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news from the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association

**August 2014**

**58th Annual Conference | September 24-26, 2014**

**Hyatt Regency Coconut Point**

# CONFERENCE EDITION

Welcome to this CONFERENCE EDITION of SHORELINE which highlights the upcoming 2014 Annual Conference to be held at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, Bonita Springs. We hope you can join us! Just a few reminders, the deadline for reduced fees for the early registration and the guaranteed hotel room rates is **August 29**. Registration fees for members and non-members after this date increase by \$50. The hotel while having the same cut-off date (August 29), will continue taking reservations at the group rate (\$149) as long as rooms remain available. We have published in this SHORELINE edition the current conference program and will note any future changes until the final program is printed for conference distribution. There is a field trip planned for Thursday afternoon, September 25, which highlights three of Lee County's beach projects. Space is very limited and more details are provided in this issue.

After reviewing the program's topics, distinguished speakers and discussions on sea level rise and future state funding needs for the beach program, we hope you will favorably consider attending the conference, if not already part of your current plans.

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By Steve Boutelle, Operations Manager  
Lee County Natural Resources  
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## Lee County Beach Management

by Steve Boutelle, FSBPA Chair and Operations Manager, Lee County Natural Resources



**Captiva Island, Laika North, before beach nourishment**  
Photo courtesy of CEPD



**Captiva Island, Laika North, after beach nourishment**  
Photo courtesy of CEPD

Those who are longstanding members of FSBPA are probably familiar with the part of Lee County near Captiva Island. For many years, Captiva was the frequent host for FSBPA's annual conference. Captiva was also the first place in Lee County to undertake beach nourishment. Captiva, along with Gasparilla and Estero Islands, were the three segments of the federal shore protection project authorized for Lee County in the late 1960's. In many ways, the other parts of the County had the chance to learn from the successes and struggles on Captiva as their nourishment history evolved from their first major project in 1989 through the project completed this past December.

One of the most important lessons learned is that beaches are the single most important asset to our coastal communities. But, as important as they are, we also learned that successful projects require the active partnership of the beach residents and property owners as well as the usual state and federal entities.

From our conference venue on the eastern shore of Estero Bay, we will see some classic illustrations of these lessons across the Bay along the southern Lee

County barrier islands. Bonita Beach had a segment of shoreline that had eroded back to the seawalls. The property owners were so committed to restoring their beach, they voted to tax themselves to pay for the entire cost. They approached the County to be the administrator of the work which was successfully completed in 1995. Being a small project, the first nourishment in 2005 was partnered with Lovers Key State Park restoration as a way to take advantage of economies of scale. We were also able to take advantage of state cost sharing, not only on Lovers Key, but also on Bonita Beach which had been enhanced by a County park and public access facility.

The partnership concept extended further north to Estero Island which was permitted jointly with Lovers Key in 2002. However, even as the Estero Island residents could witness the projects to the south, as well as

those on Captiva, the residents were not convinced that the federal shore protection project was the appropriate activity for their shoreline. Newly incorporated as a Town in 1996, the residents of Estero Island felt somewhat removed from the federal study process and permitting completed over the decade leading up to permitting. Concerns over property rights and easements effectively derailed the federal project. The Town of Fort Myers Beach and the County worked over several years to redefine the project to about 25% the permitted size, focusing on the county park and core commercial area of the island. Issues related to dunes, inlet sand bypassing, and costs further complicated the project, but, eventually, the restoration of the northern 1.2 miles was completed in 2011 as a local project. The project has been well received and is performing as expected. The Town has invested resources to restudy their options for coastal management and has indicated their desire to continue with a partnership on future endeavors.



While it has not always been easy, the Lee County beach management program continues to work in partnership with local, state and federal partners to implement projects that make Lee County and the Beaches of Fort Myers and Sanibel a premier destination to live, work, and play. We look forward to seeing you in September and hope that you will come to appreciate another part of Lee County and our beaches the way we do.

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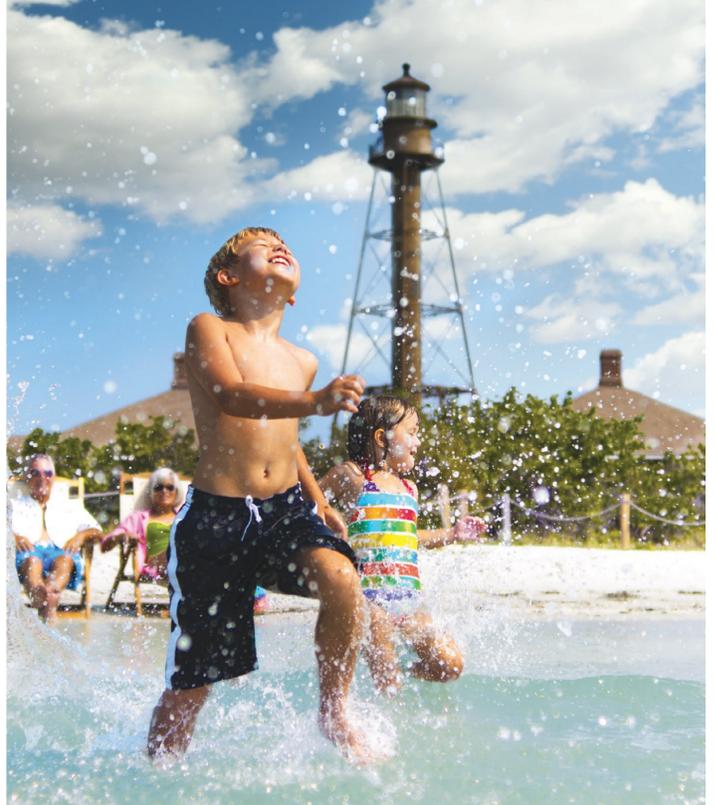
## Enjoying Lee County while at the Conference: 10 Suggestions by the Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau

### YOU NEVER KNOW WHERE YOU'LL FIND YOUR ISLAND.

With over 590 miles of natural coastline, more than 100 islands, 50 miles of soft, white-sand beaches and the unique and diverse ecosystems at 25 nature preserves and parks, it was difficult picking only 10 experiences to help you find your island. But, we had to start somewhere.

#### 1 BEACH FUN

If you're looking for endless beaches, everlasting relaxation and nonstop water recreation, then you've come to the right place. Florida's best beaches are found here. Walk the sandy coastline, build a sandcastle, read a book and simply be. Or be one with the tranquil water and kayak, windsurf, fish or snorkel. Life on or near the water is special and beautiful.



#### 2 SHELLING

There is nothing more that symbolizes the unhurried life and laid back attitude than shelling in the outer islands. Perfect Gulf waters and white-sand beaches hold over 400 species of shells, which would make even a professional shell collector gasp. Some people come to relax and some people come only to shell. To us, they're the same thing.



#### 3 GREAT CALUSA BLUEWAY PADDLING TRAIL

This 190-mile marked paddling trail gets you closer to nature in ways you never thought you could. Explore the waterways once plied by the Calusas, the natives who thrived for centuries in Southwest Florida before the Spaniards' arrival, that lead you through mystifying mangroves and put you up close with roseate spoonbills and manatees. Forget The Nature Channel; you are in it.

#### 4 LOVERS KEY STATE PARK

The park name comes from the way the island was only accessible by boat and was said that only lovers made the journey to the isolated and beautiful beach. But today, anyone can access the island by tram or by boardwalk; and couples can tie the knot in the pavilion overlooking the Gulf. An abundance of wildlife and activities await you. Manatees, bottlenose dolphins, bald eagles, shelling, sunbathing, biking, picnicking, you name it. Heaven lies ahead.

## 5 LIGHOUSES

The Sanibel Lighthouse and the Boca Grande Lighthouse are true landmarks of the area. Why? Not because of their size, but for what is around them. Beautiful beaches, observation decks looking over the tranquil waters, picnic areas, swimming, just about anything relaxing.

## 6 ART GALLERIES

Colors of every variety. Textures of all form. The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel are bursting with artistic expression. Jewelry, sculpture and paintings entice your senses. The best places to see these riches are the galleries on Pine Island and Matlacha. Here, the pieces of art are indicative of the people who created them: bold, colorful and bright.

## 7 FESTIVALS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

There are events all year, but there are some that are stand-outs. The Edison Festival of Light is three weeks of celebration of the innovation of Thomas Edison, culminating in a nighttime parade. The American Sandsculpting Championship Festival brings masters of the craft and amateur sand sculptors together to create amazing works of art at this five-day event.

## 8 EDISON & FORD WINTER ESTATES

Imagine what it must've been like to be one of these legends and that the only limit to success was your imagination. Being one of the most popular tourist attractions in the Fort Myers and Sanibel area, these 20 acres of tropical gardens are the location of Edison and Ford's historic homes, cottages, laboratories, and a museum filled with artifacts, inventions and special exhibits. Enter a world unlike any other.



## 9 ISLAND HOPPING

With literally hundreds of islands punctuating this lush area, you simply must experience them. Either by seaplane or by water, set out to explore. Start at North Captiva for a little shelling, hop over to Cabbage Key for lunch. The restaurant sits atop a 38-foot Calusa Indian shell mound giving guests a panoramic view of Pine Island Sound. Finish up at Cayo Costa, known for its natural pristine environment, for a nature hike or a lazy stroll on miles of shell-strewn beaches.

## 10 DING DARLING

A fortunate few ever have the privilege of laying their eyes on such a place. Will you be one of those fortunate few? The J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is the largest undeveloped mangrove ecosystems in the United States. And what goes with mangroves? That's right – birds. Migratory birds of over 220 species are protected in this pristine habitat. While here, be sure to tour Wildlife Drive. You might just spot an alligator.



## Record Tourism Numbers for Florida (8/4)

More travelers visited Florida in the first quarter of 2014 than during any other three-month period in the state's history.

A study by Visit Florida showed that from January through March, 26.7 million visitors came to Florida, a half-a-million more than the previous record set last year.

The numbers represent an increase of 38,000 tourism related jobs.

This increase is part of a three-year trend of more travelers coming to the state.

The Governor announced the goal is to draw 100 million annual visitors to the state by 2015.

Data shows in the first six months of 2014, hotel room rentals increased 10 percent.

In 2013, 94.3 million visitors came to the state. That number has been rising from 80.8 million in 2009, a record low.

Visit Florida noted we are seeing record visitation and record bed tax collections throughout Florida.



**THE BEACHES OF  
FORT MYERS  
& SANIBEL**

**FIND YOUR ISLAND**  
WHEN YOU SURROUND YOURSELF  
WITH THE THINGS THAT MATTER MOST.

Find your island and find an endless supply of sunny days. Find natural beaches perfect for burying your toes in soft, white sand and watching the horizon stretch to infinity. Find warm Gulf waters and hop by boat from natural island to natural island completely carefree. Find hundreds of ways to play on The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel, each one a fine example of living life as it's meant to be lived in the place Florida was truly meant to be.

**THE BEACHES OF  
FORT MYERS  
AND SANIBEL**  
FORTMYERS-SANIBEL.COM

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# 58th FSBPA Annual Conference Program

## Hyatt Regency Coconut Point \* September 24-26, 2014

### Wednesday, September 24, 2014

**1:00 p.m.**

**Chair's Call to Order**

**1:05 p.m.**

**Official Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Brian Hamman, Vice-Chair, Lee County Board of County Commissioners

**1:15 p.m.**

**Keynote Presentation: Lee County Beach Management – Program, Projects, Partners and Perseverance**

Steve Boutelle, FSBPA Chair and Operations Manager, Lee County Natural Resources

**1:45 p.m.**

**Lee County Tourism and the Value of Beaches**

Tamara Pigott, FSBPA Director and Executive Director, Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau

**2:10 p.m.**

**Environmental Windows: Why We Can't, Why Can't We, and a List of Maybes**

Danielle Irwin, PWS, LEED AP, Deputy Director, Division of Water Resource Management, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee and Bill Hanson, Vice-President, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock, Oakbrook, IL

**2:35 p.m.**

**Can Beach Nourishment be an Adaptation Strategy for Sea Level Rise?**

James Houston, Ph.D., P.E., Director Emeritus, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS

**3:00 p.m.**

**Exhibitor Recognition**, CSA Ocean Sciences, Inc.,

**3:05 p.m.**

**Professional Exchange Break**

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**3:35 p.m.**

**A Dialogue to Ensure more Emphasis and Appreciation for Beach Nourishment as a Recognized Adaptation Strategy for Sea Level Rise**

James Murley, Executive Director, South Florida Regional Planning Council, Hollywood \*  
Jack Osterholt, Deputy-Mayor, Regulatory and Economic Resources, Miami-Dade County \* Gary Appelson, Policy Coordinator, Sea Turtle Conservancy, Gainesville \* James Houston, Ph.D., P.E., Director Emeritus, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS \* Jason Engle, P.E., Chief, Coastal Design Section, U.S Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District

**4:40 p.m.**

**Addressing the Effectiveness of Beach Nourishment in Response to Sea Level Rise**

Michael Walther, P.E., D.CE, President, Coastal Tech, Vero Beach

**5:05 p.m. to Adjournment**

**Sea Level Rise Q&A**

**6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

**Welcome Reception**

**Thursday, September 25, 2014**

**7:30 a.m.**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Lover's Key or Bonita Beach: The Rest of the Lee County Story**

Cliff Truitt, Ph.D., P.E., D.CE, Senior Engineer, Coastal Tech, Sarasota and Michael Poff, P.E., Vice-President of Engineering, Coastal Engineering Consultants, Naples

**8:25 a.m.**

**Selected Provisions of the Water Resources and Reform Development Act of 2014**

Harry Glenn, Vice-President, Van Scoyoc Associates, Washington, DC and Jacqueline Keiser, Chief, Coastal/Navigation Section, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District

**8:50 a.m.**

**Federal Shore-Protection Program: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2013 Storm Damage Response, and Ongoing 2014 Program and Funding Opportunities**

Colonel Alan Dodd, District Engineer, U.S Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District

**9:20 a.m.**

**Amendment 1: Florida's Water and Land "Legacy" Amendment**

Eric Draper, Executive Director, Audubon Florida, Tallahassee

**Thursday, September 25, 2014**

**9:45 a.m.**

**Cooperatively Managing a 46 mile, \$14 million Annual Program with Federal, State, County and Municipal Funding**

Leanne Welch, Environmental Manager, Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management

**10:10 a.m.**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**10:40 a.m.**

**The Magic Number for Funding the Statewide Beach Management Program Going Forward**

Debbie Flack, President, FSBPA, Tallahassee and William Stronge, Ph.D., Chair Emeritus, Department of Economics, Florida Atlantic University and Stronge Consulting, Inc., Boca Raton

**11:05 a.m.**

**Florida's Federal Shore Protection Program: Comprehensive Overview, Funding Trends, and Future Projections**

Jacqueline Keiser, Chief, Coastal/Navigation Section, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District

**11:30 a.m.**

**Celebrating Florida's Beach Management Efforts and Visioning Future State Funding Needs**

Tom Campbell, P.E., Executive Director, CB&I, Boca Raton

**11:55 a.m.**

**Anticipating the Afternoon's Field Trip: Where's the Beach? Big Hickory Island's 2013 Restoration Project**

Nicole Elko, Ph.D., President, Elko Coastal Consulting, Inc., Wadmalaw Island, SC

**12:10 p.m.**

**Adjourn**

**12:15 pm**

**FSBPA Annual General Membership Meeting**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Field Trip**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Cash Bar**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Annual Awards Banquet**

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## **Friday, September 26, 2014**

**7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**8:15 a.m.**

**Breakwaters for Erosion Control and Environmental Benefits**

Kenneth Humiston, P.E., Co-Founder, Humiston & Moore Engineers, Naples

**8:40 a.m.**

**Challenges and Intergovernmental Success of the 2013/14 Beach Nourishment Projects on Anna Maria Island**

Charlie Hunsicker, Director, Manatee County Natural Resources and Thomas Pierro, P.E., D.CE, Director, CB&I, Boca Raton

**9:05 a.m.**

**Beach Nourishment and Nearshore Hardbottom**

Danielle Irwin, PWS, LEED AP, Deputy Director, Division of Water Resource Management, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee

**9:30 a.m.**

**Research and Development: What We Can Do when We All Work Together**

Bill Hanson, Vice-President, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock, Oakbrook, IL

**9:55 a.m.**

**Professional Exchange Break**

**10:25 a.m.**

**Physical Monitoring of Beach Erosion Control Projects: Reevaluation of Purpose and Specific Information Needs**

Robert Brantly, P.E., Program Administrator, Engineering, Hydrology & Geology Program and Alex Reed, Program Administrator, Beaches and Mines Funding Assistance Program, Division of Water Resource Management, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee

**10:50 a.m.**

**GIS Mapping of Beach Eligibility for State of Florida Local Government Funding Requests**

John Bishop, Ph.D., Coastal Management Coordinator, Pinellas County Natural Resources

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## **Friday, September 26, 2014**

**11:15 a.m.**

**Adaptive Management and Policy Solutions for Two Contentious Issues on Fort Myers Beach: Beach Nourishment and Nesting Birds**

Keith Laakkonen, Environmental Sciences Coordinator, Town of Fort Myers Beach

**11:35 a.m.**

**Unprecedented Cooperation on the Broward County Federal Emergency Beach Fill Truck Haul Project**

Cynthia Perez, Senior Project Manager, U.S Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District

**12 noon**

**Conference Adjourns**

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## Key Dates to Remember

- **August 29**  
last day Hotel Room Reservations guaranteed at \$149
- **Through August 29**  
Early Conference Registration
- **After August 29**  
Regular Registration

## Conference Registration

### Three ways to register

1. **ONLINE:** [www.fsbpa.com/annual-conference.html](http://www.fsbpa.com/annual-conference.html)
2. **MAIL:** Form and payment to:  
FSBPA  
PO Box 13146  
Tallahassee, FL 32317-3146
3. **FAX or E-MAIL:** Form and credit card information to (850) 201-6782  
or E-mail: [mail@fsbpa.com](mailto:mail@fsbpa.com)



If you would rather register by fax, e-mail, or mail, click on the link above to open the registration form in a pdf file format. Type your information directly into this pdf file and print. Then simply mail, e-mail, or fax your form to the address or number listed above.

[Print the conference registration form](#)

## Hotel Reservations

Hotel reservations should be made directly with the conference hotel, the **Hyatt Regency Coconut Point**.

[Click here to make your reservation online.](#)

Or call **1.888.421.1442**.

Standard rooms, single or double are **\$149\* plus tax**.

\* A \$10 reduced resort fee is included in the group rate which includes complimentary self parking as well as complimentary internet access in guest rooms.

To ensure room availability, **reservations should be made by August 29, 2014.**

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## FSBPA Conference Field Trip

### Thursday, September 25, 2014

Departure: Conference Hotel (Hyatt Coconut Point)  
Time: 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Limited Space Available, **Reservations Required**

To sign-up for the field trip you must be registered for the conference. Due to the limited space availability, the field trip is only available to attendees and not guests or spouses of attendees.



*Bonita Beach*  
Photo courtesy of Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau

This year's FSBPA Conference field trip, organized by Lee County and the Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau, will provide a unique perspective on the southern Lee County barrier islands. Starting with a boat trip from the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort across Estero Bay aboard the Nautilus II, participants will have a chance to see three inlets and three beach nourishment projects. The inlets are small, Big Hickory Pass; medium, New Pass; and large, Big Carlos Pass, but all have significant relationships to adjacent critical erosion areas.

At the southern end of the tour is Bonita Beach, constructed most recently in July 2014. This project was originally constructed in 1995 with all private funding, and included a pair of curved terminal structures designed to retain the beach fill and minimize the risk of Big Hickory Pass closure. Incorporation of the area within the City of Bonita Springs and addition of a public beach park resulted in the 2014 nourishment being completely government funded with sand from the Big Carlos Pass ebb shoal complex.

Working our way north will bring us to Big Hickory Island. Actually the smaller neighbor of Bonita Beach, Big Hickory Island beaches can only be accessed by water. The island is mostly conservation land but also is home to the beach park for the Hyatt and Pelican Landing Homeowners Association (PLHA). Subject to extreme erosion over the last several years, the Hyatt and PLHA funded a 2013 project to restore the beach with sand from the



*Big Hickory Island*  
Photo courtesy of Lee County Natural Resources

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New Pass ebb shoal, and hold it with a field of adjustable king pile and panel groins. A stop at the PLHA dock will allow an up close view of this project area.

Continuing north will take us along Lovers Key to Big Carlos Pass, the sand source for the restoration of Lovers Key State Park in 2004 as well as the 2014 nourishment which should be under construction for our field trip. Lovers Key was the second most visited state park last year. While the project is not protecting infrastructure that may be atypical for most beach projects, the environmental and economic benefits are critical to Lee County.

The proximity of these projects, ongoing erosion and navigational concerns, and competition for sand and public resources ensure that this area will be a focal point of Lee County coastal management for years to come and should provide ample opportunity for discussion during the trip and afterwards. Departing from the Hyatt at 2 p.m. and returning around 4:30 p.m.

**To sign-up for the field trip, e-mail [teri@fsbpa.com](mailto:teri@fsbpa.com).**

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*Big Carlos Pass  
Photo courtesy of Lee County Natural Resources*



*Lover's Key  
Photo courtesy of Lee County Natural Resources*

# Thank you to our Conference Sponsors (as of 8/7/14)

## Host and Gold Banquet Sponsor

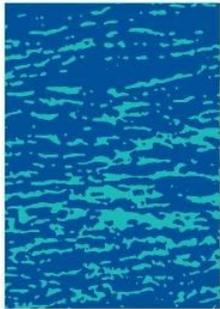


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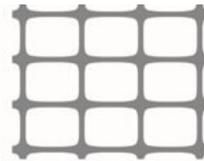
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## Welcome Reception



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## Board Meeting Breakfast

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Ice Cream Social



Morning Beverage Breaks



Sweets & Treats Break



Friday Breakfast Break



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## 58th Annual Conference Exhibitors



The conference offers an excellent opportunity for your company to meet and demonstrate your services and products to conference attendees for beach nourishment and other erosion control projects, inlet management, coastal vegetation, beach cleaning, storm-damage recovery, surveying, oil spill remediation, and other professional services.

**Exhibit spaces are still available!** Please visit [www.fsbpa.com/annual-conference/exhibit.html](http://www.fsbpa.com/annual-conference/exhibit.html) for the floor plan and registration form.

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**28th Annual National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology**  
**February 4-6, 2015 | Clearwater Beach Marriott on Sand Key**  
**Call for Presentations - Deadline is October 3, 2014**

We welcome abstracts on the topics listed below:

- **Shore Protection Projects and Coastal Management**
- **Coastal Research and Environmental Science**
- **Additional Topics on sea level rise, beach and nearshore hydrographic surveying technology, and dredging technology**

**Who Should Submit?**

- Public and private sector engineers
- Environmental scientists
- Coastal geologists
- Marine scientists and biologists
- Academic researchers
- Coastal surveyors
- Coastal managers and local government representatives

**Submittal Deadline -- October 3, 2014**

Please submit abstracts not to exceed two pages in length, in PDF or Word format, to [abstracts@fsbpa.com](mailto:abstracts@fsbpa.com) by **October 3, 2014**. The abstract must include name, affiliation, and contact information, including email address. The National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology Planning Committee will evaluate all abstracts. Abstract submittals shall describe the content of the proposed presentation and why it may be of interest to conference attendees. Abstracts shall include discussion on objective/motivation, methods/approach, results/findings, and conclusions/lessons learned.

**For complete information on the abstract topics  
and the submittal process, visit**  
**[www.fsbpa.com/tech-conference/presentations.html](http://www.fsbpa.com/tech-conference/presentations.html)**

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## Shoreline

A monthly electronic publication of the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FSBPA Conferences

**September 24-26, 2014**  
**2014 FSBPA Annual Conference**  
**Hyatt Regency Coconut Point**  
**Bonita Springs, FL**

**February 4-6, 2015**  
**2015 Tech Conference**  
**Clearwater Beach Marriott Suites**  
**on Sand Key**

**Call for Abstracts Deadline is**  
**October 3, 2014.**

### Join us

**September 24-26**  
**58th Annual Conference**  
**Hyatt Regency**  
**Coconut Point**

[Conference Registration](#)

[Hotel Information](#)

[Exhibit Information](#)

### OTHER DATES OF INTEREST

**October 14-17, 2014**  
**ASBPA National Coastal Conference**  
**Virginia Beach, VA**

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