

Florida



LAKEWATCH

Dedicated to Sharing Information About Water Management and the Florida LAKEWATCH Program Volume XXIII 2003



David Watson

Dan Willis (right) shows Sophia Fiorentino how to filter water while her brother and father look on.



Amy Richard

Julie Terrell (right) discusses data with a volunteer.

Dear LAKEWATCH Volunteers,

As many of you probably already know, there have been considerable funding shortfalls within the state university system this year. Positions have been cut throughout UF/IFAS and at IFAS' educational/research institutions across the state.

Florida LAKEWATCH was not immune to these cuts and funding was lost for two full-time Regional Coordinator positions. Fortunately we have been able to arrange for emergency supplemental funding to keep Julie Terrell and Dan Willis, two very hard-working individuals, with our program for at least another year. Rest assured, we are staying positive and pro-actively searching for ways to help shore up the funding shortfall.

One possible funding source includes city and county governments that have benefited from the efforts of our volunteers and fine staff. I believe many local organizations may be willing to re-organize their own finances so they can make funding available to us.

So far, we've received quite a bit of promising feedback, particularly in counties where Florida LAKEWATCH volunteers have made their presence known through tireless lake monitoring efforts and positive involvement in lake management. Many of these government groups have taken note of the valuable contributions each of you have made and in return, are now willing to help LAKEWATCH.

So first, I thank you for your dedication to volunteer monitoring. Secondly, please let us know if you have any ideas on possible funding sources that we might want to consider. Your advice is always welcome!!!

Dan Canfield
Director/Florida LAKEWATCH



Amy Richard

Daniel E. Canfield, Jr.

Way to Go LAKEWATCHERS!

A very special thanks to all our volunteers who participated in the water quality survey. We appreciate your enthusiastic participation!

To date we've received over 275 responses from 118 lakes and three rivers. These water bodies lie in 28 Counties and 29 distinct Florida Lake Regions.

We are just now beginning to analyze the results of the survey in relation to the water chemistry data that were collected on the same date. Your participation in this project will make it possible for us evaluate how Floridians perceive the overall aesthetic and recreational quality of their area lakes and how it relates to the actual water chemistry.

Similar surveys conducted in Vermont and Minnesota (Heiskary and Walker, Jr. 1988; Smeltzer and Heiskary 1990, respectively) have been quite useful in demonstrating statistically significant relationships. This information has proven to be helpful in statewide and regional lake assessments, impact evaluations for wastewater discharges, water quality standards evaluation, and reasonable lake management goal setting. As a result, many water managers are now realizing that it may be unrealistic to judge water quality for every lake in the state using only one state-wide water chemistry standard.

Look for the analyzed results this spring or early summer in a future LAKEWATCH newsletter.



UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA

Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences



\$20,000 Available for Managing Lake Shorelines

Each year, as part of its 'Love Your Lake' Cost-Share Program, the Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS) works with lakefront property owners to help create sections of lake shoreline, in lakes around the state, that illustrate sound management techniques for others to learn from. The best part is, they are willing to fund it!

This year, FLMS will fund up to \$20,000 worth of projects. They are funding these endeavors because they know it will benefit many members of the community by providing realistic examples of how we can keep lake shorelines environmentally friendly. By enlisting the help of volunteers, the shoreline demonstration projects are also economically friendly and support ongoing efforts to preserve native Florida habitats.

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee and points will be given according to the criteria outlined below. Project(s) that meet the majority of criteria rating points will earn the greatest consideration. FLMS will provide matching

funds for expenses incurred by the successful applicant. Expenditures can be in the form of labor or monetary contributions. Note: FLMS may fund more than one proposal or apply all funds toward one larger proposal.

Last year's recipients included the Central Florida Zoo (Orange County), the Narcoossee Community School (Osceola County) and the Jupiter Environmental Studies Academy (Martin County). Each group was awarded \$4,000.

A rating system is based on the following criteria:

1. Monetary/labor match – Community involvement strategy strongly recommended;
2. Location– Project must be readily accessible to the public;
3. Removal of invasive plants – Establishment of beneficial native plants;
4. Educational signage to explain project;
5. Water Quality Enhancements – Xeriscaping; Irrigation pumping from the lake, use of environmental swale system; Erosion control methods used.

Each application should include the following:

- The name of the person and/or entity performing the project;
- A one-page description of the proposed project (must include a maintenance plan);
- Address of project (physical location); and contact information
- Budget for the project;
- Drawing of proposed enhancements, including plants used.

Applicants are also expected to take plenty of photographs before, during and after the restoration and provide copies to FLMS. Projects must be completed no later than September of the following year. Shoreline management projects may require permits from the Department of Environmental Protection and/or the Water Management District, as well as local municipalities. Applicants are responsible for obtaining all required permits *before* starting the project.

Application deadline is May 1, 2003.

**Send applications to: Shoreline Cost-Share Application Review Committee
P.O. Box 950701
Lake Mary, FL 32795-0701**

For more information contact:

Luce Price

E-mail: flmshome@aol.com

Phone: 407/324-8695

A LAKEWATCH Series...

Countless Ways to Use LAKEWATCH Data

Congratulations to Chris Capkovic and the Lake Brant District...

who were recognized this autumn in the weekend Special Edition of the *St. Petersburg Times* for their lake management efforts on Lake Brant, a 51-acre lake in Hillsborough County.

Chris, who was dubbed as the “quintessential modern lake lover,” (i.e., in the article) has been actively involved in the management of the lake ever since he and his wife bought their house in 1992. He’s been a LAKEWATCH volunteer since 1994. Back then, he and other lakefront property owners were greatly concerned about the hydrilla that was taking over the lake. To deal with the problem, they created the Lake Brant District to raise funds for lake improvements. Taxes were used to pay for herbicide treatments and 300 grass carp that were stocked to keep the hydrilla from coming back.

Since then, the Lake Brant group adopted a management plan to maintain the lake for both skiing and fishing. This meant hydrilla had to be kept “in check,” while at the same time steps needed to be taken to encourage the growth of native vegetation for fish habitat. Today, a third of the shoreline is re-vegetated with the help of Mother Nature and volunteers that have gone to the trouble of re-planting eel grass *Vallisneria americana* within special enclosures. The enclosures are needed to keep the remaining 100 grass carp from devouring the plants that volunteers are trying to propagate along the lake bottom. (Some of the grass carp now exceed 36-inches in length!)



University of South Florida/FCCDR

Chris Capkovic on Lake Brant in Hillsborough County.

Were LAKEWATCH data useful to this group?

“Absolutely,” says Chris, who explained that LAKEWATCH data are presented and reviewed at every Lake Brant District meeting. The data have served as an invaluable mechanism for monitoring the progress of their lake management plan, as well as an educational tool. After ridding the lake of hydrilla, one of their goals has been to return the lake to its prior mesotrophic status. (The lake has been classified as eutrophic since 1993, with Secchi depths ranging from only 3 to 5 feet). This past December however, Secchi depths of 8 feet were recorded and if it continues, the lake will most likely return to its mesotrophic status. “Believe me,” said Chris, “folks around the lake heard me hollering when I recorded those 8-foot measurements!”

However, Chris feels that the District’s biggest accomplishment has been their effort to convince lakefront homeowners to adopt a number of “lake-friendly” practices including:

- ◆ discontinuing the use of fertilizers on lakefront lawns;
- ◆ discontinuing the practice of mowing shoreline grass right to the water’s edge and dumping grass clippings in the water;
- ◆ encouraging the growth of native aquatic plants;
- ◆ maintaining boat engines to prevent oil and gasoline leaks;
- ◆ properly maintaining septic tanks to prevent bacterial contamination and excessive nutrient loading;
- ◆ reducing development of sandy beaches which allow stormwater runoff to flow directly into the lake.

The Lake Brant group accomplished these goals by publishing and distributing a series of newsletters to homeowners and holding monthly meetings. Both endeavors helped educate their lake neighbors about basic lake management concepts and dispelled several myths about Florida lakes (e.g., not all lakes are meant to look like swimming pools).

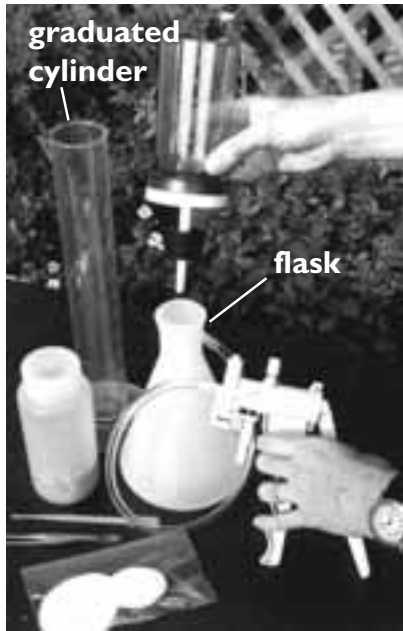
As Chris so eloquently said, “The process transformed 100 lakefront homeowners into 100 lake stewards.”



University of South Florida/FCCDR

Chris Capkovic’s recent Secchi depth reading of 8-feet was well-received among lakefront homeowners who have been working hard to return the lake’s water clarity to historical measurements. They’re hoping their efforts to re-vegetate the lake with native plants will help.

Volunteer Bulletin Board



How's Your Filtering Kit Holding Up?

- ◆ If your graduated cylinder is becoming “tarnished,” or hard to see through, we’ll be glad to trade it out for a newer one, as it’s important that you see the measurements clearly.
- ◆ If your filter pump is broken or needs repair, please call us and we’ll have a new set delivered to you in return for the old set. (We now have the capability to repair them.)
- ◆ Remember to watch the water level in the flask so that you don’t accidentally suck water into the pumping mechanism. This is the number one cause of problems with the filtering devices.
- ◆ Please don’t hesitate to call if you should have any questions or need supplies:

1-800-LAKEWATCH (525-3928)

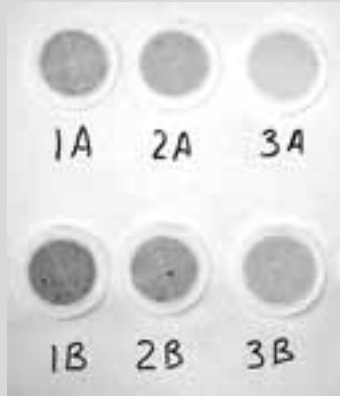
Water Quality Science Project Takes First Place

Congratulations to Craig Western, age 14, who won first place among 8th grade science projects at Booth Middle School in Peachtree City, Georgia. This achievement qualified him to compete at the Fayette County Science Fair where he also took first place among 8th grade projects. The title of the project: “The Effect of Detergents’ Phosphate Levels on Water Quality.”

Craig received \$50 and a certificate for his efforts, and will now compete in the regional competition in Griffin, GA on Feb. 25. How did this young lad come by such genius? If asked, our LAKEWATCH staff might be tempted to take a teensy bit of credit as, after all, his parents were volunteers on Lake Conway North and Lake Conway South for two years (before moving to Georgia). We were sorry to see them leave Florida, but we’re mighty proud to hear that Craig and his folks are still thinking about water quality. Well done!



Craig Western with his Blue Ribbon project.



A sampling of filters from the project.



Regional Coordinator Claude Brown congratulates Barbara Samler for serving 10 years as a volunteer in Volusia County.

Volunteer Appreciation Meetings Begin in March...

so watch for your invitation. These meetings are held once a year per county or multi-county area. We encourage you to attend as it provides a great opportunity for you to get to know your regional coordinator a little better, ask questions about your data, peruse our educational displays and literature, and enjoy a well-deserved dinner (or lunch). Upcoming meetings are posted on the LAKEWATCH Web-site:

<http://lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu>

Note: Please be sure to RSVP for your meeting. If you can't attend, we will automatically mail your data packet to you.

2003 Gulf Guardian Awards Program Looking for Nominees

Entry deadline is April 15. Sponsored by the U.S. EPA, the Gulf of Mexico Program wants to recognize *Gulf Guardians* for their stewardship. Businesses, civic or non-profit organizations, partnerships, government entities, and individuals are eligible. Applicants can apply on-line at:

<http://www.epa.gov/gmpo/gulfguard.html>

Download and complete the entry form, and then e-mail it to: gulf.guardian@epa.gov

Questions? Call: Terry Hines Smith

Phone: 228/688-1159

Volunteer Bulletin Board

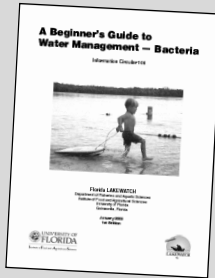
Hot off the press!

A Beginner's Guide to Water Management—Bacteria (Information Circular 106)

This long-awaited 48-page booklet starts with a brief tutorial on the presence of bacteria in Florida lakes and aquatic environments in general and then quickly digs into the what folks are most interested in: possible sources of bacterial contamination and how to test for it. The discussion includes a comparison of the effectiveness of wastewater treatment plants versus septic tanks. Indicators used for detecting bacterial contamination are also explained, along with basic laboratory methods. Lastly, an easy 4-step process is provided for tracking down bacterial contamination in a waterbody. Laboratory suppliers are listed at the end for individuals or groups interested in doing their own bacterial sampling.

All active volunteers will receive this booklet within their annual data packets, courtesy of LAKEWATCH. However, if for some reason we miss you, or you need additional copies, don't hesitate to call the LAKEWATCH office at 1-800-525-3928. Quantities can also be purchased for \$1.25 ea.

Contact: Melanie Mercer
UF/IFAS Communications 352/392-2411



Does Your Lake Shoreline Deserve an Award?

If so, the Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS) wants to know about it. Each year, FLMS sponsors an annual Shoreline Development Award of \$200. The program is open to all lakefront residents in Florida.

FLMS is looking for a shoreline enhancement project that combines beneficial, native, aquatic plant habitat with simple stormwater treatment solutions. Winners will receive \$200 and an engraved wooden sign of recognition to be displayed proudly on the shoreline of their lake. The Award is usually presented to the winner(s) at the annual FLMS Conference, which will be held in Orlando this year (see below). For those of you who would like to improve your lake shoreline but have been waiting for inspiration—here's the perfect incentive. Not sure which aquatic plants are most beneficial to the environment or which permits may be needed? The FLMS Shoreline Sub-committee is ready to answer any questions you might have. They can even provide you with ideas on how to construct simple stormwater treatment areas, such as a berm or swale system.

To Apply for the FLMS Shoreline Development Award:

1. Send in a picture(s) of the shoreline BEFORE any work is done (if available).
2. Explain on one sheet of paper the things you did to improve the shoreline area and why this will be beneficial to the surrounding environment. Include your name, address, and contact number or e-mail address.
3. Send in a picture(s) AFTER the project is completed.
4. Mail applications to:

FLMS Shoreline Development Award
P. O. Box 950701
Lake Mary, FL 32795-0701

**For more information or
for an application, contact: Lucee Price**
E-mail: flmshome@aol.com
Phone: 407/324-8695

Applications must be received by May 1.

Editor's Note: This is an entirely different award from the one featured on page 2.

Mark your calendar: June 2 – 5, 2003

Annual Lake Management Conference in Orlando



Join lake management professionals and fellow citizens at the 12th Annual Southeastern Lakes Management Conference in Orlando, Florida at the Hyatt Orlando-Kissimmee. This event will combine the annual meeting and conference of the Florida Lake Management Society with the annual Southeastern Lakes Management Conference. (Two conferences for the price of one!) These meetings are a great way to become acquainted with many of the people involved with lake management and to hear presentations on a variety of topics including toxic algae blooms, lake water levels, exotic and invasive species of plants and animals, etc.

Stay tuned for more information or contact Lucee Price for the latest: flmshome@aol.com

Featured Fish: Brown Bullhead Catfish (*Ameiurus nebulosus*)

Common names:
creek cat, mud cat, horned pout,
red cat, speckled cat

Despite their popularity with many shoreline anglers, the brown bullhead catfish often suffers from a lack of respect when compared with other freshwater fish species, even within its own catfish family. This seems a little peculiar when one considers that the brown bullhead is reportedly a top ranking freshwater fish—in terms of numbers taken—in some areas of the United States.

The brown bullhead is one of six bullhead catfish species found in North America. Out of the six, only two are relevant to Florida anglers: brown and yellow bullheads. (A third species, the black bullhead, is mostly found in the central or mid-western portion of the U.S., west of Florida, Georgia, and Alabama.) The other three species—the flat, snail, and spotted—rarely grow to be more than one pound and their range is limited to rather small sections of the southeastern United States.

Like some of its catfish cousins, the brown bullhead sports the typical flat head, a slightly humped back, and obligatory chin barbels and whiskers. However, it does have a few characteristics that make it distinguishable from the yellow bullhead.



A nice stringer of brown bullhead catfish caught this January at Newnan's Lake in Gainesville.

For starters, the brown bullhead has distinct irregular dark brown mottling or “blotchy spots” on its back and sides and a cream-colored belly. The yellow bullhead catfish is solid brown-yellow or black in color with a white belly. The amount of mottling on brown bullheads varies, and is said to be even more distinct on a subspecies that has been identified in the southern United States. A fisheries biologist will tell you that you can distinguish between the two by counting the number of anal fin rays; the brown bullhead has 21- 24 fin rays and yellow's have 24- 27.

Brown bullheads can also be distinguished by observing the color of their chin barbels: brown bullhead's have gray/black barbels and the yellow bullhead has white “whiskers.” One more thing: Compared with other bullhead catfish, the barbs on brown bullhead pectoral fins are much more well-developed—much easier to prick an unsuspecting fisherman with, so caution is advised when landing these fish.

Habitat and Distribution

Brown bullheads inhabit areas with mud or deep muck as well as sand or gravel bottoms and are often found in larger and deeper bodies of water than their cousins. While brown bullheads prefer water temperatures of 78 to 82 degrees (Fahrenheit), they are fairly hardy and can survive in warmer waters—even in water over 90 degrees. They can also tolerate high levels of turbidity better than many other gamefish.

Thanks to their highly sensitive barbels, bullheads can “smell” food from great distances. In fact, their appetites have earned them a reputation similar to that of barnyard hogs—animals willing to feed on just about anything. While this may be true at times, the bullhead's diet is mostly comprised of aquatic insects, plant material, carrion (dead animals), small fish, mollusks, crayfish, fish eggs, worms and leeches.

Bullhead catfish are decent fighters and have entertained many a fisherman. They are fairly easy to catch with worms, minnow, shrimp, chicken innards and stinkbait. They'll bite throughout the day but



Brown bullhead catfish

Joe Richard

fishing is often best at night, their prime feeding time. Folks of all ages can enjoy fishing for bullheads as it requires less hassle than some other gamefish, and allows for plenty of socializing between “bites.”

It's considered to be a good food fish, though not as popular as the white catfish and channel catfish. Some may be surprised to learn that Florida has a good-sized commercial fishery for brown bullheads.

Bullhead catfish are nest builders and often select a site next to an underwater object such as a rock or log. Males reportedly clear and guard the nest, but it's also thought that both parents may be involved in nest building and guarding the young. At times, parent fish have been observed carrying the eggs or fry in their mouths.

Brown bullheads can be found throughout most of Florida, except in the extreme southern portions of the state. Browns are the largest of the bullheads and occasionally reach a weight of three pounds, although they average one to three pounds. Maximum age is about 12 years. According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, there is no Florida state record for the brown bullhead. The most recent world record brown bullhead weighed 6 pounds 2 ounces and was caught from Mississippi's Pearl River in 1991.

Sources

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission: <http://floridafisheries.com/Fishes/catfish.html#brown>

Fishing For Catfish

Keith Sutton
The Freshwater Angler Series
Creative Publishing International, Inc.
Minnetonka, MN 1998

Featured Bird: Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*)

Other names:
Calico crane, blue crane

Depending on which growth phase it happens to be in, identifying the Little Blue Heron can be a bit of a challenge to the novice bird watcher. While observing it in its adult (mature) phase, some folks have been known to point and say “Look, a baby Great Blue Heron!” This is an innocent-enough mistake, as the Little Blue Heron is not nearly as common these days as the Great Blue, which seems to be found on virtually every lake in the state.

Upon closer inspection however, the Little Blue Heron certainly has its own distinct characteristics. Its head and neck feathers are dark blue to maroon-brown in color and the rest of its body feathers are a beautiful slate blue. When breeding, these birds develop long black plumes, purplish-colored feathers and plumes on the head. Its long sharp bill is cobalt blue with a black tip.

In its juvenile (immature) phase, Little Blues are completely white and are sometimes mistaken for the Snowy egret, a bird of similar size. This discrepancy can be easily clarified by observing the color of their legs and feet. Snowy egrets have dark black legs with bright yellow feet and Little Blue Herons have olive-green colored legs and feet. The color of their bills also provides a clue, though it’s not as dependable as the “yellow slippers test.” Little Blue herons have pale blue bills with a black tip and the Snowy egret’s bill is solid black. To complicate things just a bit more, Little Blues can also be mistaken for the Reddish egret-another wading bird that sports white feathers during its juvenile phase. However, the Reddish egret is larger than the Little Blue Heron and can be distinguished by its dark blue-gray legs. Also, the Reddish egret is mostly found in saltwater coastal marshes and wetlands and, when feeding, is recognizable by its comical habit of lurching and jumping across the shallows like a drunkard.

There’s even an “in-between” phase for the Little Blue Heron (i.e., between the juvenile and mature phase) in which they exhibit a calico blue and white speckled pattern during their first winter as blue feathers replace white feathers.

These birds are widely distributed throughout Florida and use a variety of



Joe Richard

Little Blue Heron

nesting and feeding habitats. Although many Little Blue Herons can be found in saltwater environments, they seem to prefer freshwater habitats for feeding. They catch their food by slowly stalking the shoreline, feeding on small fish, frogs and invertebrates. They generally nest between late February and August, laying three light blue eggs on some type of stick platform. In some instances, Little Blue herons have been seen breeding in their “calico” phase.

The general population trend for this species is downward. Some speculate the Little Blue Heron suffers from competition from cattle egrets for nesting sites and this may be contributing to their decline. Perhaps with additional LAKEWATCH bird data, we will be able to learn more about the habits of these birds on Florida’s freshwater lakes.

Sources

Florida’s Birds – A Handbook Reference
Herbert W. Kale, II and David S. Maehr
Illustrated by Karl Karalus
Pineapple Press / Sarasota, FL

A Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies
Text and illustrations by Roger Tory Peterson
Houghton Mifflin Company / Boston, MA

Florida LAKEWATCH

This newsletter is generated by the Florida LAKEWATCH program, within UF/IFAS’ Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences. Support for the LAKEWATCH program is provided by the Florida Legislature, grants and donations. For more information about LAKEWATCH, to inquire about volunteer training sessions, or to submit materials for inclusion in this publication, write to:

Editor / Florida LAKEWATCH

PO Box 110600

Gainesville, FL 32611

or call 1-800-LAKEWATCH (800-525-3928)

(352) 392-9617 ext. 228

E-mail: lakewat@ufl.edu

http://lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu/

All unsolicited articles, photographs, artwork or other written material must include contributor’s name, address and phone number. Opinions expressed are solely those of the individual contributor and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the Florida LAKEWATCH program. Inclusion does not constitute endorsement, nor does exclusion represent censure of any item, organization, individual, or institution by the University of Florida or the Florida LAKEWATCH program.

Fishing For Success ~ A Community Partnership

As our lives become increasingly complicated, the simple act of fishing may seem frivolous to some. But ask any angler and he or she will tell you about the therapeutic powers that can be enjoyed from fishing as well as its effectiveness at building one's self-esteem. It's also proven to be a valuable form of physical and behavioral rehabilitation for many individuals. For these reasons and more, the **Fishing For Success Program (FFS)** has made it a goal to acquaint thousands of youth, and their parent/guardian, to this past time, many for the first time ever.

And yet FFS is not just a fishing program. It's a multi-faceted endeavor that introduces youth of all ages to Florida's freshwater environments in a non-traditional way. In 1998, it was initially designed as a mentoring program for underprivileged youth in the greater Gainesville area. Due to its popularity with teachers, parents—and most importantly, the kids—Fishing For Success quickly grew to include a broad spectrum of the community. It's now one of the largest youth aquatic education programs in the state.

Last year, FFS served more than 13,000 youth and their parents and/or guardians. Similar to Florida LAKEWATCH, the program is coordinated through the UF/IFAS Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences in Gainesville.



Volunteers and members of the Alachua County Council for the Blind enjoy an afternoon of fishing and camaraderie on FFS' new pier. Both the pier and the 3/4-acre pond were made possible by a number of Gainesville businesses who worked to raise the funds and construct the pier.



This year's first Family Fishing Day is February 15 8 am – 12 noon Join us!

Because kids learn by “doing,” FFS designed its program so that individuals can have the opportunity to personally interact with the aquatic environment. For example, as part of an aquatic ecology lesson, students are each given a net and collection bucket and encouraged to explore the banks along the research ponds. Soon after, they are treated to a hands-on lesson about the various aquatic organisms they've just collected.

A new dimension added in 2001.

With water levels in local ponds and lakes at an all-time low, families in Alachua County and surrounding areas were finding themselves hard-pressed to find a safe and accessible place to fish. To address this need, FFS began hosting monthly Family Fishing Days. These events continue to be a tremendous success with 250 to 1,200 people participating in a single event.

Bait and tackle are available for participants, as well as assistance from a group of dedicated FFS volunteers — UF graduate students, faculty, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff, law enforcement officers and others.

It's during these pond-side fishing sessions that something truly special happens. Folks from all segments of the community begin to talk and interact as they all work toward a common goal—helping a nearby youngster succeed (i.e., catch a fish!). With every fish caught and released, both adults and children can be seen grinning from ear to ear, as they bask in the glory of a prized catch.

As Dr. Dan Canfield says, “These events are where the real education takes place—where parents or guardians are given a chance to mentor their children in a relaxed and positive way.” Canfield is co-director of FFS (along with Dr. Chuck Cichra) and founder/director of LAKEWATCH.

Last year, nearly 4,500 people attended the monthly Family Fishing Days. This year, FFS plans to further expand and to bring innovative aquatic education opportunities to other communities around the state. However, due to state funding shortfalls within UF/IFAS, Fishing For Success is now seeking support from the private sector. (As LAKEWATCH volunteers, you know what can be accomplished with a little momentum.)

Anyone interested in contributing to this program can help by making a tax-deductible donation and becoming a **Friend of Fishing for Success**. If you are interested, or if you know of someone who might be, we would love to hear from you.

Levels of sponsorship:

Lunkers	\$1,000 or more
Big Catch	\$ 500 - \$999
Keepers	\$100 - \$499
Shiners	up to \$100

Make your tax deductible donations (checks only please) to:

University of Florida Foundation, Inc. — SHARE

Mail directly to:
Dr. Daniel E. Canfield, Jr.
Dept. Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences
PO Box 110600
Gainesville, FL 32611



For more information about the FFS program, call Steve Caton at 352/392-9617 ext 270.

To schedule an event, call Sharon Fitz-Coy at 352/392-9617 ext 241.

For more information about FFS: <http://fishweb.ifas.ufl.edu/FishSUCCESS/FishSuccess.htm>