

**Join us for the Charlotte Harbor Watershed Summit
March 28-30, 2017 – Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center**



Tagging tarpon for research by Mote staff. Photo by Ross Gallagher.

Join CHNEP March 28-30 at its seventh
Charlotte Harbor Watershed Summit: *Showcasing Our Accomplishments.*
Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center (75 Taylor St, Punta Gorda)

The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP) is a partnership to protect and restore water resources of Florida from Venice to Bonita Springs to Winter Haven. Thanks to the Planning Committee, the 2017 Summit will be an opportunity to share the latest research findings and to network. Sessions include:

- Tuesday morning: Water Quality and Quantity - New Tools (9 a.m. to noon)
- Tuesday afternoon: Water Quality and Quantity - Monitoring and Assessment (1 to 4 p.m.)
- Wednesday morning: Habitat and Living Resources - Plants (9 a.m. to noon)
- Wednesday afternoon: Habitat and Living Resources - Stewardship (1 to 4 p.m.)
- Thursday morning: Habitat and Living Resources - Fish (9 a.m. to noon)
- Thursday afternoon: Habitat and living resources - Reptiles, Invertebrates and Shellfish (1 to 4 p.m.)

Approximately 20 projects will be featured each day in either a 20-minute presentation, a lightning presentation of 5 or 10 minutes or in a poster.

**You are welcome to participate in this free program
in any way you have the time and interest.
No matter how you wish to participate, please register by Monday, March 20.**

Please register at <https://chnepsummit2017.eventbrite.com>. (If the direct link doesn't work, go to www.eventbrite.com, search for CHNEP but change the location to Florida.) The agenda and additional details will be emailed to all who register once they are confirmed.

We ask that everyone register no matter how they wish to participate: only wish to receive updates, attend remotely via WebEx, attend a portion or attend all three days as a speaker or guest. You may

participate even if you aren't able to register by March 20 but it'll help greatly with logistics if the majority who attend do register by this date.

The 2017 Summit will again be free to attend but lunch will only be available for purchase (\$15) to those who pre-pay by March 20 through the [EventBrite registration page](#). (Food can't be brought into the Event Center.) Registration tips: Once on the EventBrite registration page, select all the "tickets" for the items you wish to "order." If you change your mind, please follow the guidance on the email you've received to modify your registration yourself.

The CHNEP is able to hold this event in part because of the generosity of sponsors. Thanks to sponsor support pledged as of Jan. 17, 2017:

Summit sponsors

- Mote Marine Laboratory (\$2,000)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Gulf of Mexico Program (\$2,000)

Session sponsors

- Mosaic (\$1,000)
- Southwest Florida Water Management District (\$1,000)
- Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (\$500)
- Friends of Charlotte Harbor Estuary, Inc. (\$500+fiscal host)

Additional sponsor support is provided by:

- Florida Gulf Coast University College of Arts and Sciences (\$250)
- FGCU U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering (\$250)
- Science and Environmental Council of Southwest Florida (\$250)
- Linda Elligott (\$120)
- Estero Bay Buddies (\$100)

The CHNEP financial partners who support the overall work of the program, since October 2016, include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Southwest Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority, the counties of Polk, Sarasota, Manatee, Lee and Charlotte, and the cities of Bonita Springs, Sanibel, Fort Myers, Cape Coral, Punta Gorda, North Port, Venice and Winter Haven.

The registration page is able to accept lunch payments, sponsor and donation support. These funds will be received by the [Friends of Charlotte Harbor Estuary, Inc.](#), a 501(c)3 organization (PO Box 511422, Punta Gorda FL 33951). Donors who provide \$100 or more are acknowledged as sponsors. If you are able to help as a sponsor and have questions, contact Maran Hilgendorf (maran@chnep.org).

The agenda and PDF files of presentations and posters from the summits in 1997, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011 and 2014 are posted at www.CHNEP.org/summits.html. Videos (PDF with audio) of presentations given in 2014 are posted on YouTube and linked from the program website.

We look forward to your participation in the CHNEP Charlotte Harbor Watershed Summit. Please invite others you think may have an interest to join us.

Thank you for your efforts in protecting the natural environment of southwest Florida.

-- CHNEP Charlotte Harbor Watershed Summit Planning Committee