

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Media Advisory

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CONTACT:

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www.sfwmd.gov/news

Walk on the Wild Side at the 2011 CREW Wildflower Festival

Wildflower slideshow and hikes showcase recreation on public lands at the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed



From left to right: marsh-pink, buttonbush, pickerelweed, horned bladderwort, marsh-pink, dayflower, airplant, catesbys lily.

WHAT:

The public is invited to the 2011 CREW Wildflower Festival this weekend to enjoy a kaleidoscope of colorful wildflowers and learn about the valuable role that the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) fills in protecting Southwest Florida's water supply.

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and its partners — representing businesses, environmental groups, landowners and governmental agencies — manage the watershed for its numerous benefits to water storage, wildlife preservation and public recreation opportunities. The 60,000-acre watershed spanning Lee and Collier counties includes a majestic 5,000-acre marsh at its headwaters and the famous Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary.

As the CREW Trust celebrates more than 20 years of preservation and education, festival visitors will be treated to an array of activities, including a slide show by local authors and wildflower experts and guided wildflower and butterfly hikes.

Suggested donations are \$3 for CREW members and \$5 for nonmembers. CALL FOR RESERVATIONS.

WHERE and WHEN:

Wildflower Slide Show

Bass Pro Shops 10040 Gulf Coast Drive Fort Myers, FL 33913

Friday, April 1, 2011 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Wildflower Hikes

CREW Cypress Dome Trails 3980 Corkscrew Road Immokalee, FL 33928

Saturday, April 2, 2011 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

CONTACT: For more information, call (239) 657-2253 or visit <u>www.crewtrust.org</u>.

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About the South Florida Water Management District

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.