



CHNEP Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting & Field Trip

Tuesday, December 16th, 2025 9:30 am – 2:00 pm
Babcock Webb Wildlife Management Area, FWC Office
29200 Tuckers Grade, Punta Gorda, FL 33955

AGENDA

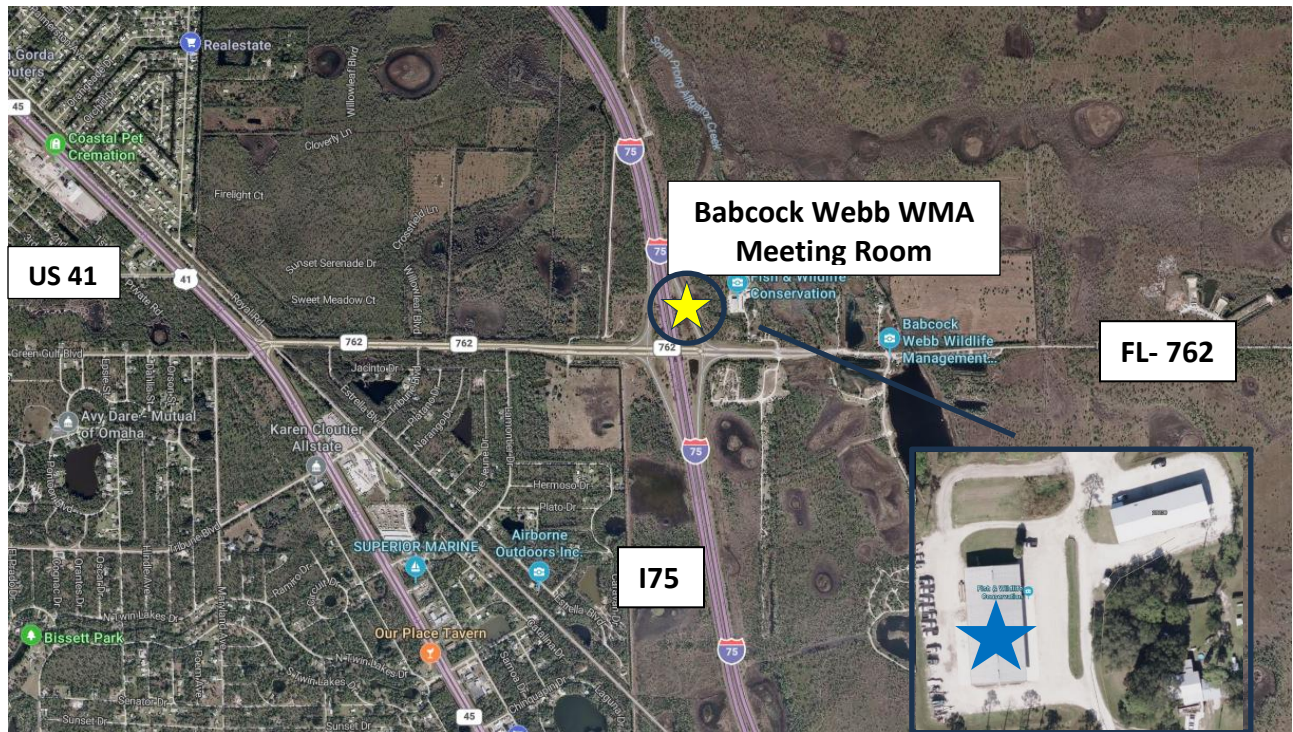
1. Call to Order, Meeting Instructions, and Introductions — Harry Phillips, Co-Chair
2. Agenda Additions or Deletions — Harry Phillips, Co-Chair
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items — Harry Phillips, Co-Chair
4. Introduction of New Applicants – Harry Phillips, Co-Chair
5. Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) August 20th, 2025 Meeting Minutes — Harry Phillips, Co-Chair
6. CHNEP Citizen's Advisory Committee Bylaws 2025 Updates — Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP
7. CHNEP Communications & Outreach Strategy 2025 Updates — Nicole Iadevaia, CHNEP
8. CHNEP Update — Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP
9. CHNEP 'Resources' Guide — Sarina Barnard, CHNEP
10. Conservation Grant Applications – Michelle McGill, CHNEP
11. CHNEP Technical Projects and New Tools – Nicole Iadevaia, CHNEP
12. CAC Updates — Harry Phillips, Co-Chair
13. General Public Comment — Harry Phillips, Co-Chair
14. Future Meetings: Topics, Location and Date — Harry Phillips, Co-Chair
 - Please Save the Date for Upcoming CHNEP CAC 2026 Meetings:
April 22nd, August 19th, and December 16th 2026
 - Discussion of April meeting topics, assign roles
15. Adjourn

Lunch (provided by CHNEP) & Swamp Buggy Tour of Babcock-Webb WMA (provided by FWC) to follow.

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATION

[29200 Tuckers Grade, Punta Gorda, FL 33982](#)

FWC Office at Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area (WMA)



Coming from the North:

1. Take I-75 S to Tuckers Grade/FL-762 (exit 158) towards North Fort Myers
2. Turn left onto Tuckers Grade/FL-762
3. After 0.4 miles, turn **LEFT** into the driveway and follow for about 0.2 miles
4. Park in front of grass to the east of the building marked with a **BLUE** star
5. Enter building marked with the **BLUE** star

Coming from the South:

1. Take I-75 N to Tuckers Grade (exit 158) toward Tropical Gulf Acre
2. Keep right at Tuckers Grade toward Babcock Webb Wildlife Management Area for 0.2 miles
3. Turn **LEFT** into the driveway and follow for about 0.2 miles
4. Park in front of grass to the east of the building marked with a **BLUE** star
5. Enter building marked with the **BLUE** star

In-person CHNEP CAC meetings have resumed.

If you are unable to attend in person or to arrange for an alternate do so, please email Nicole at niadevaia@chnep.org or call (941) 833-6580.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Harry Phillips, CAC Co-Chair, will call the meeting to order. Members will introduce themselves.

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Each participating member of the public is afforded up to 3 minutes total to speak on agenda topics only at this point in the meeting.

4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW APPLICANTS

The CHNEP Citizen's Advisory Committee welcomes new applicants, who can use this opportunity to introduce themselves and give a brief background on their work or communities they represent as well as their interest in participating in the committee. Their applications were received by CHNEP and will be taken up for approval by the Policy Committee in their January 2026 meeting.

Applicants attending the December 16th meeting include:

- Ashley Cook, Charlotte County Applicant
- Suzanne Lindsey, Polk County Applicant

Attachment: CAC Member Applications.

5. CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Attachment: Draft August 20th, 2025 CAC Meeting Minutes.

Recommendation: Approval of the minutes from previous meeting.

6. CHNEP CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS 2025 UPDATES

In 1995, the estuaries and watersheds of Central and Southwest Florida were recognized to have 'national significance' the CHNEP was accepted into the National Estuary Program. A signing ceremony was held in 2000 to celebrate the completion of the first ever CHNEP *Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan* or CCMP. The Plan uses a 'cooperative decision- making process to address diverse resource management concerns.' The CHNEP is composed of 4 Committees, hundreds of representatives have served on these committees and donated thousands of volunteer hours throughout CHNEP's history. The first CHNEP CCMP (2000) outlined the role of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), whose members 'represent public concerns to the partnership and transfer information back to their local communities.' The CAC provides a mechanism for citizens to communicate with the CHNEP, as well as distribute relevant information back to the public, policymakers, agencies and municipalities and NGOs.

The CAC is representative of the many communities in the 10-county area and works within the region to maintain public support for the CHNEP by not only sharing resources and strategies with CHNEP other members of the partnership, but also by disseminating CHNEP resources within their own communities. The CAC chair is a voting member of the Management Committee. During this meeting CHNEP, Executive Director, Jennifer Hecker will be giving a brief history of the CHNEP Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). Following the presentation, Councilman Gary Wein will give an overview on the Policy Committee's vision on the role and structure of the CAC. Afterwards, there will be time for CAC discussion.

Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP Executive Director, will be presenting this item.

THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Attachments: CHNEP CAC Bylaws 2025 Updates Tracked Changes.
CHNEP CAC Bylaws 2025 Updates Clean Copy.

Recommendation: Review and Approval of Final Edits to CAC Bylaws.

7. CHNEP COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH STRATEGY 2025 UPDATES

The 2025 Update to the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) was reviewed by the CHNEP Management Conference Committees (including CAC) at meetings throughout 2023-2024. The CAC provided feedback on new science and partner programs, and these were subsequently integrated in the 2025 Update to the CHNEP CCMP. This was approved by EPA and adopted by the Policy Committee September 20, 2024 as CHNEP's guiding document. Several supporting documents which guide implementation of projects listed in the CCMP, including the CHNEP Communications and Outreach Strategy, also require updates to capture the changes made in the 2025 Update.

The Communications and Outreach Strategy specifically addresses how partners are engaging in environmental education outreach and communication within the region. The guiding principle is to equitably distribute CHNEP outreach materials, activities, and grants to all 10 counties; and identify realistic and achievable communications and public engagement projects and activities that can be accomplished to do so. Audiences include all general community members throughout the 10 counties, policy makers, scientists and agency or municipality technical staff, universities, and NGOs.

Nicole Iadevaia, CHNEP Dir. Of Research and Restoration staff will be leading this exercise to review final edits together with those brought by CHNEP staff and CAC members at the August 20th, 2025 meeting to gather final input.

Attachment: CHNEP Communication & Outreach Strategy 2025 Updates.

Recommendation: Review and Approval of Final Edits to CHNEP Communication & Outreach Strategy.

8. CHNEP UPDATE

The following represents program activity highlights since the beginning of the previous Management Conference cycle to the beginning of this one.

Program Administration

- Planned and executed both the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting (8/7), Citizens Advisory Committee meeting (8/20), Management Committee meeting (9/5), and Policy Committee meeting (9/25) including lining up presenters, drafting agenda packet, updating Committee webpage, creating PowerPoints, drafting minutes, etc.
- Sent on-boarding materials to new Policy Committee member/co-chair, Craig Hesterlee, representing the EPA (new Policy Committee member), Commissioner Petrina McCutchen representing the City of Fort Meade (new Policy Committee member), Rebekah Harp representing the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (new Management Committee member), County Manager Paul Carlisle representing Glades County (returning Management Committee), Christina Rimes representing the City of Venice (new Technical Advisory Committee member), Kris Ramon representing Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority (new Technical Advisory Committee member), Thomas Behlmer representing South Florida Water Management District (new Technical Advisory Committee member),

and Ryan Ellis representing Polk County (new Technical Advisory Committee member).

- Reviewed Draft [Program Evaluation](#) Letter, providing feedback responses as requested, and received [Final Program Evaluation Letter](#) indicating CHNEP is “proficient” and will continue to be eligible to receive federal funding.
- Drafted 2026 Amended Master Work Plan and Budget, 2025 ED Annual Evaluation with combined Policy Committee Responses, CHNEP Legislative Priorities, these were approved by CHNEP Policy Committee at 9/25 meeting.
- Welcomed new team member- Conservation Specialist, Michelle McGill who will lead on planning and representing CHNEP at outreach event. Held HR and CHNEP onboarding meetings on start date of 9/10. CHNEP updated outreach onboarding and resource documents in preparation.
- Completed annual staff appraisals and held appraisal meetings with all CHNEP staff.
- Sent fall FY26 invoice letters to CHNEP member counties and cities with the appropriate project and informational fact sheets relevant to their community.
- As a follow up to the 2025 Resiliency Summit in September, CHNEP shared the Summit [playlist on YouTube](#) and the updated [Southwest Florida Resiliency page](#) which now features resources from all past summits, including agendas, speaker biographies, and videos organized by tags for easier public access.

Finance and Grants Management

- Updated the [funding opportunities fact sheet](#) and sent out historic funding opportunities notification to all CHNEP Committees about a number of special large state and federal funding opportunities of interest.
- Prepared and submitted FY25 annual End-of-Year reports for both EPA 320 and EPA IJA grants.
- Did FDEP final report and reimbursement request, closing out FY25 grant and receiving full \$75,000 payment.
- Finalized edits to Amended FY2026 CHNEP Work Plan & Budget, these were approved by CHNEP Policy Committee at 9/25 meeting.
- FY26 Agreement for annual programmatic support funds from Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) received CHNEP’s host board approval with partial execution on 10/28/25. It was then sent to SWFWMD for full execution.
- Reviewed and processed CHNEP Water Atlas invoice for Task 9: Waterbody Pages Improvements and Task 12: SCCF RECON Data onto Real-Time Data Mapper.
- Reviewed and sent revised invoice from USF for Q4 Water Atlas deliverables for processing.
- Drafted and sent FY2025 Significant Accomplishments for EPA Grants CE-02D41623- 3 and 4T-02D42123-2.
- Provided Charlotte County grants and finance staff with summary of project expenses remaining for FY2025 annual projects to assist with fiscal year close out.
- Prepared and submitted Q4 Report and deliverables for FY25 Agreement for annual programmatic and project support from Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD).
- Completed staff time billed toward programmatic support funding on the FY2025 CHNEP/SWFWMD annual agreement in preparation for fiscal year close out.

- FY2026 Agreement for annual programmatic support funds from Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection was finalized. It is being prepared to be entered into Charlotte County grants process for board approval and then will be sent back to FDEP for full execution.
- Reviewed and sent invoice from field data contractor (FWC) for Q4 Upper Charlotte Harbor WQ Monitoring (CCHMN) for processing.
- Reviewed and sent Q4 Lower Charlotte Harbor WQ Monitoring (CCHMN) invoice from field data contractor (Lee Co) for processing.
- Reviewed and approved Conservation Grant deliverables for the Environmental Conservancy of North Port, afterward received and processed final invoice.
- Reviewed and approved Conservation Grant deliverables and processed invoice for the Myakka River Management Coordinating Council (MRMCC).
- Reviewed and sent invoice for Polk County Project Task 2: Modeling of Additional Flood Scenarios for processing.
- Letters of acknowledgement provided for the NEP Coastal Watersheds Grant opportunity for Bonefish & Tarpon Trust, Polk County, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) and J.N. 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge.
- Letters of support for University of Central Florida, Florida Atlantic University, and Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation for EPA Region 4 Grant Funding.
- Letters of support for Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation RECON and West Florida Coastal Ocean Model (WFCOM) for GCOOS and SECOORA funding.
- Letter of support for USDA Forest Service Trust for Public Land's Florida Forest Service's 2027 Forest Legacy grant funding for *Peace River Longleaf Pinelands* land acquisition project.
- Letter of support for funding from the Florida legislature for the Glades County NE Service Area Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Feasibility Study.

CHNEP staff participated in the following meetings:

- ANEP External Affairs Meetings (multiple)
- ANEP Director's Meetings (multiple)
- ANEP Communications Working Group Meetings (multiple)
- Hardee County-CHNEP Coordination Meetings (multiple)
- DeSoto County-CHNEP Coordination Meetings (multiple)
- Highlands County-CHNEP Coordination Meetings (multiple)
- Polk County-CHNEP Coordination Meetings (multiple)
- CHNEP-Central Florida Regional Planning Council Meetings (multiple)
- Charlotte County Vulnerability Assessment Monthly Meetings (multiple)
- Science & Environmental Council (SEC) Meetings (multiple)
- CHNEP Water Atlas Monthly Meetings (multiple)
- Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Initiative Meetings (multiple)
- GOAA and Gulf Estuaries Collaboration Meetings (multiple)
- One Water Commission Monthly Meetings (multiple)
- Southwest Florida Regional Ambient Monitoring Program (RAMP) Meetings (multiple)
- WQ Monitoring Project (CCHMN) Field Audits (multiple)
- Lemon Bay Community Workshop Meetings (multiple)

- Southwest FL Estuary Restoration Team (SWERT) Meetings (multiple)
- SW FL Regional Planning Council Meetings (multiple)
- Tiki Point Project Meetings with City of Punta Gorda and FDEP (multiple)
- Silver Jackets Post-Flood Hazard Awareness Project Meetings (multiple)
- Suncoast Waterkeeper Meeting (7/3)
- Big Cypress Basin Board Meeting (7/7)
- SWFWMD Environmental Advisory Committee Meetings (multiple)
- FDEP Grant Reimbursement Back-Up Meeting (7/8)
- GOAA Data & Monitoring Quarterly Meeting (7/8)
- CHNEP – Sarasota County Scope of Work Discussion Meeting (7/9)
- SWFL Resiliency Summit Presentation Discussion (7/14)
- SFWMD Resiliency Partners Flood Information Resource Training (7/14)
- SFWMD C-43 Reservoir Ribbon cutting Event (7/15)
- CCHMN Q3 Deliverables Review Meeting (7/16)
- CHAWG Meeting (7/25)
- CHNEP CAC Calendar Photo Contest Meeting (7/28)
- Glades County initial CHNEP-funded Project Scoping Meeting (7/29)
- CHNEP- Hendry County Vulnerability Assessment Project Meeting (8/8)
- CHNEP Meeting with Lee County Commissioner Brian Hamman (8/8)
- Myakka River Management Coordination Council (MRMCC) Meeting (8/8)
- FLERA Water Resources Committee Meeting (8/12)
- Charlotte County Finance Quarterly Business Meeting (8/22)
- Corkscrew Watershed Initiative Meeting (8/27)
- Coastal Charlotte Harbor Monitoring Network (CCHMN) Annual Meeting (8/29)
- Florida Sea Grant Advisory & Algae Working Group Meeting (9/2)
- SFWMD Resiliency Coordination Forum (9/3)
- NEPORT IJA Reporting Webinar Meeting (9/3)
- Resilient Florida Rulemaking Workshop Meeting (9/5)
- Florida Wildlife Corridor: Mind the Gaps Workshop Meeting (9/10)
- Hosted 2025 Southwest Florida Resiliency Summit (9/16-9/17)
- Florida Resiliency Conference (9/17-9/19)
- HOBO Data Loggers Meeting (9/18)
- Water Quality Trend Analysis Meeting (9/22)
- FY26 Technical Projects Planning Meeting (10/6)
- Wildlife in Resiliency Plans with Peace River Audubon (10/7)
- CHNEP – Cummins Cederberg Meeting (10/8)
- Bivalve-Seagrass Restoration Consortium Quarter 3 Meeting (10/10)
- SE CASC Bridging the Gap: Steering Committee Meeting (10/10)
- FDEP Acquisition and Restoration Council Meeting (10/10)
- Pine Island Flatwoods Reserve Restoration Project Meeting (10/16)
- Lake Hicpochee Project Phase II Groundbreaking Event (10/21)
- Water Atlas Partners Meeting (10/21)
- Punta Gorda City Council Meeting (presentation) (10/22)
- City of Lakeland & Polk County Coordination Meeting (10/22)
- Southwest Florida Regional Forum Meeting (10/24)
- Data & Monitoring Midyear Meeting (10/29)
- Big Waters Land Trust-Volo Foundation Reporting Meeting (10/28)

- 2025 Living Shorelines Tech Transfer Workshop (10/29-10/30)
- C-43 Water Quality Treatment & Testing Facility Project Site Visit (10/29)
- 2025 Florida One Water Summit Meeting (10/30-10/31)

CHNEP Staff Presentations

- Presented on the *CHNEP* and *CHNEP Water Atlas* to the Suncoast Reef Rovers.
- Presented on *Leveraging conventional partnerships with novel tools for holistic water quality and ecosystem management* at the 28th Biennial Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation (CERF) Conference in Richmond, VA.
- CHNEP was the Event Host for the 2025 Southwest Florida Resiliency Summit and staff presented on: *Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessments to Protect Critical Community Assets*, in SESSION 6: New Community Resiliency Initiatives in the Region.
- Presented on the work of CHNEP and co-funded project at the 10/22/25 City of Punta Gorda Council meeting.

Publications and Outreach Initiatives

- Sent out monthly Constant Contact emails to subscribers about relevant upcoming public engagement events in the CHNEP area.
- Created a new [speaker request form](#) for those interested in having CHNEP present under a host-preferred software.
- Worked with CHNEP volunteers to host an educational outreach booth at the Wildcat Tailgate Festival, a community event held to kick off the school year in Hardee County. Shared educational materials with over 80 families.
- Held the Photo Contest Voting Meeting with members of the CAC to gather input on selections for the calendar, selecting final photos for the 2026 Calendar design.
- The CHNEP Citizens Advisory Committee meeting included a committee workshop that CHNEP staff planned and facilitated. The workshop was to gather member input on the Role of the CAC, CHNEP Outreach Resources, and to review proposed updates to the CAC Bylaws and the CHNEP 'Communication and Outreach Strategy' Documents. CHNEP followed up with members to share resources and coordinate upcoming outreach assistance with committee members.
- Hosted and organized the [2025 Southwest Florida Resiliency Summit](#) held Sept. 16th-17th, 2025.
 - Approximately 150 attendees, including members of the public, scientists, experts from industry, academia, and government with information and ideas on building increased resiliency in Central and Southwest Florida.
 - Created and facilitated interactive question and answer sessions after each panel for audience to interact with the presenters.
 - Advertised through NGOs, WGCU radio ads, and other partners leading up to the event. [Made social media posts before, during and after event.](#)
 - Sent out personalized invitations to all city and county councils/commissions and managers/administrators, as well as federal and state senators and representatives.
 - Coordinated with Blue Arc Engineering, Inc. to provide Continuing Education Hours (CEHs) to professional engineers and geologists who attended the Summit. CHNEP created and filled out certificates for each of the attendees who signed up to earn CEHs and sent certificates out to those

individuals to self-report their hours to the Florida Board of Professional Engineers or Florida Board of Professional Geologists.

- News coverage: [Conferences: Safety in communities tomorrow relies on building resiliency today](#)
- Participated in [National Estuaries Week](#) across CHNEP social media, a collaborative effort led by the National Estuarine Reserves, Restore America's Estuaries, National Estuary Programs, and National Environmental Education Foundation.
- Provided educational content at a booth at the Miakka Hootenanny in Sarasota County, FL. Over 50 kids and adults stopped by the booth to play games and learn about different fish species adapted for different environments, how to properly measure a fish, and how objects can break down into microplastics.
- Designed new educational activity involving sorting different types of everyday items into the types of microplastics they break down into to be used at future outreach events. Microplastics are a common water quality pollutant in the CHNEP area based on prior CHNEP microplastic sampling, so working to enhance education on the topic to advance our CCMP goal to improve water quality.
- Provided CHNEP educational materials, including estuary and seagrass informational posters, to Gasparilla Island State Park staff to be placed in their parking lot of the park for interpretive purposes.
- Edited and finalized CHNEP 2026 Nature Calendar design with designer. Met with printer to review scope of the project. Reviewed and approved electronic and hard-copy proofs in advance of printing and mailing.
- Refreshed and reposted CHNEP project factsheets with updated language, organizations, funding sources, and activities as outlined in the new 2025 CCMP.

Digital Outreach Insights

- 5,809 subscribers for CHNEP educational mailings
- 3,551 unique visitors and 4,742 page views of CHNEP website since last cycle
- 19 new Instagram followers for a total of 637
- 14 new Facebook followers for a total of 2,055
- YouTube: 18,090 Views (+2.1k), 107 Subscribers (+6), 368 Videos (+17)

Media/Press

- [Conferences: Safety in communities tomorrow relies on building resiliency today | WGCU PBS & NPR for Southwest Florida](#)
- [Nicole Iadevaia believes 'Water connects everything' - NewsBreak](#)
- [Opportunities for Resilience of Southwest Florida's Salt Marsh Ecosystem | US EPA](#)

Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP Executive Director, will be presenting the CHNEP Update.

9. CHNEP RESOURCES GUIDE

This item is intended to brief the committee on upcoming or ongoing outreach resources that further the CHNEP Goal for Public Engagement: *Create an informed, engaged public making choices and taking actions that increase the protection and restoration of estuaries and watersheds*. CAC members serve as CHNEP partners in various communities throughout Central and Southwest Florida and are invited to work together with CHNEP staff to continue to grow these programs and share educational items within their own organizations, the public and with policy makers.

By request of the Committee members at the previous meeting, CHNEP staff will be giving an overview of the scope and scale of resources that are available. Committee members received a packet in the mail with hard copies and examples of the materials and literature.

This presentation will be given by Sarina Barnard, CHNEP Research & GIS Coordinator.

Attachment: CHNEP Resource Packet

10. CONSERVATION GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership's (CHNEP) goal for Public Engagement is to increase the proportion of the population that supports and participates in actions to protect and restore estuaries and watersheds. Since 2001, CHNEP has offered grants to help establish and maintain environmental education efforts and further partnerships to help implement the CCMP. Applications and instructions can be found here: [CHNEP Conservation Grants](#).

CHNEP staff will share new applications that were submitted this cycle to seek CAC input on associated funding awards. The CAC role as related to this program is to seek out groups within their respective communities to make them aware of the CHNEP Conservation Grant program and how it can be beneficial to their projects and programs. Preference will be given to partners and to projects in communities that have been historically underserved.

<i>Project Name</i>	<i>Application Deadline</i>	<i>Project Deadline</i>	<i>Organization & Applicant</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount Requested</i>	<i>Expected Match</i>
2026 Great American Cleanup	12/1/25	9/1/26	Keep Lee County Beautiful, Trish Fancher	Engage volunteers across Lee County to remove litter and debris from shorelines, waterways, parks, and neighborhoods. The effort will enhance wildlife habitat, improve local water quality, and foster environmental stewardship through hands-on action.	\$5,000	In kind staff time, donated supplies and services
Expansion of Youth Leadership and Marine Camp	12/1/25	9/1/26	Sarasota Bay Watch, Rhonda Ryan	To provide additional educational materials to students of varying school levels attending the marine camps to learn about marine stewardship with engaging hands-on activities, at no cost to the students.	\$3,315	In kind volunteer
Restoration of the Chipley Sand Patch	12/1/25	9/1/26	Calusa Land Trust and Nature Preserve of Pine Island, Cheryl King	To remove invasive plants/trees, trash, and debris to restore the property to its native habitat to maintain the sensitive historical and ecological assets of the land.	\$9,999	In kind volunteer time, Calusa Land Trust Match
Water Ways Science Festival	12/1/25	9/1/26	City of Cape Coral, Michael Bednar	Inclusive, community-wide outreach event to educate the public about local, regional, and global water issues, bring together local environmental public, non-profit, and educational organizations, and encourage community action on environmental issues through hands-on activities, games, and art.	\$9,999	Festival Match

Michelle McGill, CHNEP Conservation Specialist, will be giving an overview of the Conservation Grant applications received this cycle and staff recommendations.

Attachment: December 2025 Conservation Grant Applications

Recommendation: CAC provide input on Conservation Grant Applications

11. CHNEP TECHNICAL PROJECTS UPDATE

In addition to the items featured earlier on the agenda, other research and/or restoration projects (or phases of projects) recently completed or currently underway with CHNEP FY22-25 funds. A brief overview will be given on project progress since the previous TAC meeting.

Nicole Iadevaia, CHNEP Director of Research & Restoration, will be presenting this agenda item. Project fact sheets are available on the CHNEP website: <https://www.chnep.org/resources>.

12. CAC UPDATES & ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON TOPICS OF INTEREST

This is a Round-Robin style discussion for CAC members and new applicants to update one another on programs or projects in their counties. This time is also intended for members to engage on environmental topics of interest and to organize on leveraging the partnership to work together and share CHNEP resources.

Harry Phillips, CAC Co-Chair, will be leading and facilitating this discussion.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Each participating member of the public is afforded up to 3 minutes total to speak at this point in the meeting.

14. FUTURE MEETING'S TOPICS, LOCATIONS AND DATES

Please Save the Date for upcoming CAC 2026 meetings: 4/22/26, 8/19/26, & 12/16/26, located at Centennial Park in Port Charlotte.

If you have ideas of topics for a future presentation, please email them to CHNEP Director of Research & Restoration Nicole Iadevaia at niadevaia@chnep.org.

15. ADJOURN