



Saving Water Saves the Everglades

We have rediscovered a magnificent,
Slow-flowing fountain

So vast that it can create and modify its own weather systems,
So powerful it filters and purifies rainwater runoff,
So refreshing it can evaporate up and shower down
The same pure water again and again in one day.

It is a fountain that replenishes
And sustains all plant and animal life.
A fountain so complex
Only the Creator could have designed it.

So valuable we almost destroyed it.
So beautiful it has united us here today
To restore it forever.

If we succeed in our efforts, the magic in water will heal
Not only mankind, but the whole of creation;
It will keep the landscape itself
in a perpetual state of renewal, of youth, of wonder.

It will... surprise us, recharge our spirits.
It will flow through our fountain — our River of Grass —
From which hope springs eternal.

*Department of the Interior
1999 Everglades Coalition
Naples, Florida*