

Martin County Projects Update



Rivers Coalition Meeting

March 25, 2015 at 6 p.m., City of Stuart Commission Chambers
(Update provided by Deborah Drum, Ecosystem Restoration & Management Division)

- We continue to coordinate with FDEP and the Martin County Department of Health on the Microbial Source Tracking Study. Our next sampling event is scheduled for April 9th. We have requested that the ACOE slow down the Lake Okeechobee releases this week to 500 cfs, and then to 0 cfs to accommodate the sampling, so that the data can be interpreted consistently with the absence of Lake O water in the results.
- Lake O currently at 14.22 feet
 - 1 year ago 13.59 feet
 - 2 years ago 13.95 feet
- MC staff has been working with the consultant on finalizing the design and permitting for a baffle box that serves the Southwest Prong of the Manatee Pocket. The basin is approximately 200 acres and consists of high impervious areas such as the Publix's shopping center, multi-family residential areas, and Murray Middle School. The Nutrient Separating Baffle Box will capture sediments, floatables and oils prior to discharging to the Manatee Pocket. Installation of the baffle box is scheduled for July 2015.
- MC staff has been working with the consultant on finalizing the design and permitting for the installation of three control structures on existing lakes with in the Martin County Golf Course. The control structures are designed to detain the first inch of runoff from the golf course and provide residence time within the existing lakes for water quality treatment. Construction of the control structures are scheduled for early Fall 2015.
- The Be Floridian summer-time fertilizer free ban (June 1 – September 30) education campaign is being implemented in cooperation with the Marine Resources Council (MRC), City of Stuart, Town of Sewell's Point, St. Lucie County, City of Port St. Lucie and City of Fort Pierce. Staff will meet with MRC in the near future to develop a Be Floridian Indian River Lagoon website and mass media outreach materials for this summer's ban period.
- MC staff and 15 students on an Alternative Spring Break from George Mason University planted a rain garden at Halpatiokee Park near the concession stand. The rain garden consisted of over 300 plants including cocoplum, wild coffee, swamp lily, native ferns and grasses, and red maple, dahoon holly and sweetbay magnolia trees. Mulch was donated by the Solid Waste Division. The cost of the plants for the project was \$1,500.
- I received report from our staff working in Tallahassee this week. At the Senate Appropriations meeting this morning, both Senator Negron and Senator Altman made statements in support of land acquisition.