



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

“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.

At the November 22, 2008 festival: A young man about 10 or 11 yrs old was waiting at the RRC table when I arrived and said “do you remember me from the year before last?” He told me that he had woven a cabbage palm bracelet but he wanted me to know that he planted the 3 wild cotton seeds I gave him and that one had grown to 13 feet high! We shared experiences growing wild cotton trees and he was loaded with questions. His mother came by later as we were packing up at the end of the day to tell me what a positive impact planting those seeds had on her son. I asked her if she thought he had been inoculated for “Nature Deficit Disorder.” -- Dick Workman, Randell Research Center Advisory Board

Festival Planning Committee: The festival is organized by a committee of volunteers dedicated to making the festival an exciting and informative occasion for everyone.

Updated 12/7/2011

- **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

Since year 3 at Tippecanoe Environmental Park/Charlotte County Sports Park in Port Charlotte

- **Year 3: February 1, 2003** – estimated attendance: 1,600
- **Year 4: January 31, 2004** – estimated attendance: 1,000 with bad weather
 - 58% ranked the festival as excellent (9 or 10)
- **Year 5: January 29, 2005** – 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** – cancelled due to bad weather
- **Year 7: October 7, 2006**
- **Year 8: November 3, 2007**
- **Year 9: November 22, 2008** – estimated attendance: 3,000
- **Year 10: November 21, 2009** – estimated attendance: 3,000
- **Year 11: November 20, 2010**
- **Year 12: November 19, 2011**
- **Year 13: November 17, 2012**

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 has supported each festival 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

In 2007, a sponsor created the category of **scrub jay** by donating \$750.

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, 2004 and 2005, Lemon Bay Conservancy in March 2006 and CHNEP/SWFRPC since the festival held in October 2006.

Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival Sponsors	Summary of Donations	11/19/11	11/20/10	11/21/09	11/22/08	11/3/07	10/4/06	2/4/06	1/29/05	1/31/04	2/1/03	3/2/02	3/31/01
AAA-1 Portable Sanitation												Y*	no details
Aquatic Plants of Florida, Inc.		\$100.00											
Aquatic Release Foundation						<i>panther +logo</i>							
Ayres Associates							\$500						
Babcock Wilderness Adventures										\$100	\$250	\$100	
Banks Engineering				\$100		\$1,250	\$500						
Barraco and Associates, Inc.						\$500							
Barrier Island Parks Society							\$100	\$250	\$100				
Berntsson, Ittersagen, Gunderson, Walksler & Widekis, LLP		\$100.00	\$100	\$100		\$250							
Bonita Bay Group							\$100	\$100		\$100			
<i>Broadway Bagel</i>									<i>dolphin</i>	<i>dolphin</i>			
<i>Butwell Stone & Soil</i>		<i>dolphin (\$100)</i>	<i>dolphin (\$100)</i>	<i>dolphin (\$100)</i>	<i>dolphin</i>								
Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association (CRCA)								\$100					
<i>Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium</i>						<i>dolphin</i>		<i>dolphin</i>	<i>dolphin</i>				
CF Industries	\$6,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500								
Charlotte County												Y*	
Charlotte County Community Development Department						<i>dolphin</i>							
Charlotte County Economic Development											\$100		
Charlotte County Environmental & Extension Services, Solid Waste Division						\$250	\$250	\$250		<i>dolphin</i>			
<i>Charlotte County Community Services: Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Dept</i>		<i>osprey (\$600)</i>			<i>sea turtle</i>	<i>dolphin</i>		<i>panther</i>	<i>panther</i>	<i>panther</i>			
<i>Charlotte County Utilities</i>	\$700.00	\$250.00	\$100	\$100				\$250	<i>sea turtle</i>	<i>sea turtle</i>			
Charlotte County Visitor's Bureau						\$100	\$100	\$100	\$250	\$250			

FNPS Mangrove Chapter		\$100.00											
Four Circles Learning		\$250.00											
Fossilbabe								\$100					
Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve							\$100						
Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves	\$1,225.00	\$100.00	\$100	\$250	\$250	\$125	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	
Greg Stuart and Associates											\$100		
<i>Gulf Carts of Port Charlotte, Inc.</i>										<i>sea turtle</i>			
Gulf Coast Kayak									\$100				
Herston Engineering Services, Inc.												\$500	
Home Depot													
Janicki Environmental	\$1,450.00	\$250.00	\$250	\$250			\$250	\$250	\$100	\$100			
Johnson Engineering						\$500					\$250	\$500	
Kimley Horn											\$100		
King Fisher Fleet									\$100				
Kitson & Partners					\$1,500	\$1,000							
Land Solutions						\$250							
<i>Lee County Electric Cooperative</i>										<i>dolphin</i>			
Lee County Smart Growth				\$250				\$100					
Lemon Bay Conservancy		\$500.00	\$500	\$250	\$250	\$250							
Luigi's Pizzeria & Family Restaurant				dolphin (\$100)									
<i>Michael P. Haymans</i>					<i>dolphin</i>	<i>dolphin</i>		<i>dolphin</i>	<i>dolphin</i>				
Moore and Waksler, P.L.						\$250							
Mosaic	\$13,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000			
<i>Mote Marine Laboratory</i>		<i>osprey (\$500)</i>		<i>osprey (\$500)</i>		<i>osprey</i>		<i>osprey</i>	<i>osprey</i>	<i>panther</i>	<i>osprey</i>		
Nav-A-Gator									\$1,000				
Peace River Audubon Society	\$3,200.00	\$500.00	\$500	\$500		\$100		\$100	\$500		\$500	\$500	no details
Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority	\$1,000	\$250.00	\$250	\$250		\$250							

Peninsula Property of Cape Haze						\$750							
<i>Punta Gorda-Port Charlotte Association of Realtors</i>	1500	sea turtle (\$250)	sea turtle (\$250)	sea turtle (\$250)				sea turtle	sea turtle	sea turtle			
Sandhill Native Growers, Inc.				\$100									
Sarasota County Natural Resources								\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250		
<i>Serbin Printing</i>							panther	panther	\$1,000	panther	osprey		
Shell Creek Lodge													no details
Sierra Club Calusa Group								\$100	\$100				
Sierra Club Charlotte Harbor Chapter		\$100.00											
South Florida Water Management District		\$500.00	\$500	\$500	\$250	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500			
Southwest Florida Land Developers, Inc.										\$100	\$250		
Southwest Florida Water Management District			\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$500	osprey	panther			
Stantec Consulting			-	\$250	\$250								
Stormwater Management Academy						\$847							
Tamiami Art and Frame													no details
Tarpon Bay Explorers/JN Ding Darling NWF								\$100	\$100				
<i>Tents and Events</i>		Panther (\$1,000)	Panther (\$1,000)	Panther (\$1,000)	panther	panther		dolphin	dolphin	panther			
The Little Pine Island Mitigation Bank/Mariner Properties Development, Inc.										\$250			
Turtle Talks/Zander Srodes						\$100	\$100	dolphin					
U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, North Port Flotilla 9-2		dolphin (\$100)	dolphin (\$100)										
VanasseDaylor											\$250	\$250	
W. Dexter Bender & Assoc, Inc.							\$500		\$100	\$500	\$200	\$100	
Wal-Mart Murdock Circle						\$100							
<i>Waste Management</i>		osprey (\$500)	osprey (\$500)	osprey (\$500)	osprey	osprey	osprey	\$500		yes			
WCI Communities										\$250			
<i>WGCU Public Media</i>		panther (> \$1,000)	panther (> \$1,000)	panther (\$1,000)	panther	\$1,000	sea turtle	osprey	osprey	panther			

			\$1,000)										
Wieler Engineering Corporation											\$100		
WilsonMiller, Inc.						\$500	\$250	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$250	
<i>Winn Dixie</i>										<i>dolphin</i>			
Winn's Landscaping and Technical Design, Inc.												\$100	
FUNDS CONTRIBUTED		\$9,750.00	\$11,550	\$11,650	\$10,500	\$17,222	\$8,850	\$8,150	\$8,400	\$6,750	\$5,700	\$5,400	NA
FUNDS CONTRIBUTED IN-KIND		\$9,650.00	\$8,700	\$9,700	\$8,050	\$4,050	\$1,750	\$4,750	\$4,500	\$8,250	\$1,500	NA	NA
		\$19,400.00	\$20,250	\$21,350	\$18,550	\$21,272	\$10,600	\$12,900	\$12,900	\$15,000	\$7,200		
		26 sponsors	21 sponsors	29 sponsors	19 sponsors	36 sponsors	21 sponsors	33 sponsors	30 sponsors	30 sponsors	19 sponsors	15 sponsors	
		(16 cash)	(14 cash)	(19 cash)	(11 cash)	(27 cash)	(18 cash)	(22 cash)	(18 cash)	(15 cash)	(16 cash)	(11 cash)	

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 Discovery 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.

Budget Details

INCOME	11/19/2011	11/20/2010	11/21/2009	11/22/2008	11/3/2007	10/7/2006	2/4/2006	1/29/2005	1/31/2004	2/1/2003	3/2/2002
CHNEP	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,607.45	\$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	\$7,250.00	\$9,050.00	\$9,150.00	\$8,000.00	\$14,722.00	\$6,350.00	\$5,650.00	\$5,900.00	\$4,250.00	\$3,200.00	\$2,900.00
Exhibitor fees									\$446.00	\$598.00	\$530.00
Food vendor fees								\$0.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$100.00
Sales not broken down (photo sales in 2002)								\$104.00	\$1,381.44	\$0.00	\$18.00
Refreshment sales	\$257.00									\$212.39	\$304.45
Shirt sales										\$330.00	\$362.00
Raffle	\$550.00	\$410.00	\$736.50	\$550.00	\$665.00	\$643.00		\$724.20			
Donations				\$114.00	\$155.00						
Entrance fees										\$948.75	\$1,089.00
Total income	\$10,557.00	\$11,960.00	\$12,386.50	\$11,271.45	\$17,887.00	\$9,493.00	\$8,150.00	\$9,228.20	\$8,677.44	\$7,939.14	\$7,803.45
Carry forward from prior year	\$6,097.30	\$5,392.21	\$4,503.69	\$4,917.42	\$1,010.19	\$4,836.67	\$5,054.53	\$4,356.37	\$4,730.56	\$2,764.90	\$0.00
Budget available	\$16,654.30	\$17,352.21	\$16,890.19	\$16,188.87	\$18,897.19	\$14,329.67	\$13,204.53	\$13,584.57	\$13,408.00	\$10,704.04	\$7,803.45
EXPENSES	11/19/2011	11/20/2010	11/21/2009	11/22/2008	11/3/2007	11/7/2006	2/4/2006	1/29/2005	1/31/2004	2/1/2003	3/2/2002
Fiscal agent charged by CHEC			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,138.50
Event Coordinator			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,652.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CHEC-reimbursement from 2001			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,407.53
Facility rental (expense incurred since 2006)	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$600.00	\$450.00	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$0.00
Facility staff assistance	\$140.00	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$597.97	\$596.28	\$550.66	\$559.89	\$514.59	\$1,194.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00
County permits			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00
Florida Dept of Revenue			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$51.01	\$0.00
Advertising	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$515.20	\$0.00	\$700.40	\$1,038.21	\$243.60	\$1,072.95	\$0.00
Printing: sponsor-exhib brochure			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$351.38	\$1,429.96	\$1,457.46	\$475.00	\$961.45

Printing: promo bookmark			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,373.21	\$1,292.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Postage: sponsor-exhib brochure			\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	147.26	\$556.72	\$554.40	\$198.50	\$0.00
Postage: promot bookmark			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,165.02	1239.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Security	\$290.00	\$290.00	\$285.00	\$285.00	\$304.00	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$387.00	\$420.00	\$370.00	\$140.00
Parking	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Photography	\$500.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Signs			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,319.00	\$170.00	\$258.00	\$910.00	\$308.00	\$48.00	\$0.00
Exhibitor: Safari Todd			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rental: food service item in 2002; tv, dvd/vcr in 2006			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$171.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$86.84
Rentals: tent	\$4,700.00	\$4,775.00	\$4,775.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,250.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,720.00	\$1,940.00	\$1,905.00	\$944.00	\$250.00
Rentals: tables/chairs	\$800.00	\$815.40	\$815.40	\$900.00	\$847.00	\$850.00	\$817.50	\$727.50	\$503.00	\$632.00	\$256.50
Rentals: portable restrooms	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$430.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$530.00	\$430.50	\$0.00
Festival shirts (2001), bags (2004) and bags (2007)	\$2,506.61	\$2,314.74	\$2,496.91	\$2,548.28	\$2,533.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$798.71	\$0.00	\$0.00
Refreshments, etc.	\$130.44	\$41.45	\$166.01	\$182.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$93.16	\$120.63	\$124.49	\$657.73
Lunches/tips/donation to volunteers		\$87.63	\$176.00	\$103.01	\$196.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$105.10	\$275.00	\$220.00	\$140.00
Mowing			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Themed Areas	\$150.00	\$494.41	\$508.00	\$732.00	\$670.00	\$695.00	\$300.00	\$842.39	\$385.83	\$632.03	\$0.00
Total expenses	\$10,615.02	\$11,254.91	\$11,497.98	\$11,685.18	\$13,979.77	\$13,319.48	\$8,367.86	\$8,530.04	\$9,051.63	\$5,973.48	\$5,038.55
Balance available for next year	\$6,039.28	\$6,097.30	\$5,392.21	\$4,503.69	\$4,917.42	\$1,010.19	\$4,836.67	\$5,054.53	\$4,356.37	\$4,730.56	\$2,764.90

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.