



www.pcecweb.org

Putnam County Environmental Council, Inc.

Rally for the Rivers

February 12-14, 2010

info@pcecweb.org

352-546-3560

For Timely Release

Contact: Karen Ahlers, 352-546-3560 or karen@pcecweb.org

What:	Rally for the Rivers		
Where:	Palatka		
When:	Feb. 12	8:30 – 10:30 am	Senate Committee on Florida's Inland Waters public hearing Quality Inn Riverside
		Noon – 5:30 pm	<i>From Springs to Estuaries: Water Resources Workshop</i> Quality Inn Riverside
		7:00 pm	Lecture and Book Signing, <i>Ditch of Dreams</i> , Larimer Arts Center
	Feb. 13	10:00 am - 6:00 pm	St. Johns RiverFest, Palatka Riverfront Park – admission is free
		Noon	Hands Across the Sands
		6:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Benefit Dinner, \$50 per person
	Feb. 14	10:00 am - 5:00 pm	Ocklawaha RiverFest, Ocklawaha River at Rodman Dam

Purpose: To celebrate and raise awareness about our rivers, lakes, and springs.

Sponsor: Putnam County Environmental Council, Inc.

The Putnam County Environmental Council (PCEC) invites you to attend the **Rally for the Rivers** on February 12-14, 2010, in Palatka. Activists and interested citizens dream of consolidated efforts to accomplish shared goals and that's what you can expect from this three-day event.

Friday, February 12 – The Rally Begins

The Rally begins on Friday the 12th with a public hearing held by **Senate Select Committee on Florida's Inland Waters from 8:30-10:30 am** at the Quality Inn Riverside in Palatka. The committee is charged with drafting policies and recommendations regarding water quality and water supply for the 2010 legislative session. The committee will address springs protection and other water issues that have an impact on the state's environment and economy.

Also on **Friday the 12th**, PCEC is hosting **From Springs to Estuaries: Water Resources Workshop** from **noon to 5:30 pm**. The workshop is designed to bring citizens up to date on water policy, science, and plans for regional water supply which could involve pumping from North Florida rivers. **Presenters include wetlands expert Roy R. "Robin" Lewis, Putnam County Commissioner Ed Taylor, springs expert Dr. Robert Knight, film maker Wes Skiles, St. Johns Riverkeeper Neil Armingeon, and Audubon of Florida Chair John Hankinson.** The workshop will be held at the **Quality Inn Riverfront in Palatka**, and reservations are required. A donation of \$10-\$25 is requested from participants to help defray workshop costs. Go to www.pcecweb.org for complete registration information.

On the evening of **Friday the 12th at 7:00** at the **Larimer Arts Center in Palatka**, Dr. Steven Noll and David Tegeder, authors of *Ditch of Dreams: The Cross Florida Barge Canal and the Struggle for Florida's Future*, will present a Power Point program and video of the history of the barge canal project. The public will have an opportunity to talk with the authors and purchase autographed copies.

Saturday, February 13 – St. Johns RiverFest

The Rally's **St. Johns RiverFest will begin at 10:00 a.m.** on Saturday, Feb. 13 at **Palatka's Riverfront Park**. The RiverFest includes outstanding Florida folk musicians, Florida Storytelling Association, Florida authors and

artists, Florida Heritage Experience, conservation workshops, activities for children and adults, a native plant sale, free rides on the river with St. Johns Riverkeeper Neil Armingeon, great food from Blue Water Bay, and an evening benefit dinner and concert. **Daytime activities are free and open to the public.** Tickets for the **evening buffet dinner and concert are \$50.** If you, your organization, or business would like to be a Rally sponsor, tables for eight can be purchased for \$500.

Saturday, Feb. 13th, will also provide an opportunity for you to participate in the **Florida Springs Rally.** Make a sign, sign a petition, write a letter or get more information about how you can support springs protection legislation. You may also choose to participate in another event taking place at beaches around Florida on Saturday the 13th: **Hands Across the Sands**, a state-wide demonstration to show opposition to off-shore oil drilling.

Sunday, February 14 – Ocklawaha RiverFest

On Sunday, Feb. 14th, come celebrate at the **Ocklawaha RiverFest on the Ocklawaha at Rodman Dam.** Bring a chair and your fishing pole and relax by the river or participate in your choice of events including beginner paddling workshops, birding field trips, hikes, a bike ride, a river clean-up, cultural and historic displays, free pontoon boat rides on the river, food, and plenty of live music! The Ocklawaha RiverFest is **free and open to the public.**

A complete field trip list can be found at www.pcecweb.org

We've secured a block of rooms at the Quality Inn Riverfront in Palatka for this event. Make your reservations before the special rates expire on February 1 by calling 386-328-4686.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for fun that makes a difference! Watch for more information coming soon to www.pcecweb.org!



Putnam County Environmental Council, Inc.
Rally for the Rivers - Friday

www.pcecweb.org

February 12-14, 2010
 info@pcecweb.org

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Public Hearing

Senate Select Committee on Florida's Inland Water Resources

Friday, February 12, 2010

8:30 am - 10:30 am

Quality Inn Riverfront, Palatka, Florida

The Committee was appointed by Senate President Jeff Atwater to address water quality and supply concerns and issues affecting Florida. Among the topics the committee will address include springs protection and water issues that have an impact on the state's environment and economy. The committee is charged with drafting policies and recommendations for the 2010 legislative session this spring. See the [Committee's webpage](#) for more information.

The Senators are seeking input from the public and all citizens are invited to attend.

From Springs to Estuaries:

Florida Water Resources Workshop

Friday, February 12, 2010

Noon - 5:30 pm

Quality Inn Riverfront, Palatka, Florida

Noon - 1:00 pm	<i>Registration</i>	
1:00 - 1:15 pm	<i>Welcome</i>	Karen Ahlers, President, PCEC
1:15 - 2:00 pm	<i>Silver Springs</i>	Dr. Robert Knight Wetland Solutions, Inc
2:00 - 3:00 pm	<i>Point, Counter Point: Rodman Reservoir and Ocklawaha River*</i>	Ed Taylor, Putnam County Commissioner President, Save Rodman Reservoir, Inc. Roy R. "Robin" Lewis, III, VP, PCEC President, Lewis Environmental Services
3:00 - 3:15 pm	Break	
3:15 - 4:00 pm	<i>Springs of the St. Johns and Ocklawaha Rivers</i>	Wes Skiles, President Karst Environmental Services
4:00 - 4:45 pm	<i>St. Johns River</i>	Neil Armingeon St. Johns Riverkeeper
4:45 - 5:30 pm	<i>Points to Ponder, Thoughts to Take Home</i>	John Henry Hankinson Former Director, EPA Region Four Chairman of the Board, Audubon of FL

**Mr. Taylor and Mr. Lewis will each have 15 minutes to make a statement followed by a moderated 30 minute question and answer session.*

REGISTRATION: This workshop is open to the public for a suggested donation of \$10-\$25. *Seating is limited!* Register today by sending an email to: davidpzeigler@aol.com Donation may be made using PayPal at www.pcecweb.org or by sending your check made payable to PCEC, PO Box 1836, Interlachen, FL 32148 or you may pay by cash or check at the door - *credit cards accepted only online.*

Workshop seating is limited! Make your reservation today!



Putnam County Environmental Council, Inc.
Rally for the Rivers - Friday Evening

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The public is invited to attend a lecture and book signing....

DITCH OF DREAMS:

The Cross Florida Barge Canal and the Struggle for Florida's Future

with authors

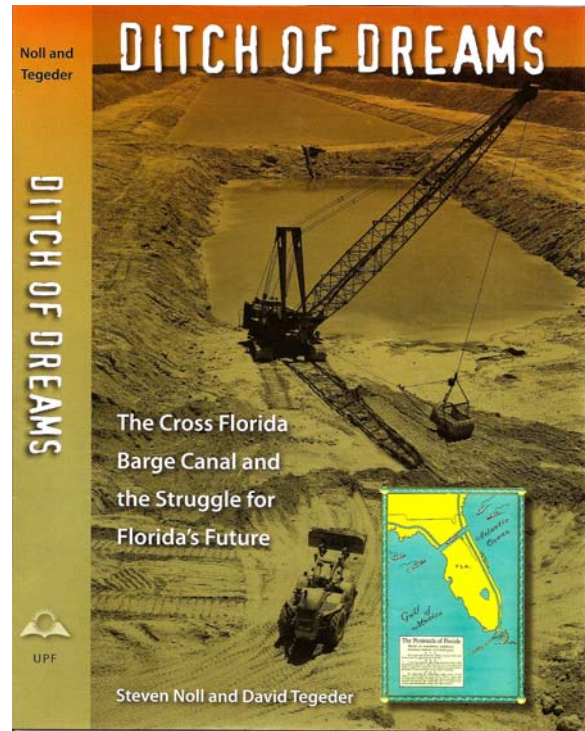
Steven Noll and David Tegeder

Friday, February 12, 2010, 7:00 pm

Larimer Center for the Arts
216 Reid Street, Palatka, FL 32177

For centuries, men dreamed of cutting a canal across the Florida peninsula. Intended to reduce shipping times, it was championed in the early 20th century as a way to make the mostly rural state a center of national commerce and trade.

Steven Noll and David Tegeder trace the twists and turns of the project through the years, drawing on a wealth of archival and primary sources. Far from being a simplistic morality tale of good environmentalists versus evil canal developers, the story of the Cross Florida Barge Canal is a complex one of competing interests amid the changing political landscape of modern Florida.



"Offers timeless lessons about pork-barrel politics and the power of citizen environmentalism. Most important, it reminds us that today's economic coup may well be tomorrow's environmental crisis."

-- Cynthia Barnett, author of Mirage

"(The) Book offers an in-depth look to the direct effects of the Cross Florida Barge Canal on Putnam County, while aiding as a primer on the history of Florida and the economic and political balances of power." -- Palatka Daily News

PCEC gratefully acknowledges the support of the Arts Council of Greater Palatka for their assistance in presenting this program.



Putnam County Environmental Council, Inc.
Rally for the Rivers - Saturday Schedule*

www.pcecweb.org

February 12-14, 2010
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St. Johns RiverFest

Saturday, February 13, 2010 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
 Riverfront Park, Palatka, Florida

Activities

Story Tellers Tent
 sponsored by
 Florida Storytellers Association

Florida Heritage Experience
 sponsored by
 Cronos Cradle Conserve

Boat Rides on the St. Johns River
 sponsored by
 St. Johns Riverkeeper

Child's Play
 sponsored by
 Florida Wildlife Federation
 Save the Manatee Club

Native Plant Sale
 sponsored by
 Paynes Prairie Chapter
 Florida Native Plant Society

Riverfront Planting
 sponsored by
 Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Florida Springs Rally
 sponsored by
 Florida Springs Coalition

Nest Box Workshop, Spotting Scopes
 sponsored by
 Audubon of Florida
 Marion, Santa Fe, Alachua and
 Four Rivers Audubon

Information Tables

Suwannee-St. Johns Sierra
 FL Defenders of the Environment
 Putnam County Democratic Party
 Putnam County Republican Party
 Floridians for a Sustainable Population
 Florida Hometown Democracy
 Putnam Citizens Alliance

Artists

Independents
 Shake Rag Artist Cooperative
 Palatka Art League
 Melrose Bay Gallery

Food by *Blue Water Bay*

Rally for the Rivers: A celebration of nature through learning, sharing, activism, music, literature, acting, arts, and fun!

	FL Songwriters Circle	Florida Authors	Amphitheater Stage <i>Sound by Eclipse Recording Studios</i>
10:00	Linda Crider	Betty Gilbert (bring the kids!)	Ben Dehart
10:30			Harri Buffalo
11:00	David Beede	Marjorie Abrams	Tom Shed
11:30			Paula & Mac Tyner
Noon	Hands Across the Sand		
12:30	<i>A demonstration against oil drilling off Florida's coasts sponsored by the Gulf Restoration Network</i>		
1:00	Dale Crider	Lucy Beebe Tobias	Bill & Eli Perras
1:30			David Beede
2:00	Bill & Eli Perras	Bill Belleville	Chuck Hardwick & Hartline
2:30			Bob Patterson
3:00	Chuck Hardwick	Mallory Connor Gary Monroe	Frank Thomas
3:30			Talking Stick
4:00	Frank Thomas	Doug Alderson	Elias & the Snyders
4:30			Dale Crider & Ocklawaha River Shiners
5:00	Whitey Markle	Benefit Dinner & Concert with Patchwork, Whitey Markle & the Swamprooters, & Johnny Matanzas & the Hombres at 6:00 p.m. Riverfront Amphitheater - Catered by <i>Blue Water Bay</i>	
5:30			



Putnam County Environmental Council, Inc.

Rally for the Rivers

February 12-14, 2010

Benefit Dinner and Concert

Saturday, February 13, 2010, 6:00 p.m.

Riverfront Park, Palatka

www.pcecweb.org

info@pcecweb.org

352-546-3560

The public is cordially invited to join PCEC members and supporters for a

Benefit Dinner & Concert

Saturday, February 13, 2010 -- Buffet begins at 6:00 p.m.

Catered by

Blue Water Bay, Melrose

Cash Bar

Great food and entertainment under the big tent at Palatka's Riverfront Park Amphitheater

Patchwork, a five-women band from Gainesville, plays everything from original Florida folk, country and bluegrass to forties swing and rhythm and blues, all on acoustic instruments, featuring award-winning banjoist and fiddler Tammy Murray. Favorites at the



Florida Folk Festival, they have graced the Mainstage for over ten years. Extraordinary harmonies and sisterly rapport that only comes from years of singing together, Patchwork's performances are a delight to see and hear.

Whitey Markle and the Swamprooters

Richard "Whitey" Markle has been a fixture on the Florida music scene for decades, writing and performing songs. His music style has been dubbed "Swampgrass," a mixture of bluegrass, folk and country with a taste of good ol' fashioned Florida "Cracker" thrown in for good measure. Whitey and the Swamprooters have released two CD's,



Cracker Blue and *Hog Wild*. He has also written a book about his Florida experiences called *Whitey Markle's Recipes with Tales and Tunes*.

Johnny Matanzas and the Hombres

Johnny Matanzas and the Hombres play ocean inspired original and time worn roots rock. Veteran songwriters and instrumentalists, they drifted together along the Atlantic barrier island beaches for one purpose: to enjoy playing music with (and for) their friends! So friends, take your shoes off and wiggle your toes in the sand as this eclectic, rhythm driven posse from the Matanzas basin rides the musical island waves. The Band: Jeff Million, vocals, guitar, dobro; Dick Hofer, vocals, percussion, banjo; Dr. Theodore "Big House Teddy" Deroche-vocals, guitar, mandolin; Jim Stafford-Bass; and, John Henry Hankinson, Jr.-vocals, harmonica.



Tickets: \$50.00

Purchase online at www.pcecweb.org

or send check to

PCEC, PO Box 1836, Interlachen, FL 32148

Limited seating - reservations encouraged!

Email karen@pcecweb.org

Support PCEC - be a Rally Sponsor!

Purchase a Table for Eight: \$500

Sound by Eclipse Recording Studio, St. Augustine



Putnam County Environmental Council, Inc.
Rally for the Rivers - Sunday Schedule

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Ocklawaha River Fest

Sunday, February 14, 2010 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Ocklawaha River at Rodman Dam

Ocklawaha Stage*

- 11:00 Lee Kelly
- 11:30 Open Jam
- Noon Dale Crider
- 12:30 Open Jam
- 1:00 Keith Peters
- 1:30 Open Jam
- 2:00 Buck & Maggie
- 2:30 Open Jam
- 3:00 Whitey Markle
- 3:30 Open Jam

Muscogee Nation Exhibit

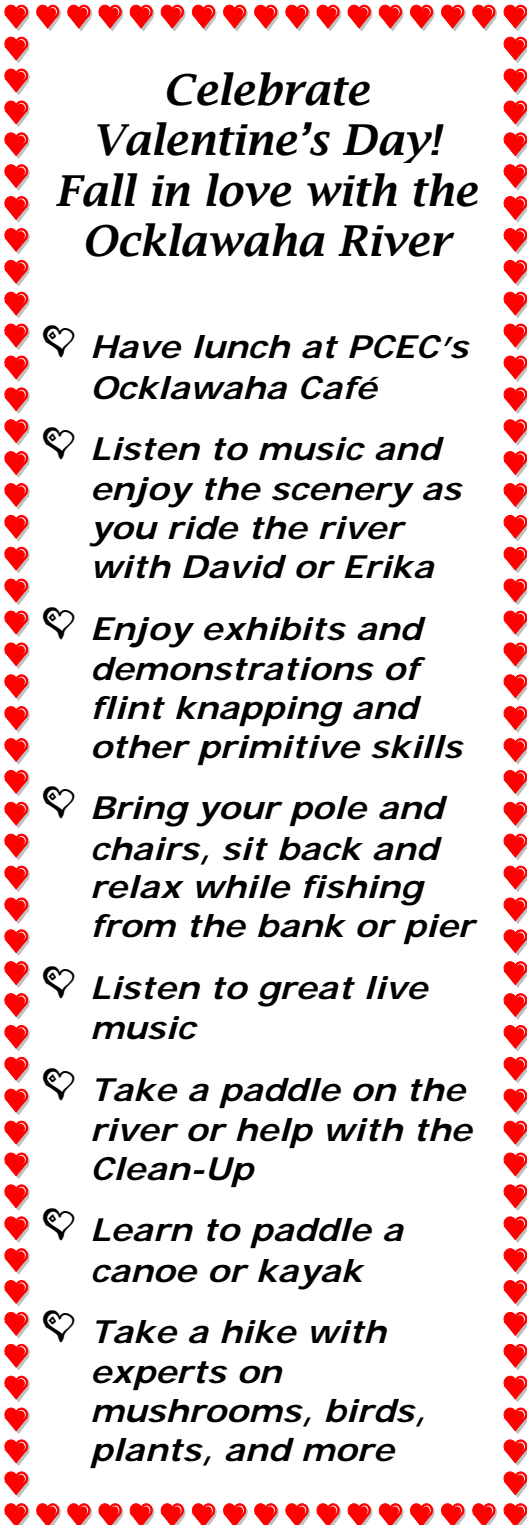
Archeological Exhibits

Primitive Skills Demonstrations

Historical Displays of the Ocklawaha River and Rodman Dam

Come prepared to stay awhile!

*Dress for the weather
Bring the kids,
chairs, blanket,
binoculars.....
whatever you need!*



Celebrate Valentine's Day! Fall in love with the Ocklawaha River

- ♡ *Have lunch at PCEC's Ocklawaha Café*
- ♡ *Listen to music and enjoy the scenery as you ride the river with David or Erika*
- ♡ *Enjoy exhibits and demonstrations of flint knapping and other primitive skills*
- ♡ *Bring your pole and chairs, sit back and relax while fishing from the bank or pier*
- ♡ *Listen to great live music*
- ♡ *Take a paddle on the river or help with the Clean-Up*
- ♡ *Learn to paddle a canoe or kayak*
- ♡ *Take a hike with experts on mushrooms, birds, plants, and more*

Public is Welcome

Ocklawaha River Clean-up
Sponsored by PCEC and Suwannee/St. Johns Sierra
Contact: [Robert](#) or [Knox](#) for more information

Free Boat Rides
On the Ocklawaha
Sponsored by PCEC and Capt. Erika Ritter and David Zeigler
Departure times on the half hour from 10-3:30

Free Paddling Workshops for Beginners
Sponsored by PCEC and Paddle Florida
10 am, Noon, & 2:30 pm
Canoes/Kayaks and equipment provided
Space is limited - first come, first served

Free live music
Courtesy of generous musicians

Food & Drinks
Benefits PCEC

**Off-Road Bike Ride
Buckman Lock to Rodman Dam**
Sponsored by PCEC and Bike Florida
Contact [Linda](#) for more information



Putnam County Environmental Council, Inc.
Rally for the Rivers - Field Trip Schedule

February 12-14, 2010

info@pcecweb.org

www.pcecweb.org

352-546-3560

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12:

William Bartram's St. Johns River: The Traders Hideout (*Paddle and Hike*).

This trip is one of our "Wild Florida Chronicles" series and is being offered as part of Putnam County's "Rally for the Rivers." Everyone's welcome!! On our "Wild Florida Chronicles" tours, we follow the routes of some famous Florida explorations. We'll explore the area of the St. Johns near the "Lower Store," where the traders had to hide their wares (including Bartram's supplies) during Indian unrest. Along our route, we'll stop on an island visited by Bartram, where we'll identify and discuss the lore of some of the local plants and animals. More information at <http://www.adventureoutpost.net/ToursO-Z.htm#Ockla3> To make reservations call 386-454-0611 or e-mail Lars Anderson at riverguide2000@yahoo.com

Rodman Pool Tours Pontoon boat tours of Rodman from Kenwood Landing. \$10/person for 2 hour trip. Maximum 6 persons per trip. Reservations Required. For trip departure times or more information contact Capt. Erika Ritter of *A Cruising Down The River* 352-546-5718 or email captainerikaritter@yahoo.com

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13:

St. Johns River to Murphy Island - *Paddle and hike*.

Meeting at Brown's landing at 8:30 am. We'll paddle along the banks of the St Johns River to Murphy Island, and walk the interior trail learning about native plants and how the original Floridians survived on a freshwater riverine system. This field trip should last around three hours and the fee is \$40 which includes kayaks/equipment, delivery, insurance, and guide. Reservations required, please sign up by Thursday February 11th by 5 pm. For more information contact Brack Barker at Wild Florida Adventures, brack154@msn.com or 352-215-4396/cell.

Rodman Reservoir (Florida's Pompeii) On this trip we'll examine the history of the failed Florida Barge Canal (of which this is a remnant). As we paddle a section of the reservoir, we'll pass an old ford, the site of a Second Seminole War fort, and submerged sites of Blue Spring and Seminole graveyard. More information at <http://www.adventureoutpost.net/ToursO-Z.htm#Ockla3> To make reservations call 386-454-0611 or e-mail Lars Anderson at riverguide2000@yahoo.com

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FREE Pontoon Boat tours of the St. Johns River with St. Johns Riverkeeper Trips departs from Palatka's Riverfront Park Amphitheater at 9:00 am, 10:30, and noon. Sponsored by the St. Johns Riverkeeper. No reservations required; first come, first served.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Wild Lore of the Ocklawaha River (*Below the dam*) The George Kirkpatrick Dam (formerly Rodman Dam) is a fitting launch place for our exploration of a beautifully preserved section of the river as it once was, and as it will hopefully be again. Fantastic riverine forest, lots of wildlife, exploration of an ancient Indian mound and steam boat landing highlight this tour. Unlike the upstream sections, where the canopy is often closed overhead, the lower Ocklawaha is more open, allowing us to get a sweeping view of the foliage lining the river. But, it's also much more braided. Many side streams and confusing forks make this an interesting area to explore, but can turn a leisurely paddle into an extreme workout if you make a wrong turn. You won't want to get too far ahead of the guide on this trip. More information at <http://www.adventureoutpost.net/ToursO-Z.htm#Ockla3> To make reservations call 386-454-0611 or e-mail Lars Anderson at riverguide2000@yahoo.com

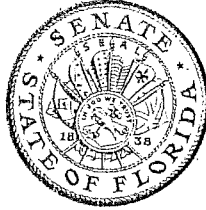
FREE Pontoon Boat tours of the Ocklawaha River from Rodman Dam Trips departs from the west side of Rodman Dam (drive over the dam and turn left on dirt road - watch for signs) beginning at 10:00 am. Boats will depart about every 45 minutes for rides compliments of the Putnam County Environmental Council, Capt. Erika Ritter, and David Zeigler. No reservations required; first come, first served.

Expert Led Nature Hikes Along Rodman Dam Take a walk with one of our experts and explore the Ocklawaha floodplain forest and uplands in the Ocala National Forest. No reservations necessary.

Off Road Bike Tour - Buckman Lock to Rodman Dam The 8-mile route we will follow takes us across the Cross Florida Barge Canal at Buckman Lock and down the Cross Florida Greenway to Rodman Dam, then over the dam to the Ocklawaha River where music, food, river rides, food, and more await. Contact Linda Crider at lbcrider@aol.com for more information.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Bear Creek - Lower Ocklawaha River On this trip we'll explore the beautiful hardwood swamp forests flanking the lower Ocklawaha River. This remote little stream offers a great opportunity to explore the wild beauty of a swamp without getting wet (usually). On this trip, we explore the maze of creeks and sloughs that braid through the backwaters of the lower Ocklawaha basin. The first leg of our journey follows Bear Creek and Indian Village Slough into the heart of the swamp. Much of this section lies within Little Lake George Wilderness Area. Cypress, tupelo, maple, cabbage palm, holly and more, form a closed canopy overhead. In their shadows, we take in the rich sights, sounds and smells of the regal bottomland forest. More information at <http://www.adventureoutpost.net/ToursO-Z.htm#Ockla3> To make reservations call 386-454-0611 or e-mail Lars Anderson at riverguide2000@yahoo.com



THE FLORIDA SENATE
SENATOR JEFF ATWATER
President

October 21, 2009

Dr. R. Philip Twogood
Secretary of the Senate
405 The Capitol
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Secretary Twogood:

On October 7, 2009, pursuant to Senate Rule 1.5, I created the Senate Select Committee on Florida's Inland Waters, with Senator Constantine serving as chair. This committee will serve as a stand-alone select committee and will be staffed by the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation. The full membership is as follows:

Lee Constantine, Chair
Al Lawson, Vice Chair
Carey Baker
Charlie Dean
Rudy Garcia

Larcenia Bullard
Paula Dockery
Charlie Justice

Please let me know if you need any further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Atwater".

Jeff Atwater
President

/sm/deb

c: Senators
Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation



THE FLORIDA SENATE

SELECT COMMITTEE ON FLORIDA'S INLAND WATERS

Location

325 Knott Building

Mailing Address

404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100
(850) 487-5372

Senator Lee Constantine, *Chair*

Senator Alfred "Al" Lawson, Jr., *Vice Chair*

Professional Staff: Wayne S. Kiger, *Staff Director*

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON FLORIDA'S INLAND WATERS IS CONDUCTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON

PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF FLORIDA'S SPRINGS AND AFFILIATED WATERSHEDS

Friday, February 12, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Quality Inn Riverside
201 N. First Street
Palatka, Florida 32177
(386) 328-3481

In conjunction with:

*Putnam County Environmental Council
Rally for the Rivers*

CONTACT INFORMATION:

SENATOR LEE CONSTANTINE, CHAIR

(407) 331-9675

Wayne Kiger, Staff Director

(850) 487-5372