

Greater Charlotte Harbor Sierra Club Outings October 2017 to May 2018

All outings are open to the public and free of charge. Please contact the Outings leader by calling the phone number listed in the outing description.

Oct. 2, Monday, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Paddle from Ponce De Leon Park

Explore mangrove tunnels and the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Facilities available. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

Oct. 13, Friday, 9:00 am-1:00 pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Trip is conducted by certified guide and Florida Master Naturalist, Jim Story. Depending on weather conditions the trip can proceed up Myrtle Slough to Lake Surprise and/or downstream to Shell Creek, navigating up to the 400 ft wide water fall at the Punta Gorda reservoir. Trips can last 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 hrs. Kayak and PFD required. Reservations are limited to 12 people. Call early (941) 505-8904.

Oct. 14, Saturday, 9:00am-Noon, Kayak from Quarry Lake to Myakka State Forest

We will launch from Quarry Lake (a man-made lake near North Port), travel down a tight, twisting creek until we reach the Myakka River. Lots of spacious views and open mangrove islands. We will lunch at the primitive campsite in the Myakka State Forest before returning home. Must reserve, Allain Hale (941) 423-2713

Oct,18, Wednesday, 8:30 am-11:00 am, Bike Babcock Webb Wildlife Management Area

Come along on a leisurely bike ride with Master Naturalists Jamie Reynolds and John Phillips to explore the wetlands and pine lands along paved Webb Lake Road. We will identify wildflowers and birdwatch at stops along the 11 mile round trip. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always accepted. Provide your own bike. Must reserve, (941) 637-8284.

Oct. 23, Monday, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Paddle Woolverton Trail Mangroves and Lunch on Big Dog Island

Explore the extensive mangrove tunnels of Lemon Bay then paddle to Big Dog Island with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Enjoy a leisurely lunch/snack exploring Big Dog before returning to the launch area. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

Oct. 29, Sunday, 8:30 am-11:00am, Hike Prairie Shell Creek Preserve

Join Florida master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as they lead you on an informative nature walk in this protected area of scrub habitat. The Florida Scrub Jay and the Gopher Tortoise live here and we will discuss them. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. Info 941-639-7468

Nov. 5, Sunday, 8:30 am – 11:30 am, Paddle Babcock Lake at Webb Wildlife Management Area

Florida Master Naturalist Jamie Reynolds will lead a paddle along the shores of 5.5- mile Webb Lake. We will skirt some island hammocks and coves, noting water birds, water lilies and spring wild flowers. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFDs and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always accepted. Must reserve, (941) 637-8284.

Nov 9, Thursday, 8:30 am-1:00 pm, Paddle Alligator Creek.

We will paddle down the south branch of Alligator Creek west of Rt. 41, through hardwoods, sabal palms and mangroves. We will leave the creek and paddle through mangrove tunnels to beautiful Charlotte Harbor and return. Your guides will be Florida Master Naturalists Les and Mary Caraher, who live on the creek. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD, and be able to swim. Bring water, sunscreen, hat, and a snack or lunch. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reservations are required and limited to 10 people. To reserve, call (304) 642-8851.

Nov. 11, Saturday, 9:00 am-Noon, Kayak Deer Prairie Creek in North Port

This seldom visited creek offers a shady, hidden tour that can challenge your skills if the water is running fast. The turns, overhead branches and root obstacles can make things tricky, so it's ideal for smaller (up to 13 feet) kayaks. Must reserve, call Allain Hale (941) 423-2713.

Nov. 12, Sunday, 9am-1pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Trip is conducted by certified guide and Florida Master Naturalist, Jim Story. Depending on weather conditions the trip can proceed up Myrtle Slough to Lake Surprise and/or downstream to Shell Creek, navigating up to the 400 ft wide water fall at the Punta Gorda reservoir. Trips can last 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 hrs. Kayak and PFD required. Reservations are limited to 12 people. Call early (941) 505-8904.

Nov. 13 , Monday, 10am-2pm. Paddle Woolverton Trail Mangroves, Lunch on Big Dog Island

Explore the extensive mangrove tunnels of Lemon Bay then paddle to Big Dog Island with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Enjoy a leisurely lunch/snack exploring Big Dog before returning to the launch area. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

Nov. 15, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Nature Walk at Shell Creek Preserve

Join Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as they lead us through this area of Longleaf Pine flatwoods, scrub and hardwood hammocks along Shell Creek. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For info, (941) 639-7468.

Nov. 20, Monday 9:00 am -2:00 pm, Kayak Shell Creek

Shell Creek is now coming in bloom with lavender banks of Climbing Asters. Join us as we paddle with Master Naturalist Rick Fried, who lives on the Creek. You must provide your own watercraft and be able to swim. This outing is free to the public. Voluntary donations to the Sierra club are always gratefully accepted. Reserve, (941) 637-8805.

Nov. 28, Tuesday 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Paddle Lettuce Lake

This is one of our most popular outings. We will kayak with Master Naturalist Rick Fried from Lettuce Lake through narrow twisting channels to the Peace River. Down river, we will pause to have lunch at the Nav-A-Gator Restaurant before returning on a shorter different route. You must provide your own watercraft, be able to swim and bring money to buy your lunch. This outing is free to the public. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. Reserve, (941) 637-8805

Nov. 30, Thursday, 8:30 am-11:00 am, Nature Walk at Deep Creek Preserve

Join Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as we explore the longleaf pine flatwoods, wetland marshes and hardwood hammock habitats of this preserved area in Charlotte County. Voluntary donations are always gratefully accepted. 941-639-7468

Dec. 4, Monday, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Paddle from Ponce De Leon Park

Explore mangrove tunnels and the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Facilities available. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

Dec. 6, Wednesday, 9:00 am-2:00 pm, Kayak Shell Creek

This pretty creek in Charlotte County is well worth visiting again and again. Asters in bloom now. Your guide will be Master Naturalist Rick Fried, who lives on the creek. Participants must provide their own watercraft and be able to swim. This outing is free to the public. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. Reserve (941) 637-8805.

Dec. 9, Saturday, 9:00 am-Noon, Kayak Myakkahatchee Creek in North Port

This paddle requires you to portage twice around a dam, so be in shape. You will be rewarded with a trip that takes you through a hidden jungle of willows and grapevines. We will take a break at Morgan Center before returning. This is an easy trip for beginners, but has jungle appeal that experienced paddlers like. Must reserve with Allain Hale (941)-423-2713.

Dec. 10, Sunday, 8:30am-11:00 am, Nature Walk in Prairie Creek Preserve Scrub

Walk with two Florida Master Naturalists, John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds, as we tour this protected area of scrub habitat. It's an outing that's informative, easy and safe. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. Info (941) 639-7468.

Dec. 11, Monday, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Paddle from Ponce De Leon Park

Explore mangrove tunnels and the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Facilities available. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

Dec. 13, Wednesday, 9:00 am-1:00 pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Trip is conducted by certified guide and Florida Master Naturalist, Jim Story. Depending on weather conditions the trip can proceed up Myrtle Slough to Lake Surprise and/or downstream to Shell Creek, navigating up to the 400 ft wide water fall at the Punta Gorda reservoir. Trips can last 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 hrs. Kayak and PFD required. Reservations are limited to 12 people. Call early (941) 505-8904.

Dec. 14, Thursday 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Paddle Lettuce Lake

This is one of our most popular outings. We will kayak with Master Naturalist Rick Fried from Lettuce Lake exploring a maze of narrow twisting channels to the Peace River. Then, we will pause to have lunch at the Nav-A-Gator Restaurant before returning on a shorter different route. You must provide your own watercraft, be able to swim and bring money to buy your lunch. This outing is free to the public. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. Reserve, (941) 637-8805.

Dec. 14, Thursday, 8:30 am-1:00, Paddle Alligator Creek.

We will paddle down the south branch of Alligator Creek west of Rt. 41, through hardwoods, sabal palms and mangroves. We will leave the creek and paddle through mangrove tunnels to beautiful Charlotte Harbor and return. Your guides will be Florida Master Naturalists Les and Mary Caraher, who live on the creek. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD, and be able to swim. Bring water, sunscreen, hat, and a snack or lunch. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reservations are required and are limited to 10 people. To reserve, call (304) 642-8851

Dec.15, Friday, 8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Paddle Prairie Creek

Join Florida Master Naturalist Jamie Reynolds as she leads us on this natural waterway along banks studded with cypress, oaks and palms and home to limpkins, ospreys, kingfishers and many other Florida natives. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFDs and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always accepted. Must reserve, (941) 637-8284.

Dec. 19, Tuesday, 8:30 am-11:00 am, Nature Walk at Prairie Creek Preserve

Join Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as we explore the pine flatwoods, palmetto prairies, herbaceous marshes, improved pasture and riverside wetlands of this wild area in Charlotte County. This outing is free to the public. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For info, call (941) 639-7468.

Dec. 21, Thursday, 9:00 am-2:00 pm, Paddle beautiful Shell Creek

This is one of the most scenic waterways in Charlotte County. Your guide, Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried, intimately knows this creek because he lives on it. You must provide your own watercraft and be able to swim. This outing is free to the public. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. Reserve (941) 637-8805

Dec. 28, Tuesday 9:00 am-3:00pm, Paddle Lettuce Lake

This is one of our most popular outings. We will kayak with Master Naturalist Rick Fried from Lettuce Lake exploring a variety of scenery from narrow twisting channels then onto the Peace River. From there we will pause to have lunch at the Nav-A-Gator Restaurant before returning on a shorter different route. You must provide your own watercraft, be able to swim and bring money to buy your lunch. This outing is free to the public. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. Reserve, (941) 637-8805.

Jan. 3, Wed., 10am-2pm, Paddle from Ponce De Leon Park

Explore mangrove tunnels and the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Facilities available. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

January 6, Sat., 10am-1pm, Walton Ranch Nature Hike

We will be walking the scenic Loop, a 5.6 mile trail that offers spacious views of this working cattle ranch near North Port. Wear a good broad hat, bring water and wear good shoes. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve with Allain, (941) 423-2713.

January 9, Tue., 9am-2p.m., Paddle Myrtle Slough

Florida Master Naturalist Jim Story will lead us through a freshwater jungle to tidal Shell Creek waterfall and dam. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For reservations call (941)505-8904.

January 10, Wed., 8:30am-11am, Nature Walk at Deep Creek Preserve

Join Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as we explore the longleaf pine flatwoods, wetland marshes and hardwood hammock habitats of this preserved area in Charlotte County. Voluntary donations are always gratefully accepted. For information, call 941-639-7468

January 16, Tue., 9am-3pm, Paddle Shell Creek

This is the longer upstream paddle to the shallows & Cypress Knee Garden with Florida Master Naturalist, Rick Fried, who lives on the creek. See the changes Hurricane Irma's flooding caused. Bring your lunch. Participants must provide pfd, watercraft and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reservations: (941) 637-8805.

January 22, Mon., 9am-3pm, Paddle Lettuce Lake

Paddle through the wooded maze of channels from the Lake out into the Peace River. Then downstream, exploring side lagoons, and on to the Nav-a-Gator for a leisurely lunch, and return through a different route. Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried guides you through the tricky channels. Voluntary donations to the local Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. For reservations and information call (941) 637-8805.

January 24, Wed., 9am-2pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Florida Master Naturalist Jim Story will lead us through a freshwater jungle to tidal Shell Creek waterfall and dam. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For reservations call (941)505-8904.

January 25, Thur., 8:30am-11am, Nature Walk at Shell Creek Preserve

Join Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as they lead us through this area of Longleaf Pine flatwoods, scrub and hardwood hammocks along Shell Creek. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For information, call (941) 639-7468.

January 31, Wed., 10 am-2pm, Paddle Woolverton Trail Mangroves and Lunch on Big Dog Island

Explore the extensive mangrove tunnels of Lemon Bay. Then paddle to Big Dog Island with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Enjoy a leisurely lunch/snack exploring Big Dog before returning to the launch area. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

February 1, Thurs., 9am-3pm, Paddle the Lower Peace River

Paddle with Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried past the turn-of-the century Liverpool phosphate dock ruins and through a cut into the Peace River then up in the river or the winding passages of Deep creek to the Nav-A-Gator for lunch. Return via a different route. Participants must provide pfd, watercraft and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club gratefully accepted. Reservations: (941) 637-8805.

February 7, Wed., 9am-2pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Florida Master Naturalist Jim Story will lead us through a freshwater jungle to tidal Shell Creek waterfall and dam. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For reservations call (941)505-8904.

February 12, Mon., 8:30am–11a.m. Paddle Prairie Creek.

Paddle this natural waterway along banks studded with cypress, oaks, and palms and home to limpkins, ospreys, kingfishers and many other Florida natives. Call Florida Master Naturalist Jamie Reynolds at (941) 637-8284 to reserve.

February 15, Thur., 8:30am-11am, Hike Prairie Creek Preserve

Join Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as we explore the pine flatwoods, palmetto prairies, herbaceous marshes, improved pasture and riverside wetlands of this wild area in Charlotte County. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For information, call (941) 639-7468.

February 16, Fri., 9am-1pm, Paddle Shell Creek

Paddle through the natural winter look of a pristine South Florida creek. Stop at the Pole Barn beach and stretch before turn-around With Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried. Participants must provide pfd, watercraft and be able to swim.

Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club gratefully accepted. Reservations: (941) 637-8805.

February 17, Sat., 10am-1pm, Slash Pine Trail

Join us for this 5-mile walk in the Myakka State Forest, known for its birding opportunities and a great view of the Myakka River. Wear a hat and good shoes, and bring water. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve with Allain: (941) 423-2713.

February 21, Wed., 10am-2pm, Paddle from Ponce De Leon Park

Explore mangrove tunnels and the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Facilities available. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

February 22, Thur., 9am-2pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Florida Master Naturalist Jim Story will lead us through a freshwater jungle to tidal Shell Creek waterfall and dam. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For reservations call (941)505-8904.

February 27, Tue., 9am-11am, Hike the Lake Placid Unit of the Lake Wales Ridge

Hike a typical Florida scrub habitat with Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds.. Observe unique plant and animal species, such as the Florida Scrub Jay, Rosemary, and others, that are only seen in scrub. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For information call. (941) 639-7468.

March 1, Thurs., 9am-3pm, Paddle Shell Creek

This is the longer upstream paddle to the shallows & Cypress Knee Garden. Bring your lunch to eat on the beach at the turn-around. Escorted by Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried. Participants must provide pfd, watercraft and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve: (941) 637-8805.

March 8, Thur., 9am-2p.m., Paddle Myrtle Slough

Florida Master Naturalist Jim Story will lead us through a freshwater jungle to tidal Shell Creek waterfall and dam. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For reservations call (941)505-8904.

March 10, Sat., 8:30am-11:30am, Nature Walk at Footprints Trail

Join John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as we walk a trail built and maintained by Florida Master Naturalists through pine flatwoods, wet prairie and cypress swamp habitats. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For information, call (941) 639-7468.

March 12, Mon., 8:30am–11:00am. Paddle Webb Lake.

Paddle along the shores of Webb Lake observing waterfowl, wildflowers, and fragrant pine forests. Call Florida Master Naturalist Jamie Reynolds at 941-637-8284 to reserve.

March 14, Wed., 10am-2pm, Paddle Alligator Creek and Lunch at Calahoo Restaurant

Explore the shoreline of Alligator Creek in Punta Gorda, with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. We will enjoy a lunch at the Calahoo Restaurant before returning to the launch. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables) lunch money, water, bug spray. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

March 17, Sat., 10am-1pm, Kayak Deer Prairie Creek

Your kayaking skills will be tested on this twisting, overgrown waterway that begins in the Deer Prairie Park near North Port. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD, and be able to swim. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve with Allain, (941) 423-2713.

March 20, Tue., 8:30am-11am, Nature Walk at Old Datsun Trail

Join Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as they lead us through this area of pine flatwoods, saltwater and freshwater marshes with mangrove vegetation and unusual plant species. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For information call (941) 639-7468.

March 21, Wed., 9am-2pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Florida Master Naturalist Jim Story will lead us through a freshwater jungle to tidal Shell Creek waterfall and dam. Participants must provide their own watercraft,

PFD and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For reservations call (941)505-8904.

March 23, Fri., 9am-3pm, Paddle Lower Peace River

Bird watching paddle down to a rookery and then up Deep Creek or the river to the Nav-A-Gator for lunch. Return via a different Peace River route. Participants must provide pfd, watercraft and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve with Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried: (941) 637-8805.

March 28, Wed., 8:30am-11am, Bike Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area

Come along on a leisurely bike ride with Florida Master Naturalists Jamie Reynolds and John Phillips to explore the wetlands and pine lands along the Webb Lake Road. We will identify wildflowers and birdwatch at stops along the 10 mile round trip. Provide your own bike. Voluntary donations are always accepted. Must reserve at (941) 637-8284.

April 4, Wed., 9am-2pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Florida Master Naturalist Jim Story will lead us through a freshwater jungle to tidal Shell Creek waterfall and dam. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For reservations call (941)505-8904.

April 6, Fri., 9am-3pm, Paddle Lower Peace River

Bird Watching Paddle down to the rookeries and then up Deep Creek or the river to the Nav-A-Gator for lunch. Return via a different Peace River route. Participants must provide pfd, watercraft and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve with Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried: (941) 637-8805.

April 9, Mon., 8:30am-11am, Nature Walk at Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area

Join Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as we walk along Seaboard Grade observing Slash Pine, Saw Palmetto, and Sabal Palm among other vegetation, wildflowers, butterflies as well as other wildlife. The ecology of the area and it's management will be discussed. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club will be gratefully accepted. For information, call (941) 639-7468.

April 12, Thur., 10am-2pm, Paddle from Ponce De Leon Park

Explore mangrove tunnels and the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Facilities available. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

April 22, Sun., 9am-2pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Florida Master Naturalist Jim Story will lead us through a freshwater jungle to tidal Shell Creek waterfall and dam. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For reservations call (941)505-8904.

April 26, Thur., 9am-11am, Morgan Park

Join Florida Master Naturalists John Phillips and Jamie Reynolds as they lead us through this preserved 240 acre park in Arcadia. Morgan Park parallels the Peace River and is filled with large Live Oaks, cypress and unusual vegetation rarely seen in our area. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For information, call (941) 639-7468.

April 28, Sat., 10am-1pm, Kayak Quarry Lake to Myakka State Forest

We will launch from Quarry Lake near North Port, then cross over the Myakka River to the primitive campsite in the MSF. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD, and be able to swim. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve with Allain, (941) 423-2713

May 4, Fri., 9am-2pm, Paddle Myrtle Slough

Florida Master Naturalist Jim Story will lead us through a freshwater jungle to tidal Shell Creek waterfall and dam. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are always gratefully accepted. For reservations call (941)505-8904.

May 9, Wed., 10am-2pm, Paddle Alligator Creek and Lunch at Calahoo Restaurant

Explore the shoreline of Alligator Creek in Punta Gorda, with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. We will enjoy a lunch at the Calahoo

Restaurant before returning to the launch. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables) lunch money, water, bug spray. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).

May 18, Fri. 9am-3pm, Paddle Lower Peace River

Bird watching paddle down to the rookeries and then up Deep Creek or the river to the Nav-A-Gator for lunch. Return via a different Peace River route. Participants must provide pfd, watercraft and be able to swim. Voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve with Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried: (941) 637-8805.

May 19, Sat. 10am-1pm, Kayak Myakkahatchee Creek in North Port

This is a good family kayak tour that's easy and offers portaging over dams and paddling underneath tree limbs. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD, and be able to swim. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve with Allain, (941) 423-2713.

May 21, Mon., 10am-2pm. Paddle Woolverton Trail Mangroves and Lunch on Big Dog Island

Explore the extensive mangrove tunnels of Lemon Bay then paddle to Big Dog island with Florida Master Naturalist Helen Buonviri and Bill Schuyler. Enjoy a leisurely lunch/snack exploring Big Dog before returning to the launch area. Participants are required to wear a PFD. Bring your kayak/canoe (no inflatables), water, bug spray, lunch/snack. Donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted. Reserve at (941) 467-0974 (Helen) or (941) 763-9248 (Bill).