

The mission of the St. Johns Riverkeeper is to protect, preserve and restore the ecological integrity of the St. Johns River watershed for current users and future generations through advocacy and citizen action.

The Kingfisher newsletter underwritten by the M.A. Healey Foundation

Riverkeeper Update

-- By Neil Armingeon, Riverkeeper

No doubt you've been reading and hearing a lot about the proposed TMDL for the lower St. Johns River. Those of you with Emails have received our action alerts, and I've spent a great deal of time working on this issue. As a matter of fact I'm taking a few minutes away from completing TMDL comments to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to write this update for our members. Read on and I hope you'll understand why we're investing so much time and energy on this issue; the river's future depends on it.

Your 2003 summer issue of the *Kingfisher* explained Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL.) TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a particular pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards.

As the result of a lawsuit settlement, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was required to set the TMDL by September 30, 2003 for nitrogen and phosphorous in the lower St. Johns. DEP indicated that their TMDL

HOLIDAY GIFTS

Donations to organizations are increasingly solving that pesky problem of what to give for the holidays.

Support our work for water quality by making a donation. Indicate that it is a holiday present for a friend or family member and the St. Johns Riverkeeper will not only send you an acknowledgement but a card to the person of your choice. We also have logo hats, t-shirts and Waterkeeper history videos!!

St. Johns Riverkeeper wishes you a happy, healthy holiday season and hopes the 2004 brings us all a healthy St. Johns River as well.

would reduce nitrogen and phosphorus loading in the freshwater section of the river by 30% around Palatka and Green Cove Springs, and nutrients in the mesohaline, or saltier, section of the river around Jacksonville by 22%.

So, what's the problem? Well, the proposed reductions are a good beginning, but after reviewing hundreds of pages of data and reports, the St. Johns Riverkeeper believes this TMDL would not protect the biological health of the River and would allow the continued degradation of the lower St. Johns. Considering the proposed TMDL can take up to 10 years to be implemented, the impact will be significant. The Riverkeeper feels that the proposed TMDL:

-should have been based upon EPA approved water quality standards;

-will continue to allow harmful algae blooms which can be toxic to humans and aquatic life;

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OYSTER ROAST A SUCCESS

A huge "thanks" to 2003 Oyster Roast Chair Brywn Philips for a beautiful, fun AND successful event to raise funds to support the many programs of the St. Johns Riverkeeper.



This year, guests enjoyed the River's beauty at the Florida Yacht Club while dining on fresh shrimp and oysters, and enjoying music by the Crab Grass Cowboys.

(left) Nan Jobson with Sarah Bailey
(below) Nan & Riverkeeper Neil Armingeon



The event was made possible through the generous support of **Oracal, USA, Dana B. Kenyon Company, Fisherman's Dock and House on Cherry Street.**

Join us next year!



(left) RK Board Chair Roger Bass and wife Pam with event chair Brywn Philips and husband Ben



(left) RK board member Andy Wojcicki with Florence Breen



(above left) RK board member Dale Lewis talks with highlighted guest speaker Steve Fleischli, Executive Director of the Waterkeeper Alliance

(above right) Guests Tammy Shaughnessy with Rory Gregg



(above left) Guest Atress Jennings enjoys fresh Apalachicola Bay Oysters (above right) Riverkeeper Neil Armingeon



Highlighted guest speaker Steve Fleischli compares his experience in Santa Monica, CA which has diverted or concreted most natural waterbodies. He commended the St. Johns Riverkeeper for its work to protect NE Florida's jewel, the St. Johns River, from the same fate.

*Please consider including the
St. Johns Riverkeeper
in your planned giving.
If you would like more information, please
call Katey at 904.256.7591*

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-ignores growth and development occurring in the lower St. Johns area; and

-requires only a select few to reduce their discharges by the required 20 -30% target.

The Riverkeeper's mission is clear: to protect, preserve and restore the ecological integrity of the St. Johns River Watershed. The proposed TMDL fails to live up to that standard, and we had to act.

We requested a rule making hearing in Tallahassee to try and convince the DEP the TMDL wasn't stringent enough. The DEP ruled against us. Earthjustice, who was involved with the original lawsuit, agreed to represent us and filed a request for an administrative hearing before an administrative judge. The judge ruled against our request to amend our TMDL which was amended to a similar case. It was a procedural decision; it wasn't based on the facts of the case. Earthjustice, however, has agreed to file another request specifically for a hearing for the St. Johns TMDL.

The settlement requires that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publish a TMDL if one is not published by the State, which they have now done. However, the same weaknesses are still there but this does give us another opportunity to provide comments for a more objective audience in EPA Region IV in Atlanta.

We're going to keep up the fight. Nitrogen and phosphorus is one of the major threats to the River's health. A recent study, along with other similar studies in the Lower St. Johns River, clearly documents continued discharges of these pollutants are disrupting aquatic habitat, causing adverse impacts to the river's submerged aquatic grasses, and harming the river's flora and fauna.

We must, and can do better, than the proposed TMDL, and we will with your help. Check our website: www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org, for updates on the TMDL and other timely issues.

Many thanks to all of you who emailed the DEP during the TMDL public comment period, and much gratitude to David Guest and all the good folks at Earth Justice.

Interested in making sure citizens have a voice in proposed development? Check out this web site:
<http://www.floridahometowndemocracy.com/FHD%20Petition2.pdf>

RIVERKEEPER WORKS ON THE ISSUES

The New Mayor

On November 12, Riverkeeper board member and former director of the Preservation Project Mark Middlebrook organized a briefing for Mayor John Peyton and his senior staff about the future direction of the Preservation Project. Riverkeeper Neil Armingeon presented the organization's views on the projects importance to water quality of the St. Johns River and Mark focused on the importance of public access to the parks and green spaces.

Water Supply

Riverkeeper Neil Armingeon spoke at the recent public hearing on Florida's future water supply issues. The hearing was one of a series sponsored by the Senate Natural Resources Committee, chaired by Senate President, Jim King.

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Armingeon spoke about the potential environmental impacts of withdrawing drinking water from the St. Johns River.

At JCCI's recent water supply forum, Riverkeeper was represented by Neil who served as a panelist.

St. Johns Riverkeeper is also part of a coalition of five Florida Waterkeepers which submitted comments on water redistribution at the Senate Committee meeting in Panama City.

FCSL Environmental Summit

Riverkeeper Neil Armingeon was one on a panel of invited speakers at the third annual Florida Coastal School of Law Environmental summit. He presented the potential impacts on the health of the River that our water supply could have. He noted that many people view the river as a source for waste disposal and if we are now going to consider it as a drinking water source, regulatory agencies must revisit current discharge permits and pollution limits.

Construction Site runoff.

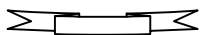
The Riverkeeper was named as a member of the newly created water quality and sediment runoff committee of the Jacksonville Waterways Commission. The committee will hold a series of public meetings to gather information concerning sediment runoff and make recommendations to Mayor Peyton and the City Council. Riverkeeper recently visited a large-scale construction site as it continues to respond to citizen complaints. Fortunately, no water quality violations were documented at the site, even during a rainfall event. This illustrates that when construction site runoff systems are installed correctly, water quality is protected.

Bacteria in Tributaries

Riverkeeper worked with the City of Jacksonville, JEA, and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to draft a Reasonable Assurance Plan to reduce bacteria pollution in streams and rivers in Duval County. The plan is in response to DEP's impaired water list that was released in September, 2003. Over 50 water bodies do not meet water quality standards for oxygen and bacteria levels.

Law Clinic

Working with Sierra Club and Professor Lynn McDowell with the Florida Coastal School of Law (FCSL), the St. Johns Riverkeeper is fortunate to have law students Scott Clayton and Bethany Reich assisting with work on important water quality issues.



From the Helm

-Roger Bass, St. Johns Riverkeeper Board of Directors Chair

How does a river advocacy organization measure success? With two full time staff members, volunteers and board members, the St. Johns Riverkeeper organization stays busy. We attend meetings, schedule and talk to groups, meet with regulatory agencies, respond to requests from our membership and the public, organize kayak and boating trips and a myriad of other activities. We are busy.

But, are we effective? Are we building a strong organization? Are we helping the river?

I have been giving this some thought lately and decided that we need to develop some measures of success to monitor

our progress. Our ultimate success will be measured in the improved health of the river but that is a long term goal that is hard to measure in a river that is as complex and multi-faceted as the St. Johns River. We need intermediate measures that insure that we are making consistent progress.

Before we know what to measure we must decide what avenue the St. Johns Riverkeeper will take to fulfill our mission statement to "Protect, Preserve and Restore" the St. Johns River. Looking at the other waterkeeper organizations around the country (over 115) there are several models. One is predominantly a legal strategy with waterkeepers which have one or more attorneys on staff to effect change in a water body through the courts.

A second approach is through staff action, having paid staff that performs research, negotiates with regulatory agencies and lobbies political entities to bring about the required actions.

Another model is through directing public action, educating the public and using public pressure to force action.

Obviously, most of the more successful waterkeeper programs utilize all of these approaches depending on the issue.

There are two core beliefs of the St. Johns Riverkeeper that underlie our actions. One is that the first step in bringing about change is to inform the public of the issues and then lead the public to pressure regulators and politicians to take the appropriate actions through emails, letters, and personal contact. Legal action follows only when necessary.

The second is that before the public will care strongly about the river and understand the need for action most people need to experience the beauty and magic of the St. Johns River first hand. Getting people on the river in a kayak, canoe, two hour water taxi educational tour or the ultimate experience, being immersed in the natural history and culture of the St. Johns River on our three day boat excursion from Sanford to Jacksonville is important to building a constituency of citizens that will stand up for the St. Johns River.

To bring about change in this fashion requires strong action in the following areas: membership, public relations, advocacy and issues, and finances. I have taken each of these areas and developed several indicators that will measure our success. If we continue to show strong improvement in each of these we will achieve our goals and be successful in protecting, preserving and restoring the river. If we have plenty of activity but don't show improvement then we will be busy but ineffective. We care too much about the river to accept anything less than success.

THANKS TO...

--**Kayak Amelia** for donating their services to organize a kayak paddle excursion.

-- **Dana B. Kenyon Company** for underwriting the 2003 Oyster Roast event.

--**No More Clutter** for a donation of software, training and office management.

--**Oracal, USA** for donating bumper stickers, signs and the generous underwriting of the 2003 Oyster Roast event.

--**Outdoor Adventures** for organizing a kayak paddle excursion.

St. Johns Riverkeeper has great volunteers!! If you are interested in joining any of our volunteers in their work, call Katey at 904.256.7591.

RIVERKEEPER HOSTS 3-DAY BOAT EXCURSION

In November, 50 passengers embarked upon a journey of a lifetime down the St. Johns River, from Sanford to Jacksonville. Authors, historians, re-enactors, biologists, and park naturalists interpreted the trip along the way. One speaker, Herb Hiller, had these comments.

“As someone who thinks a lot about tourism, what you arranged is exactly how tourism should work. People have their direct experiences of the place, in this instance by day cruising, then come evening or at some other suitable time learn in a semi-formal way about the place. People need various perspectives on the places they visit. We need the same on the places where we live. The direct experience has to be mediated. If we see something, we need to know what it is and the family of which it's part. Experience occurs too thinly when facts reach us abruptly. We need to know the families of everything. We need to experience the moments of our lives as interactions of families that proliferate endlessly. We need to be lifted by our capacity for larger experience.”



Biological consultant for the Submerged Aquatic Vegetation program Jennifer Sagan jumps into the water to bring beautiful grasses back onboard for passengers to closely.

“You can imagine how drawn I am to what you do. I've been invited to travel the coastal wetlands of Louisiana and to view the disastrous erosion that is taking place there in the context of tourism. I'm drawn to the idea that tourism, which wants people to come and have a good time, is highlighting what most troubles the region's future. This is not unlike what you are doing or what I want to contribute to my volunteer work for the St. Johns River Alliance. Tourism has become such a big part of people's lives that we need to explore the fuller ways in which it can affect us as travelers but also affect people at the receiving end. I have no question -- I have had no question for 30 years -- that the synergy of tourism has been largely forfeited to narrow thinking about travel as a series of transactions. Even writing these words makes me think that maybe after the Highway A1A book is done I need to develop these thoughts into a lengthy essay.”

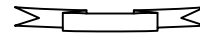
The trip also had the media as passengers, including Jay Burnett, Managing Editor of Waters Edge Magazine. “Just a quick note to say again how great it was to be on the river with you guys over the weekend. The trip helped confirm more than a few things. Water's Edge can be just as effective



Passengers get ready to head out for a day of beauty and education.

in raising awareness. There are, after all, many faces to activism — each equally important as long as there is a common goal.

It's essential that we, as Floridians, work tirelessly to restore, preserve and protect what is indeed among our nation's greatest natural resources. Count on me to do whatever I can to see that we are successful.
P.S. — My membership check is in the mail.



FROM OUR MEMBERS

Their answers to “What made me care about clean water”

Rodney Higginbotham: I have lived on Mill Cove since 1945 and have seen first hand what they have done to this River.

Don Loop: The Stewards of the St. Johns River supports your fine efforts.

House on Cherry Street, Victoria Freeman: Each day my guests and I revel at the beauty of the St. Johns. One day a green slick covered Willow Branch Creek and slid past the B&B. I called Riverkeeper and action was taken immediately to cite the individuals responsible for the slick. Keep up the good work.

The Baileys: I grew up on a small tidal river in New England, where we faced all the same issues confronting us here on the St. Johns. My wife grew up on the Saint John River in New Brunswick. It's just second nature to us.

John Burns: The smell of Jasmine in the morning & the loss of my favorite skinny dippin' hole

Perry Juergens: I used to be a commercial diver in this area. Now I am an active scuba diver and enjoy our natural waters and Florida Aquifers. Thank you.

Michelle Nicolle: If the fish are dying so are we

Dale Eberhardt: Yes, it was common sense.

24 Young People Test the Waters

“... We don’t protect what we don’t value. And one of the surest ways to value any place is to connect with it...” Bill Belleville, *River of Lakes*. Connecting young people to encourage them to protect the St. Johns River would seem easy enough. But there are young people who live in Jacksonville and have never seen the River. The St. Johns Riverkeeper (RK) is changing that and hosted a boat trip September 20 for 24 young people who participate in the Sierra Club’s Inner City Outings (ICO) program.



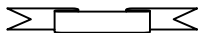
(Sixth-grader Wanda Douglas (left) and seventh-grader Betty Collins shake their vials of St. Johns River water as they test it for dissolved oxygen content. -- Special

With underwriting from CSX

Transportation, Riverkeeper toured the River, presented its history, and provided instruction on water sampling and testing. Students tested for levels of dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity/clarity and temperature in the collected samples. Results from the tests conducted on this trip were included as part of a national water monitoring activity and posted on a national web site along with data from other students across the country. This hands-on experience helped students understand the link between water quality and public health, providing students much more than a classroom learning exercise alone.

“Students learned an important lesson that we must care for natural resources that benefit us locally,” commented Neil Armingeon, Riverkeeper. “What each of us does on a daily basis affects water quality. The impacts of pollution upstream in a river can adversely affect people hundreds of miles downstream. Through activities such as these, students can become part of a solution by joining a national monitoring partnership of citizens and local, state and federal government agencies.”

Inner City Outings serves as a bridge that enables inner city youth, disabled individuals, and others to visit and develop an appreciation for our natural environment. Working with schools, community groups, and other agencies, ICO creates safe and enjoyable outdoor experiences for persons who might not otherwise have them. ICO outings promote individual growth through group activities and environmental and outdoor skills education.



Have you received our Emails lately?

If not, we may not have your Email address.

Help us save paper and postage by Emailing us at kbreen@ju.edu with your address. Also let us know if you would like to receive this newsletter by PDF attachment.

GOT COMPLAINTS OR SEE VIOLATIONS?

First, DOCUMENT days & times & pictures

Sewage

call the Dept. of Health.....630-3274 or 630-3251

Illicit Connections

call the City of Jacksonville’s Care Center.....630-CITY

Water quality/fish kills inside Jax

call the City of Jacksonville.....630-CITY

Water quality/fish kills outside Jax

call the FL Dept. of Environmental Protection.....807-3300

Construction

call St. Johns River Water Management District.....730-6270

Hazardous waste spills

call FDEP Bureau of Emergency Response.....807-3245

or The state Warning Point.....800-320-0519

or U.S. Coast Guard.....232-2648

The City of Jacksonville asks that you use their number to report pollution incidents: 630-CITY (2489). Businesses generating hazardous chemical waste (dry cleaners, furniture restorers, etc.) must keep a manifest (records) of storage and disposal. If improperly disposing of the waste (i.e. storm drains) otherwise report it to the City’s Hazardous Waste section at 630-1212 X3167. For other needs, they ask that you contact them at the following numbers:

Chemical Spills and Pollution.....630-3404

For 24-hour emergency response.....911

Water Pollution.....630-3404

Groundwater Contamination.....630-3404

Petroleum Storage Systems.....630-3404

Ambient Water Quality Information.....630-3404

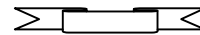
Water Well Information.....630-3404

Environmental Protection Board.....630-3692

Evenings & Weekends.....630-2489

The City says that you can FAX a brief description of your problem: 630-3638. Please include a daytime phone number for a return call to discuss the problem. Or Email a brief description of your problem to awqdmil.coj.net

If the job doesn’t get done, call the St. Johns Riverkeeper 256-7591



Won’t you please let us know your thoughts?

What presenters or information would you like at the Riverkeeper’s monthly meetings?

What type of Riverkeeper events and celebrations would you like?

What type of volunteer opportunities would you like?

Tell us your favorite memory of the St. Johns River that will let us know why you appreciate the work that we do.

St. Johns Riverkeeper

2800 University Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32211 904-256-7591
www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org

Board of Directors

Roger Bass, *Chair*
Dale Lewis, *Treasurer*
Duffy Kopriva, *Secretary*
Don Lohman
Mark Middlebrook
Ben Philips
Ben Williams
Andrew Wojcicki

Staff

Neil Armingeon, *St. Johns Riverkeeper*
Katey Breen, *Administrative Director*

The St. Johns Riverkeeper is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization dedicated to maintaining an on the water presence to investigate pollution, respond to citizen complaints and be an advocate for the St. Johns River.

**The Kingfisher is a quarterly publication
of the St. Johns Riverkeeper
and is printed on recycled paper.**

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

St. Johns Riverkeeper needs YOU. Won't you please clip, complete and return the form below? If you have contacted us before with an interest in volunteering, we thank you and ask that you confirm your interest by completing the form below.

Name _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Email _____

Circle preference: Mail me Email me Phone me

1) I am able to volunteer: ___ weekdays ___ evenings ___ weekends.

2) Please indicate number of hours you are willing to donate per ___ week
___ month OR ___ by project

3) I am interested in: ___ boat patrols ___ site monitoring ___ river cleanup
___ assisting with events ___ office work

4) My special skills are: _____

Volunteers are encouraged to attend one or more of the monthly meetings. Some volunteer positions will require training, which St. Johns Riverkeeper will provide.

2003 Third Quarter St. Johns Riverkeeper Donors

Please let us know if we have made an error in your name and please take a moment to send us your most recent Email address

Michael Alderman	Dan Donaldson	Randy Marshall	Richard & Leslie Pierpont
Linda & Kirby Alexander	June Donnelly	Dana Kuehn	Mary Prendergast
Nan Jobson & Neil Armingeon	Noble Enge	Deborah Laird	Ted Puffinburger
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Shirley & Dave Bailey	Victoria & Robert Freeman	Dale & Mary Lewis	Syl Robinson
Pam & Roger Bass	Bill Gardner	Cornelius Lockett	Martin Sack
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John Berry	Jean & Richard Grimsley	Donald Loop	Jerry Scally
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Elizabeth Bohlin	Bob Harrison	Carol & William Mackey	Ann & Richard Skinner
Katey Breen & John Merritt	Joan & Preston Haskell	Jim Maher	Susan & Bruce Smathers
Florence Breen	Helen & Henry Hirschman	Marianne Maher	Lucy and Rick Sonnenberg
Cheryl & Carter Bryan	Joan & John Hudiburg	William Mahoney	Teresa Sopp
Elizabeth & Benjamin Burket	Susan & Ted Hughes	Susan & Ron Masucci	Theodore Stevens
Maureen & Jay Burnett	Michael and Ellen Hughes	Nancy Anne Megill	Nicole & Max Story
Julianna & Harold Catlin	Attrex Jennings	Annie Mae Moody	Jeanne & Dekle Taylor
Susan & John Caven	Kayak Amelia	Jeanne & David Moomaw	Pat & Bob Thomas
Helen Malin-Christiansen	Donna Keith	Evelyn Nehl	Karen & Cyril Toker
Jim Cobb	Liz Kellogg	Phyllis Nordgren	Hector Verdugo
Carolyn Cooper	Rita Nordin & Matthew Kenyon	Oracal, USA	Martha & Gene Watson
CSX	David Killian	Valerie & John Brink	Nina White
Margaret & Palmer Derby	Michele Klinge	Alex Paulsen	Louanne & Ben Williams
	Lynn Knorr	Lydia & Samuel Payne	Andrew Wojcicki
	Duffy Kopriva &	Nancy Peters	Kerry Smith & Robert Woods
		Brywn & Benjamin Philips	Jennifer Woolfe

St. Johns River Boat Excursion

ALL ABOARD!!

For a once-in-a-lifetime experience down the St. Johns River

Join the **St. Johns Riverkeeper** on a boat trip on the entire navigable part of the St. Johns River, from Sanford to Jacksonville on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, March 19, 20, and 21, 2004

WHO

All those interested in an opportunity to experience the beautiful St. Johns River are welcome! Historians, naturalists, and water quality experts will provide informative and entertaining presentations along the way.

Bill Belleville, author of *River of Lakes*, will share the history of our beautiful St. Johns River. This is an exceptional opportunity to hear this author whose reputation has established itself among popular and respected historians. Park attendant Shorty Robbins will portray the wife of the Captain of the Mapleleaf Ship which sank off Mandarin Point, in addition to telling us about public lands along the river.

Park Naturalist Beverly Fleming will discuss the beautiful flora and fauna found along the River's shores.

And Riverkeeper Neil Armingeon will point out the causes of water pollution.

AND MORE!!

Reservations are limited to 50 passengers and children under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by a guardian.

WHEN

Join us Friday, Saturday and Sunday March 19, 20, 21 traveling on the St. Johns River from Sanford to Jacksonville.

Reservations include boat travel, lunch, overnight accommodations, entertainment and ground transportation from either Jacksonville to Sanford the first day, or back to Sanford from Jacksonville on the last day.

Begin each day at 8:30 am on the river. Delicious lunches are held aboard a paddle wheeler on Lake Beresford, at a beautiful Indian mound at Mount Royal, and at the famous Outback Crab Shack on Six Mile Creek (all included with your registration.) In the afternoons, a short walk will take you to see the Manatees at Blue Springs or on an architectural tour through Palatka. While on board the excursion boat, speakers will make sure you learn about the jewel of Florida, the St. Johns River - its history, its flora, its fauna, and the work that the Riverkeeper is doing to protect the River against polluters. Each day of the three-day excursion, the trip will end in time for dinner.

WHAT

Your excursion boat is a USCG inspected water taxi with comfortable seating, tables, excellent River viewing, and expanded toilet facilities. This secure boat will travel at approximately 15 mph, unless restricted by speed zones, to offer maximum viewing opportunities.

Lunch, overnight accommodations, daily entertainment, boat travel and ground transportation are included as part of your trip reservation.

HOW

The three-day excursion, including lunch, overnight accommodations, boat and ground transportation, and entertainment, is \$395.00/pp. Payment reserves your trip.

Send and make checks payable to St. Johns Riverkeeper, 2800 University Blvd., N, Jacksonville, FL 32211 attn: Katey or call 904-256-7591 with your VISA or Mastercard number, expiration date, name on the card, number of reservations and address where the receipt may be mailed. Details, contact information and confirmation will be sent to you upon payment.

WHERE

Your trip begins the first day in Sanford, the beginning of navigable waters of the St. Johns River. The second day, boat travelers will embark at Astor and on the third day travel from Palatka to Jacksonville.

ITINERARY

Day One (03/19/04): Leave at 8:30 am from the Best Western Hotel/Monroe Harbor Marina on Lake Monroe in Sanford and head North with a side excursion to Blue Springs for a short walk to see the manatees. Lunch and a lovely cruise will be held on the Lady Beresford paddle wheeler on Lake Beresford. The evening will be spent in Astor at Blair's Jungle Den, with dinner at the Blackwater Inn. The day's distance is 40 to 45 miles.

Day Two (03/20/04): Leave Blair's Jungle at 8:30 am and as we pass through Lake George we will travel up the short spring run to Silver Glen springs. Lunch will be at Mount Royal with a short walk to the Mount Royal Indian Mound. In the afternoon we will take another side trip up Dunn's Creek to Crescent Lake and then double back to our overnight resting place at the Palatka Holiday Inn. A walking architectural tour of Palatka will be offered before dinner. The day's distance is 72 miles.

Day Three (03/21/04): Leave the Palatka Holiday Inn at 8:30 am, take a short side trip up Rice Creek to learn about the Georgia Pacific paper mill. Lunch is at the Outback Crabshack on Six Mile Creek. Afterward, experience another beautiful excursion up Trout Creek and learn about the beautiful world under the water. The trip will end in Jacksonville downtown at 1643 Prudential Drive (old Crawdaddy's Restaurant/same side of the river as MOSH.) The day's run is 55 miles plus the mileage up each creek.



Riverkeeper Calendar

2003

December 13: Boat Patrol Year-end monitor and party.

December 15: Riverkeeper Board Meeting.

2004

January 10: paddle with us! Outdoor Adventures will supply equipment, lessons and guided excursion on Deep Creek to Federal Point. \$55 pp (\$30 non-members or \$20 Riverkeeper members with your own equipment.) Call Katey at 904.256.7591 for more information.

February 7: Water Education Festival at MOSH

February 16: Riverkeeper Board Meeting

2004

February 20 & 21: Earth Kinship Conference

March 19, 20, 21: Boat excursion down the St. Johns River complete with authors, historians, re-enactors, biologists, and park naturalists! Call Katey at 904.256.7591.

April 11: Donor party at the House on Cherry Street. More details TBA.

May 13 - 16: Birding & Nature Festival

**** Riverkeeper Board Meetings - 2003**

These meetings are at 6:00 pm for Riverkeeper board and steering committee members and will be held at the Orcal, USA, 7251 Salisbury Rd.