name of another Sierra Club member for nomination, please call or email one of the members of the Nominations Committee by August 31st.

Of course anyone who runs for election and is not successful is encouraged to remain engaged and active in a leadership position.

Local Sierra Club Outings & Events

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



AUG. 7, SUN. ANNUAL PICNIC at John U. Lloyd Park, Dania Beach (Pelican Pavilion - 11am to 6pm). There will be an educational talk on environmental issues, a picnic lunch, chatting and swimming. Food & beverages provided, but bring a dish to share if you like (we'll serve the hot food until 4pm). Cost: \$5 (+ park entrance fee of \$4 per single person vehicle, \$6 per vehicle with 2-8 people, \$2 per pedestrian or bicyclist, kids under 5 free). Contact Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 (no text messages please) <judykuchta@yahoo.com>



AUG. 13, SAT. MOONLIGHT YOGA AT HOLLYWOOD BEACH. Feel the balance between strength and surrender in the light of the moon. Karma Yoga. Donations will benefit the many conservation efforts of the Broward Sierra Club. For more info contact leader and instructor Karen Bulkowski 954-612-5459 <karenowski@att.net>



SEPT. 3, SAT. 9AM. LONG KEY NATURE CENTER. 301 SW 130th Avenue, Davie. A guided tour of the 157 acre grounds and Nature Center. The site is one of the largest natural areas managed by Broward County Parks. The elevated oak hammock was once part of a series of islands surrounded by Everglades Marshes. Long Key is an important habitat for wildlife and is one of the largest remaining strands of live oak, red bay, paradise tree, strangler fig, cabbage palm and gumbo limbo. *Cost: Member \$3, Non-members \$4. Bring your own lunch.* Contact Barbara Curtis at 954-946-7359 for reservations.



SEPT. 12, MON. MOONLIGHT YOGA AT HOLLYWOOD BEACH. See Aug. 13th. For more info contact leader and instructor Karen Bulkowski 954-612-5459 <karenowski@att.net>



OCT. 1, SAT. 9AM. TREE TOPS PARK. 3900 SW 100th Avenue, Davie. Moderate 2 hour walk. The 243.3 acres of this park range from 23 acres of restored freshwater marsh accessible by a 1,000-foot boardwalk to the 102.2-acre Pine Island Ridge, an archaeological site that includes equestrian and nature trails and, at 29 feet above sea level, is the highest natural elevation in Broward County. *Cost: Member \$3, Non-members \$4 plus Park entrance fee of \$1.50. Bring your own lunch.* Contact Barbara Curtis at 954-946-7359 for reservations.



OCT. 13, THURS. 11AM. RECYCLING ENRICHMENT. We'll be visiting Reuter Recycling Facility in West Pembroke Pines, the largest recycling center in the S.E. United States. We'll learn from their lecture and videos about recycling and its importance to our planet. This is particularly exciting because Florida's goal is to recycle 75% of the trash coming from homes by 2020. This is a hefty goal and we need to be part of the movement. Carpooling is encouraged. Limit 30. *Cost: Free.* Leader: Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com> Afterwards, let's go to lunch (not included) at:



OCT. 13, THURS. CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN'S SIERRA CLUB FUNDRAISER. Bring a copy of our flyer (which will be available for download at <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward/flyer>) to the California Pizza Kitchen in the Pembroke Lakes Mall at 11401 Pines Blvd, Pembroke Pines (954-432-1498), and 20% of your check will be donated to the Sierra Club. Enjoy a delicious hearth-baked pizza AND support the good work of the Sierra Club.

Outing Leaders Wanted. Outing Leaders get involved, get active, meet new people, have fun, and attend their outings for free. (Assistant Leaders attend for half price.) If you are interested, contact Judy at 305-308-8913 or <judykuchta@yahoo.com>.

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 <www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>.

Florida Seller of Travel Ref. No. ST37115

Unless otherwise stated, the costs for each outing represent a best estimate of actual shared expenses, for food and transportation and other direct expenses.

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

LOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE:

<<http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>>



Barbara B. Ruge
Lic. Real Estate Broker
Professional RE services since 1986

Cell 954-328-2165
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Fax 954-777-3312

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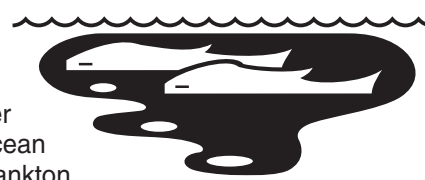
Greater Ft. Lauderdale
Broward County, FL 33309
www.lamourfloridarealty.com

Love Florida Greener? Ask me how!

Nitrogen Nightmare, continued from page 2

phytoplankton, and contribute to red tide and threaten marine life. And both are used fairly inefficiently in agriculture.

Ocean nourishment with reactive nitrogen is a controversial plan to pour the nitrogen fertilizer urea directly into the ocean to stimulate phytoplankton, contribute to carbon sequestration, thereby offsetting emissions from fossil fuel combustion. As an aside, while market-based regulation of greenhouse gases (e.g., carbon credits) can be driven by methods of emissions offsetting, that could include ocean enrichment and other methods (e.g., tree planting, anaerobic digestion, etc.), the prospect of ocean nourishment raises a serious concern for unintended consequences resulting from a policy of market-based regulation.

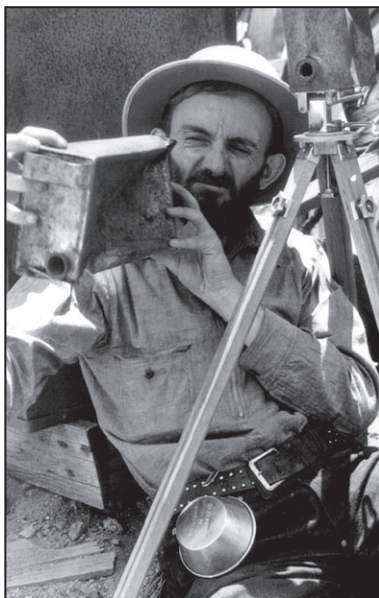


The most obvious harmful effect of too much nitrogen is the occurrence of tens of thousands of square miles of oceanic dead zones, particularly in the Gulf of Mexico, the Baltic Sea, and the southwestern coast of Japan, associated with regions of concentrated fertilizer use. The process by which dead zones can be created is hypoxia, or oxygen starvation, due to decomposition of algal blooms stimulated by excess nitrogen and/or phosphorus.

Reactive nitrogen also has strong effects in reducing species diversity, in terrestrial and marine habitats. Cleaning up the problem will not be easy because there may be large sinks of nitrogen in sediments and at the bottom of the oceans.

Much of the reactive nitrogen from fossil fuel combustion results in gaseous forms such as nitrous oxide, N₂O, which has a 100-year lifetime, partly explaining why nitrous oxide is 300 times stronger than CO₂ as a greenhouse gas. Nitrous oxide is also produced on land from denitrification of nitrate, and excess nitrogen washed into the oceans may be a large source of nitrous oxide in the atmosphere. What goes around comes around.

As if the precipitous rise of global atmospheric CO₂ was all that we have to be concerned about, the increase in global reactive nitrogen is unprecedented. Although there may be some silver lining resulting from carbon sequestration, there are other really bad effects from big nitrogen.



Ansel Adams

Most people don't know that Ansel Adams was a member of the Sierra Club for over 50 years. He didn't just photograph the wilderness. He fought for it. Shouldn't your grandchildren have more than photos to remind them of the grandeur of our land? The Sierra Club is dedicated to protecting our wilderness for generations to come. Join us. You'll be in good company.



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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Enclose check and mail to: **Sierra Club**
P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

DONATE TO PROTECT THE FLORIDA PANTHER



You can help protect the Florida Panther and wilderness through litigation and education. This is fund of The Sierra Club Foundation created by your Broward Group. Your tax-deductible gift will support our lawsuit challenging the National Park Service plan to put 130 miles of off-road vehicle (ORV) trails in Big Cypress National Preserve, habitat of the Florida Panther.

Please make your check payable to:
The Sierra Club Foundation
In the notes, write "for Florida Panther"

Mail your donation to:
Broward Sierra, P.O. Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355