FLORIDA BEACON



From the President's Desk Erik Neugaard

CHANGES TO THE FAEP BYLAWS

The FAEP Bylaws committee has completed its recommended changes to the Association's Bylaws. While some of the changes were semantic in nature, such as better definition of a General and Associate member, some changes are significant.

The most significant change is the size of the Board of Directors (BOD). Previously there were three At-Large members, now there are seven members who are elected from the FAEP membership. As proposed, the BOD will now be made up of the seven at-large members and eight chapter representatives.

Another change involves the election of officers. As proposed, the officers will be elected only from the At-Large members. The Chapter Representatives are frequently changing as the local chapters provide members an opportunity to represent their chapter on the BOD. It is envisioned that the longer commitment needed by the officers will coincide with the three-year term of the elected At-Large members.

It is proposed that Associate Members can serve as Board Members, but the Officers shall continue to be General Members; in other words, a member of NAEP as well.

The Bylaws now contain a provision for an action-without-a-meeting. This gives the BOD the ability to approve something via email without having to wait on a Board Meeting. The added flexibility is needed to help speed up time-critical issues such as sponsorship of complimenting association events.

The current Bylaws define an Executive Director, yet FAEP does not have one. That section was changed to include the Association Administrator position. The Association's Function and Purpose section was updated to more accurately reflect FAEP's current focus of supporting the local chapters.

Please review the proposed changes and vote whether you approve the changes or not. In order for the changes to take effect, 10% of our members must vote. Please show your support of FAEP and participate in this effort. The proposed Bylaws are located here:

http://flaep.memberclicks.net/assets/documents//Bylaws/bylaws2010.pdf

You may vote by responding to this email with one of the following:

- Yes, I approve the Bylaw changes
- No, I do not approve the Bylaw changes

I would like to thank Kathy Hale, Kristin Bennett, and Bruce Hasbrouck for their efforts on this committee. Additionally, I would like to thank the rest of the BOD for their comments and review of the proposed changes.

Florida Association of Environmental Professionals

April 2011



FAEP 2010-2011

Board of Directors

Erik Neugaard - President

Kristin Bennett - Vice President

Bruce Hasbrouck - Past Pres.

Victoria Colangelo - Treasurer

Joel Thomson - Secretary

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John Lesman - CN Chapter

Ed Currie - NE Chapter

Mary Gutierrez - NW Chapter

Jeff Marcus - SO Chapter

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Greg Page - TB Chapter

Courtney Arena - TC Chapter

Elva Peppers - TL Chapter

Kathy Hale - At Large Member

Erin Kane - At Large Member

Alexis Preisser - At Large Member

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- Message from Paul Looney FAEP Representative to NAEP
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Upcoming Conferences and Workshops			
Event	Date	Place	
Florida Association of Environmental Soil Scientists Hydric Soils Workshop	April 12	Quincy	
Power Up Energy Expo	April 11-13	Pensacola Beach	
SETAC Meeting-Gulf Oil Spill	April 26-28	Pensacola Beach	
NAEP 36th Annual Conference	April 26-29	Denver	
3rd Annual AIPG Emerging Issues in Water Resources Conference	May 5-6	Daytona Beach	
Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference	May 19-22	Maitland	
Florida Association for Water Quality Control Conference	June 15-17	Naples	
Air & Waste Management Association 104th Annual Conference	June 21-24	Orlando	
Florida Chamber's 25th Annual Environmental Permitting Summer School	July 20-22	Marco Island	
Florida League of Cities 2011 Annual Conference	Aug. 11-13	Orlando	
2011 APA Florida Conference	Sept. 7-10	Palm Beach	
AIPG Annual National Conference	Sept. 10-13	Bloomingdale, Illinois	
Florida Remediation Conference	Oct. 13-14	Orlando	
2011 Annual Florida Redevelopment Conference	Oct. 19-21	Orlando	
38th Annual Natural Areas Conference	Nov. 1-4	Tallahassee	
Florida Brownfield Conference	Nov. 13-16	Orlando	

Fish & Wildlife Research Institute to Open its Doors for MarineQuest 2011

On Saturday, April 30, the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) will open its doors to the public from 10AM to 4PM for MarineQuest 2011. Visitors can explore the world of science at FWRI headquarters, at 100 8th Ave S.E., in downtown St. Petersburg.

The 17th annual MarineQuest is a free event that allows visitors of all ages to experience science firsthand with more than 60 exhibits. Visitors can check out live animals in touch tanks, interact with some of Florida's top scientists and learn about current fish and wildlife research in Florida. Special activities for children include wildlife origami, face painting and the Japanese art of "gyotaku" -fish printing.

FWRI is the research division of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. FWRI's work is used by all levels of government, universities, private organizations and the public. For additional information on MarineQuest 2011, including photographs from previous years, visit MyFWC.com/Research. Video from previous years is available upon request.

Sponsors include the St. Petersburg Times, the City of St. Petersburg and the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.



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New Permit Tagging Study Needs Anglers' Help

The FWC and FWRI and the Bonefish & Tarpon Trust need anglers to assist with a study about permit in Florida waters. Project Permit participants will help biologists obtain information on the economically important fish.

Anglers can assist biologists by tagging and sampling DNA from any permit they catch and release. Participants will mark each fish with a dart tag and obtain a small fin clip from the dorsal or anal fin of the fish. The information from the tags and DNA samples will improve biologists' understanding of permit movement and distribution. Although the program is relatively new, biologists already have documented a tagged permit that had traveled more than 40 miles along the east coast of Florida before being captured again.

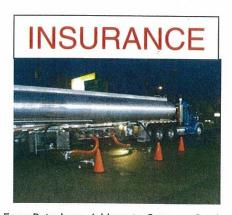


Anglers and Wildlife Research Institute scientists will also compare permit DNA samples to determine whether all the tagged fish come from the same genetic stock. Resource managers can use this information for regulating the permit fishery.

The Bonefish & Tarpon Trust proposed the collaborative study after obtaining a grant from Costa Del Mar, which agreed to supply funds for the tagging kits for three to five years.

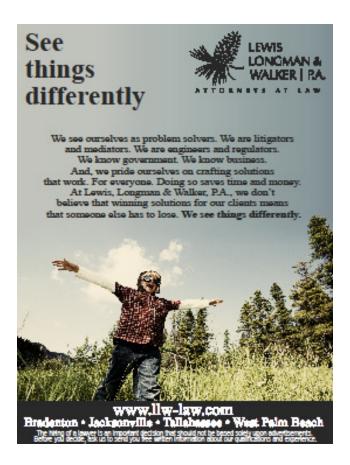
Anglers who would like to participate in Project Permit can obtain a free, easy-to-use tagging kit by e-mailing ProjectPermit@MyFWC.com or by calling 800-367-4461. Each kit contains enough material to sample five fish.

For more information on <u>Project Permit</u>, visit MyFWC.com/Research, click on "Saltwater," scroll down to "Saltwater Fish" and click on "Permit."



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Florida Beacon

FDEP Agents Arrest Owner of Mold Inspection and Remediation Business for Theft by Fraud

ORANGE COUNTY – Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) law enforcement agents, working in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General's Statewide Prosecution and the Florida Department of Financial Services' Division of Insurance Fraud, today arrested Thomas P. Costa, 59, owner of Protective Solutions, a mold remediation company in Orlando. Costa is charged with violating provisions of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act, a first degree felony punishable by up to 30 years in prison and/or a fine up to \$10,000 or up to three times the amount stolen.

"The deliberate falsification of records and the willful defrauding of unsuspecting citizens and businesses is a crime that we take very seriously," said DEP Division of Law Enforcement Director Henry Barnet. "The DEP Division of Law Enforcement is committed to protecting the environment and the public by prosecuting those who attempt to use false science and fraud to coerce innocent people into purchasing services that are not needed or never delivered as promised. We encourage Florida residents and visitors to report any suspected environmental crimes by calling (877) 2-SAVE-FL or #DEP from most wireless devices."

In addition to being charged with violating provisions of the RICO Act, Costa is being charged with:

- Two counts of second degree Grand Theft, second degree felonies punishable by up to 15 years in prison and/or a fine up to \$10,000 per count;
- Twenty-two counts of third degree Grand Theft, third degree felonies punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a fine up to \$5,000 per count;
- Fourteen counts of Communications Fraud, third degree felonies punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a fine up to \$5,000 per count;
- Two counts of Unlawful Acts as a Public Adjuster, third degree felonies punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a fine up to \$5,000 per count; and
- Four counts of Insurance Fraud, third degree felonies punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a fine up to \$5,000 per count.

Between April 6, 2007 and November 4, 2008, Costa and Protective Solutions received calls from dozens of individuals and businesses regarding possible mold problems at homes, apartment complexes, and businesses in the Orlando, Fort Myers, and West Palm Beach areas. Costa obtained samples that he told his clients would be tested; however, no actual testing took place. Instead, Costa provided fictitious laboratory reports to clients that were extremely technical in nature. Costa then offered assistance in performing 'remediation' for the mold problems, which amounted to tearing out walls, carpet, flooring, tile, and cabinets in order to 'remove' the mold. During the 'remediation,' the mold was not always properly removed, leaving clients and their families with a continuing mold problem and, in many instances, illnesses or related health problems. Subsequent to the 'remediation,' clients were financially responsible for all repairs to the affected areas, and many either moved or lost their homes. During this 19-month period, Costa and Protective Solutions received more than \$239,000.00 for fraudulent laboratory testing and remediation work.

More than 160 fictitious laboratory reports were allegedly issued by Costa and Protective Solutions between April 6, 2007 and November 4, 2008. More than twenty-nine victims crossing four judicial circuits were affected by this organized scheme to defraud. Costa was transported and booked at the Orange County Jail, and bond was set at \$294,000.

DEP's Division of Law Enforcement is responsible for statewide environmental resource law enforcement, as well as providing law enforcement services to Florida's state parks and greenways and trails. Division personnel from the three operational bureaus patrol state lands, investigate environmental resource crimes, and respond to natural disasters, civil unrest, hazardous material incidents and oil spills that threaten the environment.

To report an environmental crime, wireless customers can dial #DEP. Callers can also report environmental crimes to the State Warning Point by calling (877) 2-SAVE-FL (1.877.272.8335). General environmental inquiries should be directed to DEP district offices during normal business hours.

For more information about DEP's Division of Law Enforcement, visit www.dep.state.fl.us/law.

Florida Beacon

Bangor-based Railway Company Fined for Clean Water Violations

Boston, Mass. – April 7, 2011 – A Maine-based railroad has agreed to pay \$30,000 to settle EPA claims that it violated the Clean Water Act and federal regulations designed to prevent oil spills from reaching waterways.

Bangor-based Montreal Maine & Atlantic Railway operates a locomotive repair and maintenance facility in Milo, Maine, which has a total storage capacity of almost 108,000 gallons of oil. According to EPA, a railway employee on Oct. 2, 2009, left a fuel transfer unattended in the Milo facility's boiler room. The facility's secondary containment failed to prevent fuel oil from spilling onto the boiler room's grated floor. The fuel oil traveled underground and eventually reached the Piscataguis River.

The railway discovered the oil overflow the evening of Oct. 2 and on Oct. 3 alerted the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the National Response Center and EPA. The oil spill caused a noticeable, but temporary sheen on the Piscataquis River. The railway hired an oil spill response company and worked with DEP to contain and cleanup the oil spill. Subsequently, the railway worked with EPA to come into compliance with spill prevention regulations.

For more information on this and other Enforcement cases go to: http://www.epa.gov/compliance/index.html

Arnette Limited of Richmond, Mo. to Pay Civil Penalty

Kansas City, Kan., April 8, 2011 - Arnette Limited, LLC, a manufacturer of epoxy blends and advanced resins, has agreed to pay a \$90,591 civil penalty to the United States to settle a series of violations of environmental regulations related to the storage of hazardous wastes and the public reporting of toxic chemicals at its facilities in Richmond, Mo.

According to an administrative consent agreement filed by EPA Region 7 in Kansas City, Kan., in December 2008 the Agency conducted a compliance inspection of Arnette's facility at 8905 Wollard Boulevard in Richmond, and found that it was operating as a hazardous waste treatment, storage or disposal facility without a permit, as required by the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Missouri state regulations.

For more information on this and other Enforcement cases go to: http://www.epa.gov/compliance/index.html

FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY 31ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MAY 19-22, 2011

Patios, Preserves and Public Spaces

Rick Darke is an author, lecturer and consultant dedicated to the design and stewardship of the "livable landscape." Darke lectures internationally on sustainable landscape design, planning, conservation and the ethical underpinnings of all of these. He is an authority on the use of grasses in designed and managed landscapes. His latest book, The Wild Garden: Expanded Edition places the classic concept of wild gardening in modern ecological context and illustrates its relevance for today's gardeners and landscape stewards.

Rutherford Platt is professor Emeritus of Geography at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Sustainable Cities, City University of New York. Dr. Platt holds a BA in political science from Yale and both a JD (law) and PhD (geography) from the University of Chicago. He specializes in public policy concerning urban land and water resources. Dr. Platt has written and edited several books including The Ecology City: Preserving and Restoring Urban Biodiversity and its recent sequel The Humane Metropolis: People and Nature in the 21st Century City.

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UN Alarmed at Huge Decline in Bee Numbers

GENEVA (AFP) – On March 10th, the UN expressed alarm at a huge decline in bee colonies under a multiple onslaught of pests and pollution, urging an international effort to save the pollinators that are vital for food crops. Much of the decline, ranging up to 85% in some areas, is taking place in the industrialized northern hemisphere due to more than a dozen factors, according to a report by the UN's environmental agency. They include pesticides, air pollution, a lethal pinhead-sized parasite that only affects bee species in the northern hemisphere, mismanagement of the countryside, the loss of flowering plants and a decline in beekeepers in Europe.

"The way humanity manages or mismanages its nature-based assets, including pollinators, will in part define our collective future in the 21st century," said UNEP executive director Achim Steiner. "The fact is that of the 100 crop species that provide 90% of the world's food, over 70 are pollinated by bees," he added. Wild bees and especially honey bee colonies from hives are regarded as the most prolific pollinators of large fields or crops. Overall, pollinators are estimated to contribute 153 billion euros (\$212 billion) worldwide or 9.5% of the total value of food production, especially fruit and vegetables, according to the report.

Honey bee colony declines in recent years have reached 10 to 30 percent in Europe, 30% in the US, and up to 85% in Middle East, said scientist Peter Neumann, one of the authors of the first ever UN report on the issue. But in South America, Africa and Australia there were no reports of high losses. "It is a very complex issue. There are a lot of interactive factors and one country alone is not able to solve the problem, that's for sure. We need to have an international network, global approaches," added Neumann of the Swiss government's Bee Research Centre.

Some of the mechanisms behind the four-decades-old trend, which appears to have intensified in the late 1990s, are not understood. UNEP warned that the broad issue of countryside management and conservation was involved. "The bees will get the headlines in this story," UNEP spokesman Nick Nuttall told journalists. "But in a sense they are an indicator of the wider changes that are happening in the countryside but also urban environments, in terms of whether nature can continue to provide the services as it has been doing for thousands or millions of years in the face of acute environmental change," he added. Nonetheless, scientists have been unable so far to quantify the direct impact of bee decline on crops or plants, and Neumann insisted that some of the impact was qualitative.

Citing British research, the report estimated that pollination by managed honey bees is worth 22.8 billion to 57 billion euros in terms of crop yields, and that some fruit, seed and nut crops would decrease by more than 90% without them. One key driving force behind bee destruction in Europe and North America has been a type of mite, the varroa destructor pest, which attacks bees and that beekeepers struggle to control, Neumann said. "It's quite shocking how little we know about this essential pest of honey bees although it has caused havoc in agriculture for more than 20 years." "African bees are tolerant, we don't know why," he added. Meanwhile, frequent changes in land use, degradation and fragmentation of fields, trade carrying hostile species such as the Asian hornet into France or virulent fungi, chemical spraying and gardening insecticides as well as changing seasons due to climate change have added to the hostile environment for bees.

From Yahoo! News





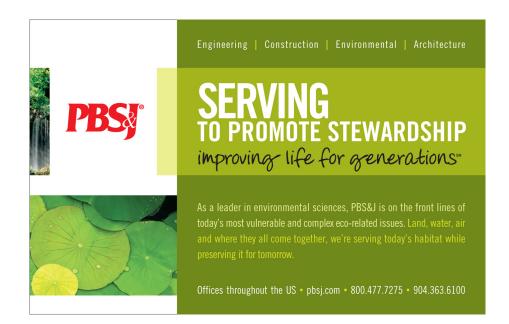
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National Association of Environmental Professionals

Seventh Generation Thinking Learning From the Past - Planning for the Future

> NAEP 2010 Annual Conference Sheraton Denver Downtown April 26-29, 2011





NAEP News from Paul Looney

The NAEP Board of Directors brought in the New Year at the US Army Corps of Engineers Offices in Fort Worth two weeks before the Super Bowl. Actually, the meeting had a celebratory air. For the 2010 budget we actually came out in the black after assuming that the year would be our final year of a small loss.

What changed things around? In short, Memberships and the Conference, but there were many other things that contributed. According to Ron Deverman (President): "Among the accomplishments are an increase in members, Paul Looney's editorship of e-News, a new contract with Cambridge University Press, development of a much more functional website, publications have grown in stature and content (as demonstrated by the themed issues of *Environmental Practice* and our recent newsletters). We had a great conference in Atlanta, and committees are being reinvigorated. We thank Bower Management Services for helping us to get to this point. We have been able to bring additional member benefits, bringing in affiliate chapters and affiliate members. We thank Ron Lamb for helping to bring new member benefits as a result of his efforts. We have also entered into collaborative initiatives with CEQ—a mark that we have moved back to a national policy advisor role. We are again the national go-to association of environmental professionals as our own mission statement purports."

Click here to read more: http://flaep.memberclicks.net/assets/documents/naep%20update%20jan%202011.doc
Any questions or issues concerning NAEP, please email me (plooney@volkert.com).

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Gregory J. Sawka, CPSS

Soil Scientist

Hydric soil investigations – Training Wetland delineation – Expert testimony Permit facilitation

gsawka@juno.com

Member Achievements

One of our members was recently recognized for his achievements. Erik Neugaard, FAEP President, was awarded the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award by Nova Southeastern University (NSU) at their Celebration of Excellence on January 20th. NSU, located in Fort Lauderdale, is the 6th largest private university in the United States. Erik is a Certified Environmental Professional and was recognized fro his efforts as President of FAEP, a Trustee of the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals, and a Director of the American Planning Association - Broward Section. He has been active in the South Florida Chapter of FAEP and is currently working with NSU to establish a student chapter at the University.



FAEP WELCOMES THESE NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

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Members who have joined or renewed during the past quarter

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Size	One Issue	One Year
Biz Card	\$35	\$100
1/4 page	\$100	\$375
1/2 page	\$175	\$650
1 page	\$250	\$900

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