

**Lee County Legislative Delegation Meeting**

400 Palmetto Avenue

P.O. Box 902

Osprey, FL 34229-0902

941.918.2100

**conservationfoundation.com**

**October 18, 2017**

**Presentation by: Christine P. Johnson, President**

1. **Support using “Florida Forever” funds for land and conservation easement acquisition:** Protect natural Florida for people and wildlife; Protect land buffering waterways; Protect working lands.

* **Benefits:** Protects water quality and quantity; Essential for tourism and agricultural industries; Preserves unique Florida natural resources.
* **Examples:** Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed, Estero Bay, Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park
* **Opportunities:** Additions and buffers to and inholdings in existing state parks and wildlife management areas:
  + Edison Farms addition to CREW (land)
  + Coral Creek in Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park (*land*)
  + Myakka Ranchlands
    - Orange Hammock Ranch (*land*)
    - Murphy Marsh on Myakka River (*easement*)

1. **Support “Florida Community Trust” grants for parks and other public places.**

* **Benefits:** Leverages local governments' and nonprofits' dollars to meet recreational needs of residents and visitors. Improves health by connecting people to nature.
* **Examples:** Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve, Bay Preserve at Osprey, Robinson Preserve
* **Opportunities:** community parks and preserves providing water access and recreation, opportunities to enjoy and learn about nature.

***Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast is a nonprofit conservancy working to save the bays, beaches, barrier islands and their watersheds in Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte and Lee Counties.***

**Land Protection Priorities:**

* Conserve habitat for imperiled plants and animals
* Protect shoreline and provide water access
* Connect conserved lands for people and animals
* Provide unique, highly desired recreational access for the public

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Eileen Scudder-Zimmermann

James Westman

Glenn Shipley

Mickey Davis  
Mario Bernardis

Robert W. Brown

Stephen Cetrulo

Ann J. Charters

Matt Drews

Harold L. Johnson, MD

Michael Knupp

Elizabeth Moore

Nora Patterson

David W. Young

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Fran Becker

Michael Biehl

Clyde Butcher

Edward E. Cohen, Ph.D.

R. Scott Collins

Daniel J. DeLeo, Esq.

James Ericson

Ann Garberding

Larry Garberding

Fredric C. Jacobs, Esq.

Pauline Wamsler Joerger

Chuck Johnston

Robert A. Kimbrough, Esq.

Helen Jelks King, OD

Richard Lawrence

Cornelia Matson

Jan Miller

John L. Minton, Jr., PE

Jackie B. Obendorf

Rob Patten

William C. Robinson, Jr., Esq.

Catherine A. Rustin

Peter Scanlan

Jeffrey Steinwachs

Arthur M. Wood, Jr.

FOUNDER

Albert G. Joerger, Ph.D.

PRESIDENT

Christine P. Johnson

