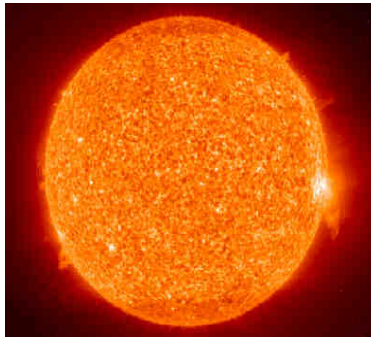




FLERA 2009 Annual Conference

July 29 – 31, 2009
Hyatt Regency Sarasota



*Sustainability & Local Government –
Roles, Responsibilities & Opportunities*

Conference Partners



*Members of the **Florida Association of Environmental Professionals** and the **Florida Green Building Coalition** may attend the Conference at the discounted FLERA-member rate!*

In addition to a strong technical program, excellent presentations and networking opportunities, there will be a pre-conference tour and a dinner reception at Mote Marine Laboratory.

2009 FLERA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29th

PRE-CONFERENCE (9:00 am – 12:00 pm)

8:00 am – 5:00 pm Conference Registration Open

10:30 am – 11:30 am Tour of Mote Marine Laboratory (*Limited Number of Spaces!*)

Mote Marine Laboratory is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to excellence in marine science and education. The Research Division consists of seven Research Centers including: the Center for Coastal Ecology, Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Research, Shark Research, Ecotoxicology, Fisheries Enhancement, Coral Reef Research and Aquaculture Research and Development. The main facility is located on 10.5 acres on City Island, Sarasota, Florida. Research Stations are located in Pineland, Charlotte Harbor, the Florida Keys and at Mote Aquaculture Park, Sarasota, Florida. The tour will explore Mote's Sarasota Laboratory. There will be two one-hour tours starting at 10:30 am. Please check in early at the conference registration desk the day of the tour for details. Transportation to Mote Marine Lab is not provided.

REGULAR CONFERENCE (1:00 pm – 5:00 pm)

8:00 am – 5:00 pm Conference Registration Open

10:00 am – 12:00 pm FLERA Board and Annual Business Meeting

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm Exhibits Open

12:00 pm – 5:00 pm Silent Auction Open

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm Opening Session

Lori Cunniff, President

Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies

Keynote:

Nils J. Diaz, PhD

Member, Florida Energy and Climate Commission

Former Chair, Nuclear Regulatory Commission

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm General Session – The Implementation and Measurement of Green

This session will discuss the necessary steps for establishing a sustainability plan to address climate change and “green” government. Learn what local governments can do about climate change and how to measure “green” so that you can capture the benefits of green projects in a quantifiable manner. Experts will provide resources to get you started or further develop your program.

Lori Cunniff, CEP, Manager

Orange County Environmental Protection Division

John F. Williams, SVP, National Director, Sustainable Development

HDR Engineering

Devesh Nirmul, CSDP, LEED AP, Program Manager

Office of Sustainability, Miami-Dade County

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Break - Silent Auction & Exhibits



WEDNESDAY, JULY 29th *(continued)*

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm 2009 Legislative Session Wrap-Up

This session will feature a panel discussion reviewing the 2009 Florida Legislative Session. Successes and failures of legislation covering a wide variety of subject matter will be presented in an informative, interactive format that will include commentary on the issues introduced during this year's Session of the Florida Legislature.

Kurt Spitzer, Executive Director
Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies

Rick Tschantz, General Counsel
Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission

Marsha Hosack, Director of Intergovernmental Relations
Sarasota County Commission

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm Green Stimulus Funding in Florida

Is there really green in those stimulus dollars? Yes there is! This session will talk about the stimulus money dedicated to energy efficiency, conservation and other environmental issues. Learn where the money is, what funds are coming, and how they can and are being spent in local communities.

Lori Cunniff, CEP, Manager
Orange County Environmental Protection Division

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Welcome Reception – sponsored by FAEP

Join your peers in the exhibit area to network and share your experiences on sustainability techniques. A cash bar will be available.

THURSDAY, JULY 30th

8:00 am – 5:00 pm Conference Registration

8:30 am – 3:30 pm Silent Auction

8:30 am – 5:00 pm Exhibits Open

8:30 am – 10:00 am CONCURRENT SESSIONS A & B

A. AIR QUALITY/GREENHOUSE GASES

Addressing Climate Change: From Inventory to Implementation [30 minutes]

The presentation will provide an overview of the methodology, resources and tools used by more than 500 local governments to identify and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

Cyrus Bhedwar, MS, Southeast Regional Manager
ICLEI: Local Governments for Sustainability

Sarasota County Climate Change Initiatives: Opportunities in Sustainable Energy [30 minutes]

Sarasota County has taken a comprehensive approach to calculating green house gas emissions and developing a Climate Action Plan. The presentation will review Sarasota's Plan, which is part of an overarching sustainability strategy.

Theresa Connor, Executive Director
Environmental Services, Sarasota County



Broward's Climate Change Task Force: Local Planning for a Global Issue [30 minutes]

The presentation will review and discuss the progress of the Broward County Climate Change Task Force in developing a strategy for the mitigation of and adaptation to global climate change.

Nancy J. Gassman, PhD, Natural Resources Administrator

Broward County Natural Resources Planning and Management Division

B. GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Engineering A Sustainable Future [30 minutes]

As sustainable thinking gains momentum, how can the engineering community adapt to embrace growing demand for green buildings and green building sites? This interactive presentation explores opportunities in low impact development, green engineering and sustainable design, with practical ideas for developing greener engineering strategies and creating vibrant, sustainable communities, including discussions on Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certification and sustainable developments.

Elie Araj, PE, DWRE, President

Applied Sciences Consulting

Broward County's Environmental Monitoring Laboratory - A Blue-Green Building [30 minutes]

The session will provide an overview of Broward County's recently-constructed 10,000 square foot Environmental Monitoring Laboratory, which was designed and built according to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) criteria and Low Impact Development (LID) guidelines.

Jessica Brown, MBA, Natural Resource Specialist III

Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management

Brown to Green Sustainable Brownfields Redevelopment [30 minutes]

The presentation will cover a number of national award-winning Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified projects and proposed/completed Brownfields projects within Florida that meet Florida Green Building Coalition designation criteria.

Miles G. Ballogg, Director of Brownfields and Economic Development

TBE Group, Inc.

10:00 am – 10:30 am Break in Exhibit Area

10:30 – 12:00 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS A & B

A. RESOURCE PROTECTION

Conserving Energy through Behavior Change - Opportunities and Benefits [60 minutes]

This presentation will show how Community-Based Social Marketing (CBSM) can help government agencies achieve energy conservation through behavior change.

Pete Colverson, MA, Communications Specialist

Pandion Systems, Inc.

Ondine Wells, MS, Communications Specialist

Pandion Systems, Inc.

Hillsborough County's Environmental and Energy Initiatives [30 minutes]

Hillsborough County government has been making strides to protect the local environment and reduce its energy needs. The session will present an overview of the County's efforts, such as replacing all traffic light bulbs with LED lights, purchasing of hybrid vehicles, etc.

Randy M. Klindworth, CEM, Energy Manager

Hillsborough County Energy Management



B. WATER RESOURCES

Wetlands & Global Climate Change: The Role of Wetland Restoration in a Changing World [60 minutes]

Global climate change is recognized as a threat to species survival and the health of natural systems. Climate change will make future efforts to restore and manage wetlands more complex, as wetland systems are vulnerable to changes in quantity and quality of their water supply. It is expected that climate change will have a pronounced effect on wetlands through alterations in hydrological regimes with great global variability. Wetland habitat responses to climate change and the implications for restoration will be realized differently on a regional and mega-watershed level, making it important to recognize that specific restoration and management plans will require examination by individual habitat.

Kevin L. Erwin, Principal Ecologist/President
Kevin L. Erwin Consulting Ecologist, Inc.

FlaWARN-Restoring Service to Water/Wastewater Utilities after a Hurricane [30 minutes]

Florida Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (FlaWARN) is a mutual aid organization utilizing a utilities-helping-utilities approach to incident response and recovery. FlaWARN is the most effective and efficient way to help a utility bring its system back online after a hurricane.

Carol Hinton, MBA, Associate Director
University of Florida TREEO Center

12:00 – 12:15 Break in Exhibit Area & Silent Auction

12:15 – 1:30 Awards Luncheon
Environmental Leadership and Commissioner Leadership Award

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS A & B

A. WATER RESOURCES

Winter Haven Lake Protection Standards [30 minutes]

The City of Winter Haven has developed an innovative approach to protecting the City's most valuable resource – its chain of lakes. The presentation will focus on the rational nexus for implementing the waterfront development standards based on the multiple objectives of promoting low impact development, stormwater Best Management Practices, habitat protection and economic development.

David L. Anthony, ASLA, Project Manager
Wade Trim

Local Regulation of Fertilizer Use [60 minutes]

The attention focused over the past few years on the Total Maximum Daily Load program and nutrient pollution has caused many local governments to examine all sources of nutrients that are discharged into our waterbodies, including those from the use of residential fertilizer. The session will review recent efforts by local governments regulating the use of consumer fertilizer, highlight common issues entering the local debate over such ordinances and review initial impacts of some of the original ordinances.

Rob Brown, Senior Environmental Administrator
Manatee County

Jack Merriam, Environmental Manager
Sarasota County Government

Holly Greening, Executive Director
Tampa Bay Estuary Program

George Hochmuth, Professor Soil and Water Science
University of Florida



B. GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation [30 minutes]

Charlotte Harbor is one of the six estuaries selected by EPA to be a case study on local initiatives to protect sensitive coastal ecosystems and economies from the potential effects of climate change. Analysis of climate change's effects on ecosystems and infrastructure surrounding the Charlotte Harbor estuary and development of a climate change adaption plan for a Southwest Florida coastal city will be discussed.

James W. Beever, III, MS, Senior Planner
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

Informing the Vision for Growth: The Relationship between Conservation Footprint, Compact Urban Form and Greenhouse Gas Emissions [60 minutes]

Post World War II community development in the United States has been largely suburban, characterized by residential development distant from the urban core, segregated uses in relatively low densities, single-family detached dwellings, wide streets, and large lots. This layout directly influences vehicle travel and energy consumed in buildings. This presentation will address the relationship between conservation, community form, energy use for transportation and implications for climate change.

Jay H. Exum, PhD, Director of Environmental Services
Glattig Jackson Kercher Anglin

Frances Chandler-Marino, Director of Regional Planning
Glattig Jackson Kercher Anglin

Pierce Jones, PhD, Professor, Agricultural & Biological Engineering
University of Florida

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Break in Exhibit Area

During this break, make your final bids - the Silent Auction ends at 3:30 pm!

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS A & B

A. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT *Coordinated with Mote Marine Lab*

New Resources on the Effects of Climate Change on Florida's Oceans and Coastal Environments [30 minutes]

In 2009 the Florida Oceans and Coastal Council (FOCC) released a report examining major mechanisms of climate change pertinent to Florida, and their effects on the state's ocean and coastal resources. Mechanisms include increases of greenhouse gases, air temperature and water vapor, water temperature, and sea level. Seventeen categories of effects produced by the mechanisms were identified. This presentation provides a summary of the report, and identifies important climate stressors and effects, introduces scales of certainty and uncertainty in climate discussions, recognizes the possibility of beneficial effects of climate change, and identifies climate research gaps and priorities for FOCC action.

E.D. Estevez, Director, Center for Coastal Ecology
Mote Marine Laboratory



Adaptation to Sea Level Rise: Challenges and Policy Tools for Local Governments [60 minutes]

Florida is among many states that have begun to promote initiatives to reduce greenhouse gases to mitigate future climate changes. However, much less attention has been paid to measures for adaptation to climate change impacts already set in motion from past emissions. There is growing recognition that both mitigation and adaptation are essential components of a climate change action plan. The presentation will review the results of an assessment conducted by the Marine Policy Institute (MPI) at Mote Marine Laboratory. This session will be separated into two parts - the first part will summarize the science on sea-level rise in the Sarasota region, while the second will focus on policy tools, governance challenges and leadership opportunities.

Barbara Lausche, Deputy Director
Marine Policy Institute, Mote Marine Laboratory

B. AIR QUALITY/GREENHOUSE GASES

Local Government Operations: How to Quantify Your Greenhouse Gas Emissions [30 minutes]

The presentation will provide an overview of Broward County's process to engage local government agencies in the development of government operations climate change plans and how to quantify greenhouse gas emissions.

Maribel Feliciano, Section Manager - Outreach, Planning and Mobile Sources
Broward County Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division

Naples Energy Task Force [30 minutes]

In 2007, the City of Naples became a signatory of the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. Thereafter, the City performed an energy audit that indicted where and how much energy was being utilized by different departments and programs. The City Council then authorized the establishment of an Energy Task Force to develop and implement an Energy Reduction Plan that will result in both cost savings and reduced carbon emissions.

Michael R. Bauer, PhD, JD, Natural Resources Manager
City of Naples

Ecologically-Based Strategy to Offset Greenhouse Gases [30 minutes]

Planners of The Wildlife Society's Annual Conference wanted to do their part to offset the carbon impacts associated with travel to their 2008 Conference in Miami. After estimating the amount of carbon that would be used for travel, they added \$5 to each registration to go toward a project identified by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission's (FWC) Wildlife Legacy Initiative as part of their Comprehensive Wildlife strategy. The project included restoration of longleaf pine/wiregrass on the Peacock Springs site managed by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD). Registrants generated about \$7,500 in fees that were matched by the FWC and the SRWMD, and the restoration was initiated in early 2009.

Jay H. Exum, PhD, Director of Environmental Services
Glattig Jackson Kercher Anglin

Andrea Alden, Wildlife Legacy Biologist
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Dinner Reception at Mote Marine Laboratory

Join us at Mote Marine Laboratory for great food, fun and networking. The dinner reception will be a Caribbean-themed BBQ. Beach dress is recommended so bring your favorite floral shirt, flip-flops and shorts. Mote is located at 1600 Ken Thompson Parkway, a 4-mile drive from the conference hotel.



8:00 am – 10:00 am Conference Registration Open

8:30 am – 10:30 am Exhibits Open

8:30 am – 10:00 am GENERAL SESSION

A Climate Prosperity Strategy for Southwest Florida [60 minutes]

Southwest Florida is one of seven pilot regions selected to work with Climate Prosperity Project (CCP) to help generate sustainable development. The Project promotes the view that protecting the environment need not come at the expense of economic growth. In fact, "Climate Prosperity" argues that the opposite is true - that climate change is an opportunity to build innovative industry, create new jobs and grow the economy, while enhancing our environment and addressing one of our most pressing problems, climate change.

Ken Heatherington, MS, Executive Director
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

Jason Utley, LEED AP, Regional Planner
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

Environmental Stewardship Plans: A Practical Application [30 minutes]

The sixth largest school district in the US began developing an Environmental Strategic Plan (ESP) to sustain responsible environmental stewardship. The session will review the practical application of an ESP designed to meet LEED standards, and at the same time create outdoor classroom experiences and knowledge of the natural Florida ecosystem.

Mark Clark, MS, CEP, Senior Biologist
Miller Legg

10:00 am - 10:30 am Break in Exhibit Hall

10:30 am – 12:00 pm GENERAL SESSION

Conserve Florida Water Clearinghouse - Goal Based Conservation [30 minutes]

This presentation will cover Conserve Florida Water and the resources it provides to utilities and local governments. Conserve Florida Water was established to provide information and tools to improve water conservation through the development of utility-specific, goal-based water conservation programs.

Camilo Cornejo, PhD
University of Florida Water Conservation Clearinghouse

Analyzing the Intricacies of Load Allocations [60 minutes]

As the TMDL process is implemented more completely in Florida, allocations of specific responsibilities for nutrient load reductions are being made to both point sources and MS4 jurisdictions that will have significant impacts on all stakeholders in each watershed. The presentation will focus on the efforts of a group of local governments and private sector stakeholders in setting nitrogen loading allocations to meet the requirements of both a Florida reasonable assurance document and Federal TMDLs.

Tony Janicki, PhD, President
Janicki Environmental

Rob Brown, Senior Environmental Administrator
Manatee County

Kelli Hammer Levy, Director, Watershed Management Division
Pinellas County

Holly Greening, Executive Director
Tampa Bay Estuary Program

12:00 pm Conference Adjourned

