The Water and Land Conservation Amendment (Amendment 1) will appear on the ballot this November giving voters throughout the state a direct opportunity to keep our drinking water clean, protect our rivers, lakes and springs, restore natural treasures like the Everglades and protect our beaches and shores. All without raising taxes.

Amendment 1 will create steady, stable funding to address the threats to our water quality and keep pollution out of our waters.

Floridians understand the value of clean abundant water for people and wildlife, and they cherish the natural areas that make Florida special. Amendment 1 will ensure that these values we share as Floridians will have a place in our state’s constitution.

To view the Title and Summary of Amendment 1, as they will appear on the ballot this November visit the website http://www.voteyeson1fl.org/.

Amendment 1 is our best opportunity to address threats to our water quality and keep pollution out of our waters—without any increase in taxes.

1. Campaign Flyer
2. Factsheet: Amendment 1 Water and Land Conservation
3. Amendment 1 Quick Responses
4. Factsheet: Ballot Initiative Participation by 501(c)(3) Non-profit Organizations

Clearwater Audubon Society
http://clearwateraudubonsociety.org/
October, November 2014
Vol. 61 No. 1
Supporting our community since 1959
Our Motto: Conservation through Education
For more information call us at 727-442-9140
Three Rooker Roundup

- John Hood

We had a very good season at 3 Rooker this year. There were no tropical events to trash the nesting and we had good turnout from our volunteer stewards. Per usual our star performers were the laughing gulls with 3-4000 pairs being very productive. The white ibis were about the same as last year with about 1700 pairs. The royal terns numbered 3-400 pairs and the sandwich terns 2-300 both of which were quite productive. We had about 100 pairs of least terns and 200 pairs of black skimmers. Productivity was difficult to access due to their nesting site (moderately dense vegetation) but about 50 skimmer chicks were documented. The herons and egrets seemed to do well but again numbers were difficult to obtain due to restricted access to their nesting sites. Six pairs of oystercatchers were seen along with a few snowy and Wilsons plovers but no chicks were seen. Caspian tern numbers were increased this year from 2 last year to about 15 this year with good production. Thanks go out to FWC and ABC (American Bird Conservancy) for providing a boat and gas and to Dan Larremore of the Parks Department for his boat. We had four boat captains this year. We put about 45 different people on the island this year and stewarded 27 days. If you would like to join us in 2015 let me know (jhood2@tampabay.rr.com). Thanks.
Moccasin Lake Update

Recently a group of shareholders including your society helped formulate a 10 year management plan for Moccasin Lake Nature Park. The city has appropriated $400,000 for capital improvements and is first on a list for an additional $200,000 from the federal government. Unfortunately this money is not available for salaries or hiring additional personnel. Cliff and Lloyd have been moved to offices downtown and given additional responsibilities for other city lands. As a result Moccasin Lake Nature Park decreased its hours of availability to walk ins from 5 days a week to 3 days a week (Thurs through Sat) for June through August. After much protest and work from the stakeholders they are willing to add a 4th day (Sunday 12noon-4PM) September through December. The Sunday opening is predicated on volunteers stepping up to the plate and managing the park. YOUR HELP IS THEREFORE NEEDED! If volunteers are unable to fulfill this responsibility the park will revert to being open only 3 days per week. If you can help please contact me (jhood2@tampabay.rr.com). You can do every Sunday, once a month, once a quarter, or whatever you like.

McGough Nature Park in Largo was on the chopping block to be completely closed. A group of concerned citizens formed a friends group and the park is now open 7 days a week with the friends being present every day. They have a group of about 200 with 40 who show up and actively volunteer. If Largo can do it certainly Clearwater can.

The stakeholders are in the process of forming a 501c3 Friends of Moccasin Lake. This is turning out to be a somewhat slow and laborious project but it will be done. I am also in the process of populating a volunteer database via google. If you want to become a volunteer please contact me. There are many volunteer opportunities as listed in the sidebar.

The birds of prey program is going full steam ahead. We currently have 2 bald eagles, 3 screech owls, 3 red tailed hawks, a red shouldered hawk, a kestrel, and Elvis a black vulture. Taka our red shouldered hawk has been going out to Petsmart on Saturdays as an ambassador. Elvis is the oldest black vulture in captivity as per the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. It would be really neat if somebody could figure out how to get him listed in the Guinness book of world records. I can’t figure out how to do it.

The bird blind is doing well with lots of local resident birds getting fat. Hopefully when fall migration gets going we will see some migrants.

Moccasin Lake Volunteer Opportunities

- Animal care assistant
- Trail and boardwalk steward
- Nature park promotional representative
- Naturalist/tour leader
- Organic and butterfly gardener
- Fundraiser and event planner
- Artists
- Research assistant
- Event planner and event assistant
- Woodworker/carpenter/craftsperson
- Birds of prey assistant
- Maintenance assistant
- Volunteer coordinator assistant
- Administrative assistant
- Grant writer
- Environmental education exhibit designer
- Front desk clerk
- Native plant horticulturist
- Roving naturalist and outreach
Moccasin Lake Nature Park Special Events

Honey Bee/Bonsai Festival

Sat., Oct. 11, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
2750 Park Trail Lane, 793-2976

Honey Bee Festival
Judged honey contest, free honey samples, bee educational programs, honey extraction demo, honey and bee vendors and related items for sale, live bee observation hive, Healthy Choice food and organic food vendors, environmental exhibits, live music and evening drum circle and fireside treats for sale.

Bonsai Festival
Co-sponsored by The Sundamizu Bonsai Kai (Clearwater Bonsai Club). Learn the art and techniques of bonsai. Educational displays and Live Bonsai programs given throughout the day. Bonsai trees and supplies on sale by club and local bonsai vendors. Healthy Choice food and organic food vendors, environmental exhibits, live music.

View Moccasin Lake Nature Park activities in MyClearwater Magazine (pg. 37+)

Moccasin Lake Nature Park  2750 Park Trail Ln. Clearwater, FL 33759-2602  MAP IT
Bird Cams!

**American Kestrels**
Location: Boise, Idaho
CAM PARTNER

**Barn Owls**
Location: Texas
CAM PARTNER

**Cornell Lab FeederWatch**
Location: Ithaca, NY
CAM PARTNER

**Dunrovin Ospreys**
Location: Lolo, Montana
CAM PARTNER

**Great Blue Herons**
Location: Ithaca, NY
CAM PARTNER

**Hellgate Ospreys**
Location: Missoula, MT
CAM PARTNER

**Red-tailed Hawks**
Location: Ithaca, NY
CAM PARTNER

**Dunedin Ospreys**
Location: Dunedin, FL
CAM PARTNER

Clearwater Audubon

To view a particular cam, click on the picture of the bird or bird name. It will take a moment or two for your browser to redirect you to that site. Adobe Reader may ask for your permission (Allow).
Note to self:
Go to the CAS Yard Sale
November 8th
Support CAS & Meet new people
Morningside Neighborhood

Wild Birds Unlimited is having a 1 year anniversary celebration on 9/27 starting at 10AM. The CAS booth will be there and MLNP & Boyd Hill will be bringing birds. If someone donates to CAS they will be entitled to a discount in the store.
The crossword is courtesy of FL Audubon via LA Audubon. Solution is here: SOLUTION
Membership

Membership Application
Size: 141.717 Kb
Type: pdf

Monthly Meetings

October – May
The first Monday of each month
at Moccasin Lake Nature Park:
Meet and Greet @ 6:30PM
Public Program @ 7:00PM
(Unless otherwise noted)
First meeting is October 6

Past Issue of Wing Beat

“A Boater’s Guide to
Clearwater Harbor & St.
Joseph’s Sound” including
Three Rooker Island, the Ancloete
Keys and Ancloete Bar” is now
available online.

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WINGBEAT/NEWSLETTER: MÉICHELLE LONG
newsletter@clearwateraudubonsociety.org
Shutterbug Spotlight

- Lynn Sumerson

Willet

Black skimmer

Barn swallow

Royal tern

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If you need a store room, see them and please mention Clearwater Audubon Society.
Organizations We Support

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Florida Ornithological Society
Friends Of Brooker Creek Preserve
Dunedin Osprey Cam
Wild Birds Unlimited

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