

September 2021

EPA RELEASES NEW CRITERIA

A collection of innovative, science-based and data-informed tools to support efforts to reduce nutrient pollution and harmful algal blooms (HABs) were shared publicly in August by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The resources were developed to help state, territorial and authorized Tribal partners address adverse effects caused by nutrient pollution.

Recommendations to mitigate nutrient pollution have not been updated for 20 years. The EPA's new resources include development of a set of tools that co-regulators can use to implement their nutrient reduction priorities.

The EPA also released a helpful, interactive web-based mapping tool that allows the public to track reported cyanobacteria in freshwater areas.

New support documentation was also released to aid partners with implementation criteria to protect people from organisms, such as viruses and bacteria, while swimming at beaches, lakes, and rivers.

These three resources were developed using today's science and provide a set of standards that will help co-regulators and the public develop and monitor water quality models and initiatives in many unique locations throughout the nation.

Naples Area Board of REALTORS®

Water Quality Advisory



As the voice of REALTORS® in the Naples area, NABOR® has and will always advocate for action to reduce or eliminate any man-made or environmental threats to home ownership, property values and the living standards in Florida.

NABOR® PRESIDENT TALKS ABOUT ETHICS & WATER

In addition to her duties as current President of Naples Area Board of REALTORS® (NABOR®), Corey McCloskey is also a passionate community activist and advocate for water quality. She is the co-chair of NABOR®'s Water Quality Task Force, editor of this newsletter, and former board member for Calusa Waterkeepers. Her diverse breadth of knowledge—as both a resident and REALTOR®—has made her a preferred speaker on the regional water quality conference circuit. On September 8th, President McCloskey was a featured panelist at the Real Estate Investment Society's "2021 Real Estate Symposium."

During her presentation, President McCloskey addressed the challenges REALTORS® face when discussing water quality issues with potential buyers. First, she assured the audience that REALTORS® follow a strict Code of Ethics, which includes "painting a true picture" of Florida's water quality situation. However, because it is difficult to predict when a water issue may arise (like a red tide or blue-green algae bloom), she explained that, when asked by agents how to address this topic with buyers, her recommendation to REALTORS® is to provide buyers with accurate and reliable data – like this newsletter or information from the resources found on page 2 – so they can make informed decisions about whether and where to invest in local real estate.



President Corey McCloskey (on the big screen) was an expert panelist during the 2021 Real Estate Symposium on September 8, 2021.

NABOR® members came out in force to help clean the beach during the Clean Up Florida Water event on July 28th.

Pictured are (l-r): Jorge Velasquez, Gwen Davis-Gideon, Marta VanderStarre, Nancy Bjork, and Kat Villamizar.



LIQUID OXYGEN SHORTAGE

The latest wave of COVID-19 cases across Florida is putting a strain on water treatment centers as tankers that deliver liquid oxygen are being redirected to hospitals. Liquid oxygen is used to produce ozone gas as part of the water purification process. But patients with COVID-19 require oxygen as part of their treatment, so supplies are going to hospitals first. As such, hospitals are using four times the amount of oxygen they normally use.

Many Florida cities, including Orlando and Tampa, are asking residents to pull back on water usage. If COVID-19 cases continue to rise, communities may need to issue boil water notices. The shortage is preventing some patients from leaving the hospital as oxygen supplies for home-bound patients are critically low. The shortage also threatens scheduled space launches as liquid oxygen is necessary for fuel ignition.

FREE FISH TO REDUCE MOSQUITO POPULATION

Did you know: Collier residents don't need a permit to obtain free mosquitofish from the **Collier Mosquito Control District**. When placed in areas of standing water, these little native fishes (part of the guppy family) will eat mosquito larvae thus naturally reducing mosquito populations. The "Gambusia holbrooki" are hardy fish that can eat up to 100 larvae a day. This form of mosquito control can help reduce the spread of chikungunya, dengue, yellow fever, Zika and West Nile viruses. When larvae supplies begin to recede, the fish often find their way into natural bodies of water or can be recaptured and returned to the District. Get your free fish and discover more about this project at <https://cmcd.org/science/mosquitofish>.



Submitted by Collier Mosquito Control District

Intl Coastal Cleanup: 9.18

Volunteers are needed to help collect litter and debris from beaches, parks, and waterways on **September 18th**. Organized by Keep Collier Beautiful, the event is part of the Ocean Conservancy's annual International Coastal Cleanup that brings together volunteers from countries around the world.

The event runs from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Volunteers can choose from more than 20 registered sites to clean up. Current sites include: Barefoot Beach • Clam Pass • Delnor Wiggins Pass • Haldeman Creek • Mooring Beaches • Lowdermilk Park • Naples Pier • Pelican Bay • Ritz Carlton Resort • Rookery Bay NERR • Tiger Tail Beach • Vanderbilt Beach.

Community members can also report if their specific street or park is in need of cleaning. To register or for more info, go to keepcollierbeautiful.com.

RESOURCES

[Calusa WaterKeeper](#)

[Captains for Clean Water](#)

[Collier County WaterKeeper](#)

[Collier County Watershed Management Plan](#)

[Daily Red Tide Reports](#)

protectingfloridatogether.gov