

Membership Form

Yes! I would like to make a difference by joining the Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Inc.

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City State Zip _____

_____ Would you like to receive your newsletters by e-mail? Yes No

E-mail Address _____

Annual Membership Dues: Individual \$10 Family \$15 Student \$5 (Ages 17 and Under Free)

Contributing \$25 Non-Profit Organization \$25 Association (Homeowner, Condominium or Civic) \$25

Supporting \$50 Business/Corporate \$100 Donor \$100- \$500

Additionally, I/we would like to make a contribution in the amount of \$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please return with check payable to: Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Inc., 12301 Burnt Store Road, Punta Gorda, Florida 33955.
The Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Preserves is a non-profit organization. Annual membership dues and contributions are tax deductible.

I would like to become a n active volunteer and participate in resource management, research/monitoring and education activities.

I would prefer to support the Friends with dues as a member and/or through monetary donations.



Friends of the

Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves

From Lemon Bay to Tarpon Bay

12301 Burnt Store Road

Punta Gorda, FL 33955

<http://fchap.org>

Want to make a difference?



Friends of the

Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves

From Lemon Bay to Tarpon Bay

Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Inc.

The Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Inc., (FCHAP) is a non-profit Citizens Support Organization that assists the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the management of Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves and Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park. FCHAP is comprised of a Board of Directors, citizen members, and volunteers who are committed to protecting Charlotte Harbor and adjacent public lands.

Aquatic Preserves

Recognizing the value of estuaries, Florida moved to protect coastal and inland waters through the Aquatic Preserves Act in 1975. The Act designates exceptional areas of state-owned submerged lands as Aquatic Preserves to be preserved “in an essentially natural or existing condition so that their aesthetic, biological, and scientific values may endure for the enjoyment of future generations.” Today there are over 40 Preserves throughout the state including Lemon Bay, Gasparilla Sound/Charlotte Harbor, Cape Haze, Pine Island Sound, and Matlacha Pass.

Harbor Brimming With Life

Follow the narrows of Lemon Bay to the open waters of Charlotte Harbor through the maze of islands and quiet backwaters along the dense mangrove shorelines of Cape Haze, Pine Island Sound, and Matlacha Pass. Beautiful, dynamic, and biologically productive, the Charlotte Harbor estuaries support a tremendous diversity of plant and animal life from microscopic plankton and filter-feeding worms to large marine mammals such as dolphins and manatees. Over 200 species of fishes abound here. Many people enjoy fishing, boating, and canoeing the inshore waters comprising the Charlotte Harbor estuarine complex.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves (FCHAP), a Citizens Support Organization for Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves and Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park, is to support the protection, conservation, restoration, management, responsible public use, and the enhancement of the resources of the coastal and aquatic ecosystems of the Charlotte Harbor estuaries including Lemon Bay, Cape Haze, Pine Island Sound, and Matlacha Pass.

Goals

To increase public awareness through involvement in educational programs, resource-based activities, and special events.

To develop stewardship for our estuaries and our public lands.

To improve and restore the natural and cultural resources of the greater Charlotte Harbor estuaries.

To establish and maintain cooperative efforts with organizations, institutions, and government agencies involved in environmental protection.

Be A “Friend” — Make A Difference

FCHAP is a voice within the community for the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves and Charlotte Harbor Preserves State Park. Make your voice heard by becoming part of a citizens group that makes a difference! If you would like to help, please join as a member and/or as a volunteer. Please fill out, clip, and return the **Volunteer Questionnaire** and the **Membership Form** to the following:

Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Inc.
12301 Burnt Store Road
Punta Gorda, Florida 33955
Visit us at <http://fchap.org>

Volunteer Questionnaire

I am interested in participating in the following activities:

Resource Management

- Exotic Plant Control
(Removal/herbicide treatment of melaleuca, Brazilian pepper, Australian pine)
- Habitat Restoration
- Nature Trail Construction and Maintenance
- Monitoring/Patrol of the Preserve State Park
- Resource Watch/Patrol of the Aquatic Preserves
(Boaters, Canoe, and Kayak Enthusiasts)
 - Assistance with Manatee Program
 - Monitoring Bird Rookeries
 - Monitoring Indian Shell Mounds
- Assistance with Resource Inventories
- Participating in Coastal Clean Ups

Research And Monitoring

- Citizen Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring
- Computer
(Managing Data using Windows XP, ACCESS Database, and EXCEL Spreadsheets).

Education

- Conducting Guided Nature Walks
- Environmental Education/Public Outreach

Advocacy

- Computer/Desktop Publishing
(Newsletter, Brochures, Flyers, etc.)
- Office Assistance/Support
(Reception, hospitality, answering phones, mailing, etc.)
- Land Acquisition
- Fund-raising Events
- Letter-writing Campaigns
- Other (Please explain in detail)