



Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival

-- a hands-on nature experience you can carry away!

A day to explore and enjoy the incredible wildlife and natural environment of the Charlotte Harbor region

NOTE: This summary is always being updated! This version was last updated February 5, 2008.

"I got more than I ever thought I would – all my dreams came true," said 5-year-old daughter to her mother Janette S. Knowlton, Charlotte County Asst County Attorney at the 2004 festival. "Now, that's what I call fun," said her son.

- **Year 1: March 31, 2001** at Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center in Punta Gorda
- **Year 2: March 2, 2002** at Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center in Punta Gorda **MOVED** to FDEP Charlotte Harbor Preserves Office
- **Year 3: February 1, 2003** at Tippecanoe Scrub/Charlotte County Sports Park in Port Charlotte – estimated attendance: 1,600
- **Year 4: January 31, 2004** at Tippecanoe Environmental Park/Charlotte County Sports Park in Port Charlotte – estimated attendance: 1,000 with bad weather
 - **58% ranked the festival as excellent (9 or 10)**
- **Year 5: January 29, 2005** at Tippecanoe Environmental Park/Charlotte County Sports Park in Port Charlotte – estimated attendance: 4,000!

Students from Polk County Camp Fire conducted surveys and tallied license plate information. From the plate information we know that people who attended the festival live in at least 13 Florida counties, 17 states and Canada to attend the festival.
- **Year 6: February 4, 2006** at Tippecanoe Environmental Park/Charlotte County Sports Park in Port Charlotte – cancelled due to bad weather
- **Year 7: October 7, 2006** at Charlotte County Sports Park in Port Charlotte
- **Year 8: November 3, 2007** at Charlotte County Sports Park in Port Charlotte
- **Year 9: November 22, 2008** at Charlotte County Sports Park in Port Charlotte

Festival Planning Committee: The festival is organized by a committee of volunteers dedicated to making the festival an exciting and informative occasion for everyone. (As of 2007, an asterisk indicates that the person didn't actively plan the festival.)

First Name	Last Name	Company	11/3/2007	10/7/2006	2/4/2006	1/29/2005	1/31/2004	2/1/2003	3/2/2002	3/31/2001
Alicia	Accardi	Charlotte County Utilities	Y							
Rebecca	Allen	Charlotte County Visitor's Bureau	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Brenda	Brooks	CREW	*							
Betsy	Clayton	Lee County Blueways	*							
William and Betty	Coombs							Y		
Roger	DeBruler	Sea Grant	Y							
Laura	DiGruttolo	Charlotte County Parks & Recreation				Y	Y			
Monica	Dorken	Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center, Inc.	*					Y		
Kevin	Edwards		*							
Jim	Finch	Charlotte County Sports Park	Y	Y						
Kathy	Futch	Peace River Center for Writers	*			Y				
Miles	Gibson							Y		
Gail	Giles		*							
Marilyn	Goodwin	Sierra Club-Charlotte Harbor	Y							
Barbara	Graettinger	Harbour Heights Civic Assoc.					Y			
Connie	Harbeson						Y			
Lynn	Harrell	Peace River Center for Writers				Y				
Michael P.	Haymans			Y	Y		Y			
Debbie	Highsmith	CHNEP CAC					Y			

Maran	Hilgendorf	Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Paul	Holmes	Peace River Audubon Society	*							
Tim	Horton						Y			
Peggy	Kampert							Y		
Carla	Kappmeyer	Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves						Y		
Barbara	Knapp	Bailey-Mathews Shell Museum	*							
Barbara	Kula	Charlotte County Environmental and Extionsion Service		Y						
Ernesto	Lasso de la Vega									
Joy and Larry	Linn	Punta Gorda Isles					Y	Y	Y	Y
Cathy	Loyola	City of Cape Coral Env. Res. Div.					Y			
Mary	Magsby		Y	Y	Y					
Carol	Mahler	Peace River Center for Writers				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Judy	Malbuisson	Arts and Humanities Council of Charlotte County		Y						
Cindy	Marks	The Florida Bat Center						Y	Y	Y
Randy	McCormick									Y
Suellen	McElroy	Environmental & Extension Services	Y							
Sally	McPherson	SFWMD - Fort Myers Service Center		Y	Y					
Amy	Meese	Sarasota Co. Natural Resources Admin.					Y			
Anne-Marie	Miles	WGPU Public Media					Y			
Kaley	Miller	Mosaic Fertilizer	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Julie	Morris	Charlotte County Parks, Rec & Cultural Resources		Y	Y					
Kayton	Nedza		Y							
Annette	Nielsen	FDEP Florida Park Service	Y	Y	Y		Y			
Chris	Novak	Charlotte County Parks, Rec & Cultural Resources				Y	Y			

Cathy	Olson	Peace River Audubon Society						Y	Y	Y
Pam	Phillippe	Charlotte County 4-H		Y	Y					
Angela	Polo	FYN	*							
Tina	Powell	Charlotte County Parks & Recreation								
Stephanie	Presseller	Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center, Inc.					Y			
Peter	Quasius		*							
Kathi	Rader-Gibson							Y		
Suellen	Reske	Sierra Club-Charlotte Harbor	Y							
Bobbi	Rodgers	CHEC - Cedar Point Environmental Park	Y	Y	Y	Y				
Melissa	Roe									
Kathleen	Rohrer		Y							
Susan	Scott	City of Cape Coral - Dept. of Comm. Dev.					Y			
Ruth	Spies		Y							
Jean	Srodes	Turtle Talks	Y	Y		Y				
Betty	Talburt	Harbour Heights Civic Association		Y	Y	Y	Y			
Sheryl	Terepka	Creek Kids at J. Colin English Elementary School	Y				Y			
Tish	Thomas	Charlotte Local Education Foundation/Teacher Supply Depot				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Valerie	Weikel	Charlotte County Extension					Y			
Inga	Williams	Charlotte County Comprehensive Planning	Y			Y	Y	Y	Y	
Toni	Yard	FRMI Charlotte Harbor Field Station	Y			Y	Y	Y		
Debby	Zeilman	Sarasota County Natural Resources		Y			Y			

Festival Sponsors: In 2003 sponsor categories were identified and have remained.

Sponsorship opportunities begin at \$100 and can be cash or in-kind support (with approval of the committee). There are many levels of sponsorship. The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program is pleased to support the Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival for the sixth year as the event's Bald Eagle level sponsor.

DOLPHIN \$100: includes booth, table, two chairs and name on event program

SEA TURTLE \$250: includes dolphin-level benefits + name on promotional material

OSPREY \$500: includes sea turtle-level benefits + name mentioned at festival

FLORIDA PANTHER \$1,000: includes osprey-level benefits + festival area named for sponsor. With an additional donation of \$250, the company name will be included on the totebags given away. With an additional donation of \$1,000, the company logo will be included.

BALD EAGLE \$3,500: includes panther-level benefits + logo on promotional material

The fiscal agent for the festival was CHEC in 2001 and 2002, Peace River Center for Writers in 2003-5, Lemon Bay Conservancy in March 2006 and CHNEP/SWFRPC since the festival held in October 2006.

Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival -- Sponsors	3/31/2001	3/2/2002	2/1/2003	1/31/2004	1/29/2005	2/4/2006	10/4/2006	CHNF 11-3-07
Charlotte Harbor NEP	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
AAA-1 Portable Sanitation	no details	Y*						
Aquatic Release Foundation								
Ayres Associates							\$500	
Babcock Wilderness Adventures		\$100.00	\$250.00	\$100.00				
Banks Engineering							\$500	\$1,250
Barraco and Associates, Inc.								\$500
Barrier Island Parks Society					\$100.00	\$250	\$100	
Bonita Bay Group				\$100.00		\$100	\$100	
<i>Broadway Bagel</i>								
Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association (CRCA)						\$100		
<i>Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium</i>								
Charlotte County		Y*						
Charlotte County Community Development Department								
Charlotte County Economic Development			\$100.00					
Charlotte County Environmental & Extension Services, Solid Waste Division						\$250	\$250	\$250

<i>Charlotte County Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Dept</i>									
<i>Charlotte County Utilities</i>						\$250			
Charlotte County Visitor's Bureau				\$250.00	\$250.00	\$100	\$100		\$100
Charlotte Engineering and Surveying			\$100.00						
<i>Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center</i>		Y*							
Charlotte Local Education Foundation/Teacher Supply Depot						\$250			
<i>Charlotte Sun</i>									
<i>City of Cape Coral</i>									
City of North Port									
College of Life Foundation, Inc.									\$1,250
Conservancy of Southwest Florida									
Cracker Services									
<i>D.B. Sound System</i>									
DeLisi Fitzgerald, Inc.									\$500
Dufresne and Henry			\$150.00						
EarthBalance (was Florida Environmental)	no details	\$500.00				\$250	\$500		\$250
Fish Florida Foundation									
Five Star General Contracting									\$100
Florida Bat Center	no details								
Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association (FAPA)									
Florida Marine Mammal Stranding Network-Southwest Region					\$100.00				
Florida Phosphate Council (defunct as of 2006)				\$250.00					
Florida Power & Light Co							\$500		\$500
FNPS Coccolaba Chapter		Y*							
Fossilbabe						\$100			
Friends of Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves		\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100	\$100		\$125
Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve							\$100		
Greg Stuart and Associates			\$100.00						
<i>Gulf Carts of Port Charlotte, Inc.</i>									
Gulf Coast Kayak					\$100.00				
Herston Engineering Services, Inc.		\$500.00							
Home Depot									
Janicki Environmental				\$100.00	\$100.00	\$250	\$250		
Johnson Engineering		\$500.00	\$250.00						\$500
Kimley Horn			\$100.00						
King Fisher Fleet					\$100.00				

Kitson & Partners								\$1,000
Land Solutions								\$250
<i>Lee County Electric Cooperative</i>								
Lee County Smart Growth						\$100		
Lemon Bay Conservancy								\$250
McKinley, Ittersagen, Gunderson & Bertsson, P.A.								\$250
<i>Michael P. Haymans</i>								
Moore and Waksler, P.L.								\$250
Mosaic Fertilizer				\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,250
<i>Mote Marine Laboratory</i>								
Nav-A-Gator					\$1,000.00			
Peace River Audubon Society	no details	\$500.00	\$500.00		\$500.00	\$100		\$100
Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority								\$250
Peninsula Property of Cape Haze								\$750
<i>Punta Gorda-Port Charlotte Association of Realtors</i>								
Sarasota County Natural Resources			\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250		
<i>Serbin Printing</i>					\$1,000.00			
Shell Creek Lodge	no details							
Sierra Club Calusa Group					\$100.00	\$100		
South Florida Water Management District				\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500	\$500	\$500
Southwest Florida Land Developers, Inc.			\$250.00	\$100.00				
Southwest Florida Water Management District						\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000
Stormwater Management Academy								\$847
Tamiami Art and Frame	no details							
Tarpon Bay Explorers/JN Ding Darling NWF					\$100.00	\$100		
<i>Tents and Events</i>								
The Little Pine Island Mitigation Bank/Mariner Properties Development, Inc.				\$250.00				
Turtle Talks/Zander Srodes							\$100	\$100
<i>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</i>								
VanasseDaylor		\$250.00	\$250.00					
W. Dexter Bender & Assoc, Inc.		\$100.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$100.00		\$500	
Wal-Mart Murdock Circle								\$100
<i>Waste Management</i>						\$500		
WCI Communities				\$250.00				
<i>WGPU Public Media</i>								

Wieler Engineering Corporation			\$100.00					
WilsonMiller, Inc.		\$250.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500	\$250	\$500
<i>Winn Dixie</i>								
Winn's Landscaping and Technical Design, Inc.		\$100.00						
FUNDS CONTRIBUTED INCLUDING NEP \$	NA	\$4,700.00	\$4,650.00	\$5,250.00			\$8,000	\$15,722
FUNDS CONTRIBUTED IN-KIND	NA	NA	\$9,450.00	\$9,200.00			\$3,250	\$6,950
		15 sponsors, 11 with cash	19 sponsors, 16 with cash	30 sponsors, 15 with cash	30 sponsors, 18 with cash	33 sponsrs, 22 with cash	32 sponsors, 27 with cash	27 sponsors

Festival includes. . .

- Exhibits – environmental organizations, businesses and artists
- Presentations
- Guided Walks
- Guided Wagon Rides (not offered in CHNF05 due to the condition of the trails)
- Musicians
- Children’s Discover Zone with activities and has included special appearances from Water Drop and Freddy the Alligator (costumed characters from WMD) and much more

The programs developed for the day of each festival provided in a separate PDF file. These programs provide details on the activities offered.

The festival charged admission and exhibitor fees until 2005 when both were waived with all expenses born by sponsors and raffle proceeds.

- 2005 and subsequent admission was free
- 2004 admission was \$2/car
- 2003 admission was \$2/car -- \$728
- 2002 admission was \$3/person older than 12
- 2001 admission was \$2/person older than 12
- Again won’t charge exhibitors fee but will provide tables and chairs.
 - Won’t charge an exhibitors fee in 2005 but also won’t provide tables or chairs. Will ask exhibitors to donate an item to be raffled. Any exhibitor who sponsors (at \$100 or more) will have a 10x4 space under a tent with tables and chairs provided.
 - Nonprofit with exhibit only – no charge
 - Nonprofit with items for sale -- \$20
 - Artisan/for profit with items for sale -- \$30

Costs in 2003 and 2004 were:

Table rental @ \$10 table

Chair rental @ \$2/two chairs

- Food vendors will not necessarily be charged. will continue to be charged \$50
- Won't sell refreshments but will allow vendors to sell them or find another group to handle this task.

Budget Details

INCOME	3/31/2001	3/2/2002	2/1/2003	1/31/2004	1/29/2005	2/4/2006	10/7/2006	11/3/2007
CHNEP	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Other sponsors and Misc	\$1,000.00	\$3,055.00	\$3,150.00	\$4,250.00	\$4,450.00	\$5,900.00	\$5,500.00	\$13,222.00
Exhibitor fees	\$700.00	\$530.00	\$598.00	\$446.00				
Food vendor fees	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$0.00			
Sales not broken down (photo sales in 2002)	\$2,502.00	\$18.00	\$0.00	\$1,381.44	\$104.00			
Refreshment sales		\$304.45	\$212.39					
Shirt sales		\$362.00	\$330.00					
Raffle					\$724.20		\$643.00	\$665.00
Donations								\$155.00
Entrance fees	\$0.00	\$1,089.00	\$948.75					
Total income		\$7,958.45	\$7,889.14		\$7,778.20			\$16,387.00
Carry forward from prior year			\$2,529.93	\$4,979.42	\$4,605.23	\$3,794.34	\$3,826.48	\$0.00
Budget available	\$6,702.00	\$7,958.45	\$18,308.21	\$13,656.86	\$12,383.43	\$12,194.34	\$12,469.48	\$16,387.00
Sponsor funds deposited by RPC					\$200.00	\$600.00		
EXPENSES	3/31/2001	3/2/2002	2/1/2003	1/31/2004	1/29/2005	2/4/2006	10/7/2006	11/3/2007
Fiscal agent (CHEC first two years, PRCW next three years, LBC in 2006, NEP/RPC since 10/06)	\$3,994.47	\$1,138.50	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Event Coordinator		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,652.23	\$0.00

CHEC-reimbursement from 2001	\$0.00	\$1,407.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Facility rental	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$850.00	\$650.00	
Facility staff assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,194.02	\$514.59	
County permits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Florida Dept of Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$51.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Advertising	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,072.95	\$243.60	\$1,038.21	\$700.40	\$0.00	\$515.20	
Printing: sponsor-exhib brochure	\$775.57	\$961.45	\$475.00	\$1,457.46	\$1,429.96	\$351.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Printing: promo bookmark	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,292.00	\$1,373.21	\$0.00	
Postage: sponsor-exhib brochure	\$191.92	\$0.00	\$198.50	\$554.40	\$556.72	147.26	0.00	0.00	
Postage: promot bookmark	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1239.48	\$1,165.02	\$0.00	
Security	\$240.00	\$140.00	\$370.00	\$420.00	\$387.00	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$304.00	
Parking	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$500.00	
Photography								\$200.00	
Signs	\$195.00	\$0.00	\$48.00	\$308.00	\$910.00	\$258.00	\$170.00	\$1,319.00	
Exhibitor: Safari Todd	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Rental: food service item in 2002; tv, dvd/vcr in 2006	\$0.00	\$86.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$171.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Rentals: tent		\$250.00	\$944.00	\$1,905.00	\$1,940.00	\$1,720.00	\$1,800.00	\$5,250.00	
Rentals: tables/chairs	\$546.64	\$256.50	\$632.00	\$503.00	\$727.50	\$817.50	\$850.00	\$847.00	

Rentals: portable restrooms	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$430.50	\$530.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$430.00
Festival shirts (2001), bags (2004) and bags (2007)	\$1,367.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$798.71	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$2,533.98
Refreshments, etc.	\$388.25	\$657.73	\$124.49	\$120.63	\$93.16			
Lunches/tips/d onation to volunteers	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$220.00	\$275.00	\$105.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$196.00
Mowing								\$250.00
Themed Areas	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$632.03	\$385.83	\$842.39	\$300.00	\$695.00	\$670.00
Total expenses	\$7,698.86	\$5,038.55	\$5,973.48	\$9,051.63	\$8,530.04	\$8,367.86	\$13,319.48	\$14,179.77
Balance available for next year	(\$996.86)	\$2,919.90	\$4,462.59	\$4,605.23	\$3,853.39	\$3,826.48	\$0.00	\$2,207.23