

## February 2014 News and Events

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Click "Read More" to get all the details.

MONTHLY MEETING: Wednesday, February 19th, 7pm at Harry P. Leu Gardens, 1920 N Forest Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803

PROGRAM: Jim Howe and Carolina Griffith discuss the TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP)

The TPP is a secret international trade treaty that few government officials, a handful of advisers, and elite business executives have been working on for several years in unprecedented secrecy. If the TPP passes, environmental regulations will be challenged by the corporations and if they are not overturned, the government behind the legislation can be sued. Join us to see what you can do to stop the TPP, and learn how to get involved.

Jim Howe has been working with Floridians against the Trans-Pacific Partnership since January 2013.

Carolina Griffith is a new organizer working with the Orlando Light Brigade, part of a national network that has focused on many issues impacting the environment from the TPP to the Keystone Pipeline.

Door opens at 6:30pm, with light snacks and socializing. Programs are held from 7-8:45pm. Admission is always free, and the public is invited - So come on down, and bring some friends!

## OUTINGS LEADERS WANTED

Sierra Club Outings Leader Training: Saturday, February 15th, 9am-2pm at Oakland Nature Preserve, 747 Machete Trail, Oakland, FL 34787

If you are a member of Sierra Club and interested in becoming an activity leader for Sierra Outings (adults) or Inner City Outings (youth), we invite you to outings leader training class. The class will be taught by Rudy Scheffer, the Florida Chapter Outings Chair. The cost is \$5 per person and this includes lunch. To RSVP contact Mary-Slater at 407-481-4398 or sierraclub01@yahoo.com

## ACTION NEEDED

Community Meeting to Discuss Helping Save Ecologically Diverse Lands in East Orange County: Thursday, Feb 13th, 6 PM, at Corner Lake Middle School, 1700 Chuluota Rd, Orlando, FL 32820

Learn about large scale development proposal to change Rural Land Future Land Use designation to Rural Transition for Lake Pickett North/Lake Pickett South. This is an ecological diverse area comprised of 2,000 acres next to Big Econlockhatchee River off Lake Pickett Road in east Orange County. The project would add 10,000 more cars to the area's clogged roadways.

Save Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge: Join Audubon at public hearings in New Smyrna Beach and Titusville to say NO to rocket launch sites in our refuge! Your comments at the hearings are urgently needed - please share this important alert!

February 11, 5-8pm at New Smyrna Beach High School Gymnasium, 1015 10th Street, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

February 12th, 5-8pm at Eastern Florida State College, Titusville Campus, John Henry Jones Gymnasium, 1311 North U.S. 1, Titusville, FL 32796

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/459510394176136/>

Meetup: <http://www.meetup.com/CentralFloridaSierraClub/events/165403422/>

**CALL TO ACTION: WE WANT CLEAN WATER! Rally to Tally:** Tuesday, February 18th, meet the bus at 5 am at Barnes and Noble, 2418 E Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL 32803

**HUGE Rally to Tally (Tallahassee) and we NEED YOU on the bus to help push the Floridian's Clean Water Declaration for clean water in our state!** \$40 to attend this all-day event, we leave at 5am from Orlando, and return by 9pm. We realize this is a long day--we have much to do! Rally and meetings with politicians. Contact Marge Holt for details and to RSVP: [marjorieholt@florida.sierraclub.org](mailto:marjorieholt@florida.sierraclub.org) or 407-679-6759

Sign the petition: <http://wewantcleanwater.com/>

Learn more and please join us, here:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1475614649332643/>

Meetup: <http://www.meetup.com/CentralFloridaSierraClub/events/162598812/>

**Help Save Econ River Ecologically Diverse Rural Lands:** Thursday, February 20th, 9am at Orange County Board of County Commission (BCC) Chambers, 201 S. Rosalind Avenue, Orlando FL 32801

**Important Sit-In with the Local Planning Agency to oppose the development of Ecologically Diverse Lands in East Orange County, right behind UCF.** Remember to come back on and Tuesday, March 11th, 9am for additional public comment and to hear the BCC decision.

See Community Meeting above for additional information, and please join us:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/203483643177655/>

Meetup: <http://www.meetup.com/CentralFloridaSierraClub/events/164181252/>

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Orlando Wetlands Festival: Saturday, February 15, 9am-3pm at Fort Christmas Historical Park, 1300 North Fort Christmas Road, Christmas, FL 32709

This year the City of Orlando, Orange Audubon Society, and Orange County Parks and Recreation Department have teamed up to bring you the Best Wetlands Festival in the United States. Learn more at [www.orlandowetlands.org](http://www.orlandowetlands.org)

Film Screening and Panel Conversation, "The Florida Wildlife Corridor Expedition: Everglades to Okefenokee"; Wednesday, February 19, 5:30pm-8:30pm at University of Central Florida Fairwinds Alumni Center, 12676 Gemini Blvd. North, Orlando, FL

They traveled 1000 miles in 100 days through the heart of natural Florida... COME JOIN US!

Free Admission, Limited Seating. This is not a Sierra Club sponsored event. For more information on the film, visit [www.FloridaWildlifeCorridor.org](http://www.FloridaWildlifeCorridor.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1445510395679771/>

Meetup: <http://www.meetup.com/CentralFloridaSierraClub/events/164759452/>

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Meetup - <http://www.meetup.com/CentralFloridaSierraClub>

Website - <http://www.centralfloridasierra.org>