

So You Want to Know More About Seagrass...

Here is the opportunity at your fingertips to become more than a volunteer but a self-proclaimed seagrass expert! A plethora of information awaits you and it's all only a click of your mouse away.

Map of Seagrass in Sarasota County:

<http://maps.wateratlas.usf.edu/sarasota/index.asp>

This is an interactive map which includes seagrass in Sarasota.

To add the seagrass layer to the map:

On the right hand side of the screen click on 'Habitat'

Click in the box next to the subject you are interested in, for example 'Seagrass 2004'

On the lower right hand side of the screen click on 'Refresh Map'

Zoom in for a closer look by holding the left mouse key down while dragging it over the area of interest.

Underwater World of Florida's Seagrass

The Underwater World of Florida's Seagrass

Fish & Wildlife Research Institute

Florida's Seagrass Meadows - Benefiting Everyone

Information about Florida's Seagrass Meadows and how they benefit everyone.

Fish & Wildlife Research Institute

Boating and Angling Guide to Sarasota County - Part 1

Maps and information from 2004 about birding locations, speed zones, boating etiquette, marinas, parks, anchorages, boat ramps, artificial reefs, water depth, seagrasses, mangroves, sport fishing tips, water agencies contact information, aquatic habitats, boating tips, anchorages and bridge locations. Part 1 of 2.

Sarasota County Environmental Services

Boating and Angling Guide to Sarasota County - Part 2

Maps and information from 2004 about birding locations, speed zones, boating etiquette, marinas, parks, anchorages, boat ramps, artificial reefs, water depth, seagrasses, mangroves, sport fishing tips, water agencies contact information, aquatic habitats, boating tips, anchorages and bridge locations. Part 2 of 2.

Sarasota County Environmental Services

Boating and Angling Guide to Charlotte Harbor

This two-sided fold-up chart and guide to Charlotte Harbor (Florida) will be useful to anyone exploring the waters or shoreline of this unique area. Included are map locations for marinas, municipal boat ramps, fishing reefs, popular anchorages, and dockside restaurants. Tables provide information on marina services, ramp directions, reef coordinates, and anchorage water depths. Underwater seagrass meadows, shallow waters, and shellfish harvesting areas are also mapped.

Sea Grant

Sarasota Bay Blueways. Recreational Opportunities Around the Bay

A guide to assist in learning more about and enjoying the Sarasota Bay area. Includes

channels, seagrasses, artificial reefs, aquatic preserves, canoeing, wildlife viewing areas, boat ramps, marinas, restaurants, fishing piers, habitats, sports, fishing, and boating.
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

[Analysis of Changes in Seagrass Coverage, 1996-1999 and 1999-2001 for Anna Maria Sound, Sarasota, Ro](#)

A study of changes in seagrass coverage within the Sarasota Bay NEP Study area that relates seagrass changes to water clarity, depth, seasonality, nitrogen, salinity, and exposure/dessication. Mote Marine Lab Technical Report No. 920.

Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

[Defining Seagrass Target Areas in Sarasota County Estuarine Waters](#)

Use existing information and best professional judgment to identify the likely historical extent of seagrass habitats in the estuarine waters of Sarasota County

University of South Florida

[Development of Water Quality Targets for Charlotte Harbor, Florida Using Seagrass Light Requirements](#)

Owing to the catastrophic loss of seagrass after the 1950's, resource managers in several southern Florida estuaries established water clarity targets to restore seagrass coverage to historical conditions. This is Charlotte Harbors development of water quality targets set by seagrass light requirements.

Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program

File Size: 586 KB

[Dona and Roberts Bay Estuary Analysis](#)

Seagrass and oysters as indicators of estuarine health in the Dona and Roberts Bay area. Recommends lessening freshwater flows, more research, mapping, education, and modeling.

Sarasota County Environmental Services

File Size: 4,890 KB

[Dona and Roberts Bay Second Annual Watershed and Estuary Analysis 2004](#)

Status of ongoing data collection efforts undertaken to gain a better understanding of the Dona and Roberts Bay ecosystem and its response to watershed alterations. Topics include seagrass, oysters, salinity, and hydrology.

Sarasota County Environmental Services

[Ecology of the Seagrass Meadows of the West Coast of Florida: A Community Profile](#)

This report summarizes what is known about the ecological structure, function, and values of these marine and estuarine communities in the Florida Gulf of Mexico coastline from south of Tampa Bay to Pensacola. This document also is a review of subtropical seagrass ecology and a companion volume to *The Ecology of Seagrasses of South Florida* (Zieman, 1982). This series highlights how much is still left to learn about these valuable natural habitats.

U.S. Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service

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U.S. Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service

[Field Study of Red Drift Algae \(Gracilaria\) and Bay Bottom Composition in Little Sarasota Bay](#)

Midnight Pass Society position paper about the post-closure increase in red drift algae and organic sediments and decrease in seagrass beds.

[Field Study of Seagrasses around the Bird Islands / Midnight Pass Area, Little Sarasota Bay, Florida](#)

Midnight Pass Society position paper about the decline in amount and quality of seagrass in Little Sarasota Bay after the pass closed.

Midnight Pass Society

[Florida Seagrass Conservation Information System](#)

Researchers in both public and private organizations are conducting numerous conservation projects throughout Florida. This site provides data-sharing opportunities.

[Light Attenuation with Respect to Seagrass in Sarasota Bay, Florida](#)

A study of water column light attenuation at seagrass deep edges in Sarasota Bay that includes water samples, epiphytes, color, chlorophyll, and suspended matter.

Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

[Modeling the Impact of Nutrient Load Reduction on Water Quality and Seagrass in Roberts Bay and...](#)

Full Title: Modeling the Impact of Nutrient Load Reduction on Water Quality and Seagrass in Roberts Bay and Little Sarasota Bay. Quantification of nutrient load from Phillippi Creek to Roberts Bay. Addresses issues of seagrass, light, circulation, water quality data, etc. With a 31% estimated load reduction, noticeable impact found in Roberts Bay only.

[Sarasota Bay 2000: A Decade of Progress](#)

Success story of the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program. Includes: accomplishments, the region & watershed, history, State of the Bay, pollution reductions, septic & wastewater, stormwater, landscaping, habitats, seagrass, projects, reefs, research, marine mammals, community partnerships, finances, and goals.

Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

[Sarasota Bay Blueways. Recreational Opportunities Around the Bay](#)

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Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

[Sarasota Bay Juvenile Fisheries Habitat Assessment](#)

Critical habitat for juvenile estuarine fishery species within the Sarasota Bay system was characterized in relation to a bay segmentation scheme. Fishery communities found throughout the Sarasota Bay system were characterized to identify relationships between species abundance and occurrence within natural versus restored habitats and within microhabitats like marsh edges, channels, subtidal pools or seagrass beds.

[Scarring of Florida's Seagrasses: Assessment and Management Options](#)

An investigation of seagrass scarring in Florida's coastal counties by aerial survey. Categorized as light, moderate, or severe. Management options.

Fish & Wildlife Research Institute

[Seagrass Communities of the Gulf Coast of Florida: Status and Ecology](#)

An up-to-date synthesis of seagrass research efforts since the last update in the 1980s. Topics include Distribution, Status and Trends, Autecology, Population Genetics, Ecological Roles, Natural & Anthropogenic Effects, and Taxonomy. Florida's Gulf Coast has the most extensive and diverse seagrass meadows in the United States and provides critical food and shelter to aquatic life. Seagrass meadows are the marine equivalent of tropical rainforests in terms of biodiversity and productivity.

Tampa Bay Estuary Program

[Seagrasses of Little Sarasota Bay](#)

Midnight Pass Society position paper about seagrass declines in Little Sarasota Bay after pass closure.

Midnight Pass Society

[State Boating Law Summary](#)

Summary of boating information required to be taught in classes, including registration, accidents, careless operation, education, speed, alcohol, skiing, personal watercraft, mooring, diving, lighting, boat capacity, marinas, sanitation, manatees, and seagrass.

[Seagrass Mapping Results 2004](#)

This website link provides access to technical documents by Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) describing seagrass coverage, maps of seagrass gains and losses and a Power Point presentation of why seagrass coverage was mapped for the Tampa Bay and Sarasota regions.

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Whitaker Bayou Reconnaissance Report

Reconnoitering the stream for potential ecological indicators. Includes ecological observation, salinity, temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, depth, stream geometry, bottom type, shorelines, seagrass, & mollusks. Whitaker Bayou and Walker Creek are impaired waterways affected by decades of urbanization, habitat alteration, waste discharges, and other factors. Biota are reduced to very low levels within 300 meters from the bay.

Sarasota County Environmental Services