The Speed of Nature

Welcome to issue No. 3 of Green Flash! Thank you for subscribing. As we come into the steamy summer, I am reminded of something one of my teachers recently said: “Slow yourself down to the speed of nature.” It’s such a simple statement, but it can be enormously difficult -- especially if you don’t know what the speed of nature is. What is the speed of nature? And how does one slow oneself down to its speed?

The best way to do that is to be in nature. Take the time to recognize the plants, the birds, the insects -- the life that is living around you. Look at it, breathe it in, feel it. Connect with it.

You won’t believe what happens next.

Thank you.

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PS. You may want to watch for our weekly Environmental Roundup, usually hitting our website and social media every Friday or Saturday. It includes numerous things to do to connect with nature locally, as well as ways to learn more about the environment.
Property Rights Bills Could Undermine Coastal Resiliency/Conservation Efforts

As House Bills 421 and 1101 await the Governor’s signature, some in the environmental community are expressing concerns about their effect on the environment. The bills are meant to be an expansion of the Bert Harris Act -- but it turns out, they do much more. Valerie Vande Panne has a brief overview of the issue, and John Davis digs deeper, devoting a portion of our show, Gulf Coast Life, to the issue.

More WGCU Environmental Coverage of Note

PHOTO COURTESY OF OUR CHILDREN’S TRUST

PHOTO BY CARLTON WARD JR., NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC IMAGE COLLECTION
• A young woman of the Seminole Tribe and her attorney consider next steps in lawsuit against Governor DeSantis.
• Masks work to reduce the respiratory irritation due to red tide.
• Blue-green algae is back—and we’re keeping you up-to-date on where to be on the lookout for it.
• Will more money save the manatee?
• A 40-Year UF/IFAS study connects health of American crocodiles to salinity levels in Florida Everglades.
• Meet Mote’s new Senior Scientist & Director of the Center for Shark Research.

Read these stories and more online.
Read more Green Flash environmental reporting from WGCU

Featured Florida Wildlife
Cane Toad
Florida is the global epicenter for invasive species of reptiles and amphibians. One in particular is especially dangerous to dogs and cats. The cane toad was first brought to Florida by the sugar industry to control the cane beetle. Then the pet industry brought them in. Now, the cane toad is acclimated and threatens pets. LEARN MORE.

PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE JOHNSON

Grease Up for Love Bug Season
It’s love bug season, again, and that means different things to different people -- especially when it comes to their cars.

For most of the year, love bugs live as larvae on the surface of soil or on decaying leaves or grass. Most people don’t even know they’re there. But when the weather gets warm, you can’t help but notice swarms of them, flying in pairs. READ MORE,

Author Interview

Alfred Hair: Heart of the Highwaymen
By Gary Monroe

Listen to working artist and chronicler of offbeat Florida art, author Gary Monroe, talk about his work writing about Florida artists the Highwaymen and his most recent book. LISTEN NOW.

Calendar of Events
LEARN: Wildlife Walks and presentations return to CROW. Take a guided tour of CROW’s animal hospital and learn about the care the various species receive. LEARN MORE

WATCH: Is Chevron the world’s biggest crime syndicate? The Daily Show with Trevor Noah seems to think so. READ MORE

ACT: Multiple area non-profits are organizing to influence the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ plans for Lake Okeechobee. These include the Everglades Trust, Captains for Clean Water, and the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce.

SCREEN CAPTURE OF REUTERS VIDEO

Ending on a good note ... 

A turtle considered extinct 100 years ago in Galapagos is still in existence says Ecuador. READ MORE
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