



Broward Sierra News



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July 2021

www.sierraclub.org/florida/broward • www.facebook.com/BrowardSierra

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

(That's right, we now have a Twitter account – check us out!)

Broward Sierra Club General Meeting

Time: July 1, 2021 at 07:00 PM EST

For our July general meeting, we welcome Mr. Kerry Babb from Paradise Technology Solutions. He will discuss Urban Food Hubs and Sustainable Circular Farming that protects the environment while producing healthy food.



Please register in advance for this meeting:

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000001kuVLAAY>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Meetup.com: <https://www.meetup.com/Broward-County-Sierra-Club-Group/events/278680686/>

Upcoming speakers:

August 5th: Lorna Bravo - Florida Friendly Landscaping in an Urban Environment

September 2nd: Tracy Raczek - Global influences that may impact climate change

Links of the month:

Hollywood is Plastic and Foam Free on Hollywood Beach, City-Owned Properties and by City Vendors

Another South Florida city has agreed to be plastic and foam-free. Hopefully, more Florida cities will follow suit. <https://www.hollywoodfl.org/1143/Plastic-and-Foam-Free-Beach>

PFAS: per- and poly-fluoroalkyl: <https://www.sierraclub.org/toxics/pfas/pfas-sludge>

See the last page for details.

Congratulations to Pamela Kondziela and Phil Busey

Pamela won the prize at our May meeting for being the first correct guesser and won Mystic River print by Dead-Moroz. Phil won at our June meeting and got a set of eco-chic reusable bags.



On the Road Again....Soon

Leah Weisburd, Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*
Adriene Barmann, Vice Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*

All Sierra Club Chapters and Groups are anticipating our National Sierra Organization to announce the reopening of outdoor events. We expect this sometime in July.

We are so excited that the opportunity to exploring the outdoors again, as well as to have our meetings in person, will soon be opened to all of us. Although, some of us may still prefer to attend Sierra Club general meetings via Zoom, we hope to have both options available.

Adriene Barmann, who is also our Outings Chair, and Max Goldstein, our Outings co-chair, have so many wonderful trips and adventures planned that they look forward to sharing and exploring with us.

Once we get the approval, we will start setting up future outing events and posting them in Campfire and on our website: <https://www.sierraclub.org/florida/broward>

If you have any suggestions too, please send an email to Adriene Barmann, adrienesierraleader@gmail.com.

So, let's starting packing!

From Sierra Club National

Sierra Club Outings:

Our Outings Staff and Volunteers have weathered an incredible level of uncertainty the past year-and-a-half. Our Staff and Volunteer Leaders have not only helped create these reopening plans, but have also navigated countless logistical complexities associated with trip operations while showing patience, empathy, and hope for a clear and speedy return to getting outdoors. Whether a local day hike, a service project or multi-day expedition, our Outings programs embody that we are powerful, together—building community and enabling hundreds of thousands of folks to gather and experience the physical, emotional, and healing qualities of nature. Sierra Club Outings are an invaluable offering to our communities—not being able to come together for so long has burdened thousands of dedicated and invaluable volunteer trip leaders. We're grateful for your patience, resilience, and feedback throughout this process and celebrate each of you as you return to the outdoor experiences ahead!

In-Person Events & Office Re-openings:

The safety and well-being of our Staff, Volunteers, members and supporters remains our top priority. Our Safety Team is diligently working to finalize recommendations that incorporate stakeholder feedback. The Decision Team will be reviewing final recommendations the week of June 21st. While full details are still in the works, we are ready to provide a little more context about what to expect in our forthcoming response update:

Self Determination: Staff will be able to choose whether or not to participate in travel, in-person events, and/or in-office work in the short-term.

In-Person Outdoor Events: With the exception of large-scale events, as of July 5th we'll resume some organizing, advocacy, and staff gatherings that happen solely outdoors while requiring some COVID-19 safety modifications and planning.

In-Person Indoor Events: Indoor events will remain restricted; however, we'll provide pathways for many small-scale indoor activities to resume, particularly organizing and advocacy actions.

The Sights and Sounds of Nature

Adriene Barmann, Vice Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*

Enter a world of nature surrounded by a forest of tall trees supported by their deep roots in the ground, as their leaves and branches flow in the wind one can hear a melody of sounds.

Birds chirp and sing while flying through the clean fresh breeze, looking for an insect to devour crawling somewhere on the trees.

While rings of water are disturbed by the slight movement of a large gator waiting patiently to grab its next prey, its destiny is unknown on any given day.

A Green Heron is perched on a branch of wood standing ever so still, it captures a minnow using its bill.

A frog eats an insect crawling on the water's edge and it claims its prize with a loud croak as it bulges its eyes.

How happy a slithering snake is to rest in an old tree's cavity that provides it with a cozy spot safe from its predators at night, that is when the forest becomes a euphony of sounds that resonate throughout the swamp no creatures within sight.

Imagine this moment in the woods of an old Cypress Forest supporting life in a sanctuary of a living unique ecosystem that continues to thrive, a home to many living species, this forest is alive.

We realize it's a special place that is so important to preserve, so future generations can enjoy nature's beauty they deserve!

Broward Sierra Political Corner – July 2021

– Susan Steinhauser, *Political Chair*

Now's Our Time to Thrive!

Clean water, clean air, and climate change should not be partisan issues, yet one party appears to be more environmental than the other. This is why, at the Federal level, with Joe Biden as President, and Democrats having control of both the House and Senate, we have the best chance of passing climate legislation than we've had in years. Although President Biden's American Jobs Plan is an important first step toward addressing the climate crisis, we are calling for a bigger and bolder plan ... the THRIVE Act. Help us get it passed!

Local Success

Congratulations to anyone who has already written to their Member of Congress and asked them to co-sponsor the [Thrive Act](#). If you live in Rep. Frederica Wilson's district, it worked – she signed on! Now we need Reps. Deutch and Wasserman-Schultz! Take the action of the month below and let's THRIVE!

Action of the Month

Click [here](#) to tell Congress to build on The American Jobs Plan - to go bigger & bolder and align it with the THRIVE Act!

Broward County Sierra Club Needs YOU!

PLEASE VOLUNTEER

Our members are our Backbone!

Political Co-Chair – Susan Steinhauser: browardsierrape@gmail.com

Susan Steinhauser, Political Chair, is seeking a Co-Chair:

- Lead the Broward Sierra Political Committee in candidate endorsement and campaigning.
- Lead the Broward Sierra Political Committee in legislative lobbying.
- Prepare the Political Corner for the monthly newsletter.
- Provide a Political Committee Report for the General Meeting.
- Hold monthly Political Committee Meetings – publish agendas and notes for same.

Conservation Committee – Sue Caruso: susancaruso.sierra@gmail.com

Sue Caruso, Conservation Chair, is seeking volunteers:

The members of this committee shall work to preserve the natural resources and habitats of the native species of Broward County. That focus can lead to work beyond our county due to the interconnectedness of our vast watershed and human development.

The duties will include bringing attention to proposed developments that are unsustainable and partnering with stakeholders to mitigate or stop such projects, working on local issues brought forth by our members, promoting community efforts that foster environmental justice and education, such as our community gardens, exotic plant removal and tabling events. Attending quarterly meetings will be required.

Media Chair – and 1 Committee volunteer – Leah Weisburd: excomleah@gmail.com

Chair:

- Write and publish articles and op eds in the Sun Sentinel and Miami Herald.
- Write and publish in local city newsletters.
- Write and publish in college newspapers.
- Perform speaking engagements for local organizations (via Zoom for now).

Committee - To assist Media Chairperson.

Membership Committee – Dan Godston: dgbrowardsierra@gmail.com

The members of this committee shall work in conjunction with the Chair reaching out to schools, organizations, clubs, etc. and introduce them to the Sierra Club with the many ways we protect, enjoy, and explore our environment. In addition, to engage our membership to participate.

PFAS Contamination from Wastewater to Farm & Garden

