



Published quarterly by [Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management](#) (PBC ERM)

Fall, 2009

WHAT WE'RE DOING

[Environmental Enhancement Status Reports](#)

[Environmental Times Newsletter](#)

GET INVOLVED

[Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative](#)

VOLUNTEER

December 12 (Sat.)

Lantana Volunteer Oyster Reef Restoration. To register or for more information email [Alyssa Dodd](mailto:Alyssa.Dodd@co.palm-beach.fl.us) or call (561) 233-2400.

January 9 (Sat.)

Mangrove Seedling Planting at Ibis Isle. To register or for more information email [Ann Mathews](mailto:Ann.Mathews@co.palm-beach.fl.us) or call (561) 233-2400.

[ERM Volunteer Events Calendar](#)

[Check Out ERM Volunteers in Action](#)

LEARN ABOUT THE LAGOON

ERM [Lake Worth Lagoon](#) web page

CONTACT US

[Alyssa Dodd](mailto:Alyssa.Dodd@co.palm-beach.fl.us)
PBC Department of Environmental Resources Management
(561) 233-2448

Life in the Lagoon: Halloween Night Dive

[Enjoy these underwater photographs](#) taken by Anne DuPont, scientific diver and underwater photographer, on October 31st near the Blue Heron Bridge/Phil Foster Park area in Lake Worth Lagoon. Did you know more than 500 species of marine mollusks and 238 species of fish have been observed in the immediate vicinity of the Blue Heron Bridge and Peanut Island?



Leopard searobin, *Prionotus scitulus*

Thank You Bivalve Brigade Volunteers!

Thank you to the [West Palm Beach Fishing Club volunteers \(PDF file\)](#) who filled 325 netted bags with fossilized shell. The bags will be used for oyster reef restoration projects in the Lagoon. When placed along the shoreline, these bags of shell provide a hard surface for juvenile oysters to attach. **Join us along with the Town of Lantana and the West Palm Beach Fishing Club for an oyster bagging event on Saturday, December 12, 2009** at the Town of Lantana's Bicentennial Park. We're looking for 150 volunteers! To register or for [more information](#) email [Alyssa Dodd](mailto:Alyssa.Dodd@co.palm-beach.fl.us) or call (561) 233-2400.

Mangrove Mania – Thank You Volunteers!

Thank you to all the [volunteers](#) who helped collect 45,000 red [mangrove](#) seeds for upcoming restoration projects. The seedlings are growing in our nursery and we'll be looking for volunteers to plant several acres of mangroves in the new year. **Volunteer with us on Saturday, January 9, 2010 at the Ibis Isle Restoration Project to plant mangrove seedlings. This will be the first of several volunteer events at this project location.** Ultimately, over 3 acres of mangroves will be planted. To register or for more information email [Ann Mathews](mailto:Ann.Mathews@co.palm-beach.fl.us) for more information or call (561) 233-2400.

Ibis Isle Restoration Project UPDATE

Significant progress has been made in creating critical shallow water habitat within the Lagoon and wading birds are returning to the Ibis Isle area. [View photos of progress to date \(PDF\)](#). Speaking of birds, get a bird's eye view of the project and learn more about the "muck capping" process by viewing the [Ibis Isle Restoration Project video on YouTube](#) created by Eastman Aggregates Enterprises.



Ibis Isle Restoration Project

John's Island Oyster Reef Project UPDATE

The oyster reef project behind John's Island continues into its third month of construction. The placement of 7500 tons of rock within 16 discrete reef locations is expected to be completed by the end of December. Staff have already observed bait fish swimming on top of the reefs at high tide and birds foraging at low tide. Grants from the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) and the Lake Worth Lagoon Partnership Grant Program cover 65% of the \$730,000 costs to construct this 5 acre reef project.

Manatees Heading South

[Manatee](#) season began November 15th and continues through March 31st. Manatees are attracted by the warm weather in South Florida as water temperature drops in the north. The Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) and Lake Worth Lagoon are the manatee's version of I-95. Just as local motorists need to share the road with vacationers, local and visiting boaters need to share these waterways with manatees as they travel.

Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative UPDATE

In mid-November, [Working Group](#) Chairs shared their progress with the Initiative's [Executive Committee](#). The Water Working Group discussed several studies including a preliminary analysis of water quality data collected in the Lagoon over the past two years. Highlights from the Habitat Working Group included an overview of ongoing restoration projects and plans to host a [Living Shorelines](#) Workshop in spring 2010 to showcase natural shoreline stabilization techniques. The Public Outreach Working group reported on several successful volunteer events including International Coastal Cleanup and presented a new Lake Worth Lagoon logo and tagline.

[To learn more and get involved visit LWLI.org](#)



Lake Worth Lagoon:
Discover a Local
Treasure

If you prefer not to receive Lake Worth Lagoon E-News email ADodd@co.palm-beach.fl.us to unsubscribe.



Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Burt Aaronson, Chair, Karen T. Marcus, Vice Chair,
Jeff Koons, Shelley Vana, Steven L. Abrams, Jess R. Santamaria, Priscilla A. Taylor

Department of Environmental Resources Management

2300 North Jog Road, 4th Floor
West Palm Beach, FL 33411-2743
561-233-2400

Richard E. Walesky, Department Director
Rob Robbins, Deputy Director