



## Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program

### 6TH TRIENNIAL CHARLOTTE HARBOR WATERSHED SUMMIT 2014 *OUR VISION IN ACTION*

March 25-27, 2014

Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center - Punta Gorda, Florida

***Extended Call for Abstracts: Revised Due Date – August 16, 2013***

**Note:** CHNEP intends to publish the Proceedings of the 2014 Watershed Summit in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

**The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP)** is a partnership of citizens, elected officials, resource managers and commercial and recreational resource users who are working to improve the water quality and ecological integrity of the CHNEP study area. A cooperative decision-making process is used within the program to address diverse resource management concerns in the 4,700-square-mile study area from Venice to Bonita Springs to Winter Haven.

**CHNEP is requesting abstracts** for oral and poster presentations for the *Charlotte Harbor Watershed Summit 2014 "Our Vision in Action"* to be held **March 25-27, 2014** in Punta Gorda, Florida. The Watershed Summit is an essential part of the CHNEP process to bring public and private stakeholders together to discuss current studies and environmental issues facing our watershed. It is an important opportunity to review accomplishments completed since our last Watershed Summit in 2011 and discuss emerging topics affecting the Charlotte Harbor watershed in the future.

**Watershed Summit 2014 Theme and Topics:** The theme of the 2014 Summit is *Our Vision in Action* and the three key topics are *research, restoration and stewardship*.

**Abstract Due Date Revised:** Abstracts are due no later than **Friday August 16, 2013 midnight** and early submissions are encouraged. Please see abstract submittal instructions below.

**Abstract Thoughts:** Presentations should focus on the Watershed Summit 2014 theme and topics. When preparing abstracts, please consider the following:

- How does the project pertain to the Watershed Summit 2014 theme and topics?
- How does the project implement the *CHNEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)* and other needed changes in our watershed?
- How does the project use partnerships &/or collaborations, how were those partnerships formed and how did they improve the project?
- How does the project affect other aspects of the CHNEP, such as:  
For research projects, does it have direct management and/or outreach implications?  
For management or restoration projects, does it have impacts on research or outreach?  
For stewardship projects, does it affect science or management?
- Does the project have regional relevance to other coastal areas and estuaries outside the CHNEP?
- Is the project innovative and/or address an emerging issue?
- How does the project enhance scientists, resource managers, policy makers and the general public understanding of ecosystems or watersheds within the CHNEP and in general?

A **Steering Committee** will assist with reviewing the submitted abstracts, evaluating their relevance to the conference theme and topics, and grouping them into appropriate sessions. To participate in the Steering Committee, please contact Judy Ott at [jott@swfrpc.org](mailto:jott@swfrpc.org). Following the review, the Steering Committee may invite authors to give either oral or poster presentations. Due to time limitations, and to assure a wide range of geographic locations and topics, the Steering Committee may determine that some abstracts for oral presentations will be accepted as poster presentations. The Poster Session will be an integral part of the 2014 Watershed Summit. Authors *may* be limited to giving one oral presentation but may co-author as many abstracts as they wish and present several poster presentations.

**Abstract Format:** Please include the following information in your abstract:

- Page Format: 1" margins and 12 point font.
- Title: Fifteen (15) words maximum with all major words capitalized and all minor words (*the, a, and, etc.*) in lowercase.
- Authors: Identify the primary (presenting) and co-authors, including the affiliation and contact information for each author.
- Oral or Poster Presentation: Indicate if you prefer to give an oral or poster presentation. You may be asked to switch presentation formats, depending on final session topics and we appreciate your flexibility with this.
- Any special AV equipment needs (beyond a laptop and projector).
- Abstract Length: 500 words maximum with text only and *no* tables, graphs, pictures, etc.

**Abstract Submittal:** Please *submit your abstracts electronically via e-mail*, as soon as possible, before **Friday August 16, 2013 midnight to Judy Ott at [jott@swfrpc.org](mailto:jott@swfrpc.org)**. Receipt confirmation e-mails will be sent to the corresponding author, so please spell the e-mail address correctly.

**Abstract Acceptance:** After the abstract review process, *abstract acceptance e-mails* will be sent to the corresponding author's e-mail address, confirming acceptance as an oral or poster presentation.

**Abstract Edits:** Accepted abstracts will be assembled and distributed at the Watershed Summit 2014. CHNEP staff will not edit the abstracts so any typographical or grammatical errors in the abstracts will also appear in printed Summit materials. Accepted abstracts may be revised until January 31, 2014.

**Abstract and Registration Fees:** No abstract or conference registration fees are required for the 2014 Watershed Summit.

**CHNEP is seeking sponsors for the Watershed Summit 2014.** For more information on how you or your organization can help sponsor this event, *please contact Maran Hilgendorf at [mhilgendorf@swfrpc.org](mailto:mhilgendorf@swfrpc.org)*.

**Conference Proceedings:** We plan to produce the Watershed Summit 2014 Proceedings as a special issue of a peer-reviewed scientific journal. We will solicit manuscripts from Summit presenters for the special issue and draft manuscripts will be due by August 29, 2014. Presenters are encouraged, but not required, to submit articles for the Proceedings, so the information may be shared and used widely.

**For More Information or Questions about the Watershed Summit 2014:** Please contact Judy Ott at [jott@swfrpc.org](mailto:jott@swfrpc.org) or Maran Hilgendorf at [mhilgendorf@swfrpc.org](mailto:mhilgendorf@swfrpc.org) and visit our website at [www.chnep.org](http://www.chnep.org) or call the CHNEP office at 239/338-2556. **Thank you** for submitting an abstract to the triennial Charlotte Harbor Watershed Summit 2014 and your continued support of the CHNEP.