

Tight Loops



Issue Date: March, 2026

Florida Fly Fishing Association

Bio Lab Road Cleanup March 5th

3/5/26 Contact Bill L. for more information

Fly Tying on March 17th

3/17/26 Rainy G. will be our fly tying instructor - game changer fly. At the Cocoa Library.

FFFA Club Meeting March 24th

3/24/26 Andy Warga - the fun and advantages when fly fishing from a Kayak.

FFFA Annual Picnic March 28th

Sign up, asap so we will know what you are bringing to this potluck. See flyer below for more info.

Fly Tying April 21st

4/21/26 (YTB) We are meeting at the Cocoa Library.

The April FFFA Club Meeting has been cancelled

Fly Fishing Outing April 29th to May 1st

We need our captains to please Sign Up, asap. See the flyer, below

Our March 24th FFFA Club Meeting will be held at Perkins Restaurant 8200 N Wickham Rd

Fly Fishing from a Kayak

Andy Warga loves to use his kayak. He is also an avid fly fisherman. He will share the reasons that he loves to go fly fishing from his kayak. Andy will share tips about how to fly fish from a kayak. And, since he works for Bo's Kayaks, he will provide advice about selecting a kayak & kayak accessories..

Our March 17th Fly Tying class will be held at the Cocoa Library aka Catherine Schweinsberg Rood

Rainy G. will teach us to tie a Gamechanger fly

Please join us for a fly tying class on March 17th. We will meet at the Cocoa Library at 6:30pm. Rainy G. will teach us to tie a game changer pattern.

Dinner isn't available. Fly tying starts at 6:30pm, but please arrive 15 minutes early. Fly tying materials will be provided, but please bring your own vise and tools if you have them. If not, we can provide them for you

Please send an RSVP to Rick Posey if you are planning to attend the Picnic on March 28th!

President's Message

Our Club's February Fly Tying meeting was a great success, with a strong turnout and everyone enjoying Bill Ledward's clear instructions for tying a modified Clouser Minnow - perfect for catching the elusive Peacock Bass in the Everglades.

The Annual Auction was also a hit, bringing members together to visit, compete for great gear at bargain prices and raise funds. Thanks to Clyde Langley, Rick Posey and Don Foor for their excellent leadership and organization and to Richard Hart for his skilled auctioneering. The money raised helps keep dues low, pays for fly tying materials, supports conservation and funds events like the Christmas party and picnic.

Thanks to everyone who purchased our Club's new logo decals and shared their enthusiasm for the fresh, simple design. I hope to see the same excitement from our online members.

Finally, don't forget our Annual Club Picnic on March 28th! Let Rick Posey know you're coming and what food item(s) you'll bring to this great event.

Tight Loops. . .

Amir Pishdad, Jr.

President, Florida Fly Fishing Association





Making A Fly Line Leader

Often the most asked question by club members is “What type of leader do I need”? The answer to this question is both simple and complicated. The quick response would be to recommend that you attend one of the club’s education classes about leader, but you would also need to know the following information.

1. What type of fish are you going to be fishing for?
2. What weight/size of fly rod and fly line?
3. Size and type of fly being used
4. Weather conditions (windy, calm, warm, cold)?
5. What is the purpose? ie Fishing around docks, mangrove trees, on sandy or rocky bottom, sight fishing on the shallow flats or maybe fishing in deeper water?

These are a few questions that an experienced fly angler would ponder before choosing a leader. For new club members it’s best to focus on a couple of basic questions. What weight of rod/fly line and type of water you are fishing (fresh water for Bass or salt water for Reds or Snook)?

Building your own leaders can be fun, strengthen your knowledge of knots and improve confidence on the water when fighting fish. Most leaders are made up of three sections; The butt-section is like an extension of the fly line and will help turn over the fly. It is attached to the fly line with a loop or nail knot. The mid-section, and the tippet. The size and poundage of line used is determined by rod/line wt. Type of fishing line used to make a leader can be Mono or Fluorocarbon or a combination of both. Mono is less expensive and tends to float but has more memory coils while Fluorocarbon sinks and has better abrasion resistance for fighting Snook/Red fish.

One example of basic salt water leader consist of a Butt section, a mid section and a class tippet. An example for an 8wt fly rod follows:

6 feet of 40 lb mono, 2 feet of 25 lb mono and 18 inches of 15 lb mono. This will result in a leader of 9 ½ feet long. You could use 20 lb fluorocarbon for the class tippet if you wanted to protect it from abrasion by the fish’s teeth. There are many variations that you can use to make your fishing/casting better. IF you tie your own leaders you can adjust them fit different fishing situation. You can lengthen or shorten any or all sections as necessary. (Don’t make a big change in leader diameter from one section, to another).

So, be aware that not all monofilament or fluorocarbon line is the same. Every brand tends to have its own level of stiffness, diameter and memory. A premium brand doesn’t mean it will work the best as leader material. Try different brands of monofilament and fluorocarbon line and see what works best for you.

By Rainy G. and Scott C.

Calendar of Events

March 2026

March 5th Biolab Road Cleanup

March 17th Fly Tying: Rainy G. will teach the game changer fly

March 24th Andy Warga - Fly fishing from a kayak

March 28th Picnic

April 2026

April 21st Fly Tying (TBD)

April 28th Club Meeting has been cancelled: en route to Everglades

April 29 to May 1st Everglades / Holiday Park Outing

May 2026

May 19th Fly Tying (TBD)

May 26th Club Meeting (TBD)

Email Point of Contact (POC) @ FFFAevents@gmail.com

Board Members & Officers



President
Amir Pishdad, Jr.



Vice President
Clyde Langley



Treasurer
Daryl Gorenflo



Secretary
Don Foor



Activities Director
Rainy Giard



Compliance Director
Jim Potamos



Conservation Director
Bill Ledward



Education Director
Mike Franz



Program Director
Rick Posey

FFFA FLY TYING

3RD TUESDAY EACH MONTH - BEGINS AT 6:30PM
BRING YOUR VISE + FLY TYING TOOLS

@ Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library

308 Forrest Avenue Cocoa FL 32922

FFFA CLUB MEETING

4TH TUESDAY EACH MONTH - BEGINS AT 6:30PM
ARRIVE 45 MINUTES EARLY TO EAT

Perkins Restaurant & Bakery

8200 N Wickham Road Melbourne, FL 32940

321-752-5200

Recommend Members attend Early
Enjoy the Fantastic Food & Deserts at PERKINS



BIOLAB CLEAN-UP BY THE FFFA ON MARCH 5, 2026

The Florida Fly Fishing Association is committed to cleaning up a section of the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. It is important to "do our part" to protect this fantastic resource. By picking up trash, we protect the environment (i.e. animals, plants & fish); and it helps keep the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge cleaner when you and I go there to fish or hike.

DATE + TIME

Thursday, March 5, 2026
8am to 10am

**LOCATION: MERRIT ISLAND
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
1987 SCRUB JAY WAY, TITUSVILLE FL**

Take Highway I-95 and get off at exit 220. Turn right on Route 406 (Garden Street). Continue eastbound to the A. Max Brewer Memorial Parkway. Continue on the Max Brewer Bridge until you get to Scrub Jay Way. We'll meet at the Ranger Station.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Sign up by sending an email to: FFFAEVENTS@GMAIL.COM

Attn: Bill Ledward

You are welcome to contact Bill directly.

** If you don't have his contact information, please ask Bill at the next Club meeting. Or text any FFFA Board Member, to find out.



FFFA CLUB PICNIC ON MARCH 28TH



F. BURTON SMITH REGIONAL PARK

Join us for our FFFA Club Picnic. It will be a fun event! You are welcome to bring your family and meet with other Club members at this fun event. This is a potluck luncheon, so please bring your favorite entree, side dish or dessert to share. The Club will provide paper plates, plastic utensils and water. The Casting Clinic begins at 10:30am, followed by Lunch at Noon. The Casting Games begin at 1pm.

WHEN

10:30am to 2pm on Saturday,
March 28th

WHERE

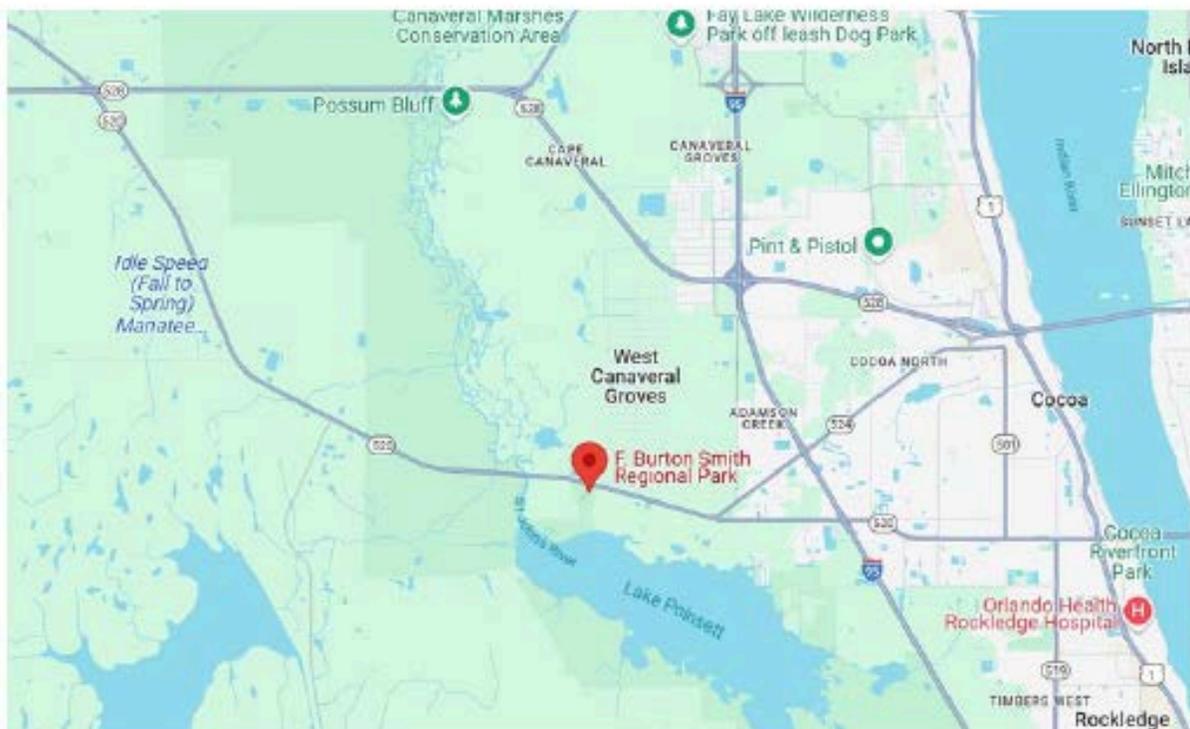
F. Burton Smith Regional Park
7575 W. King Street
Cocoa, FL 32926
-Sable Pavillion-

WHO IS INVITED?

All FFFA Club members and their families are invited to participate

WHAT TO BRING

Your favorite entree, side dish &/or dessert to share
Fly Rod for the Casting Clinic and Casting Games
Camping Chair
Sun Screen



Please text an RSVP along with the type of entree, side &/or dessert you are bringing;

attn: Rick or Rainy

If you don't have our phone number(s), send an email to:

FFFAevents@gmail.com

FFFA OUTING ON APRIL 29TH - MAY 1ST

PEACOCK BASS FLY FISHING - EVERGLADES



Join us our very exciting "overnight trip" to the Everglades. Sign up and obtain a hotel reservation, asap. This is a great opportunity to target and catch Peacock Bass, Largemouth Bass and exotic species such as Oscars, Mayan & Jaguar Chichlids.

WHEN

Wednesday April 29th to
Friday May 1st

WHO IS INVITED?

All FFFA Club members are invited to participate. Please sign up asap, since seating is limited!

WHERE (BOAT RAMP)

Holiday Park in the Everglades
21940 Griffin Rd., Ft Lauderdale

Boat Captains are encouraged to contact Rainy, asap. Otherwise, interested FFFA members will be reluctant to make a hotel reservation if they don't own a boat.

HOTEL: La Quinta Inn & Suites Sunrise Sawgrass Mills 13651 NW 2nd St, Sunrise, FL 33325

We obtained a special "discounted rate" of \$109 per night

Call the hotel at (954) 846-1200 and mention Florida Fly Fishing Association or click on link, below

[Click Here to access Discount](#)

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:

Sawgrass Mills(350 stores)
12801 W Sunrise Blvd, Sunrise Florida

BOAT RENTALS: Everglades Boat Rentals ph# (954) 434-8111

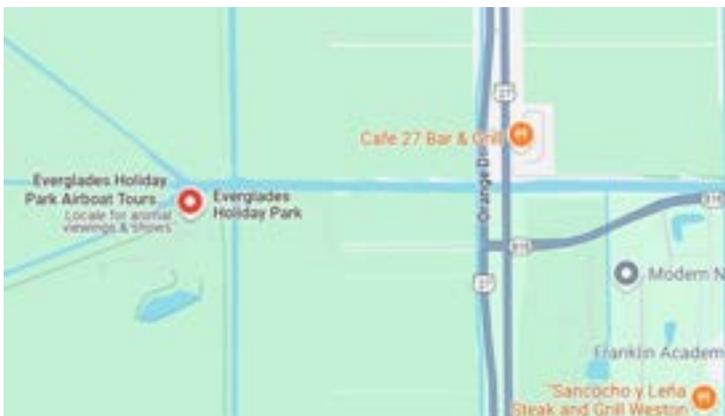
1. Sunscreen
2. Sunglasses
3. Water - lots!!!
4. Snacks
5. Hat
6. Clothes for dinner (2x)
7. Suntan Lotion
8. Insect Repellant

WHAT TO BRING

1. Fly Rod (5wt or 6wt)
2. Reel (floating or sinking line)
3. Fishing needle nose pliers
4. Small scissors or nips
5. Washcloth: for fish slime, lol

FLIES

1. Clouser Minnows
2. Popper Bugs & Poppers
3. Gurglers
4. Pad Crawler (weedless)
5. White & Black Schminnows
6. Tod's Wiggle Minnow



MEALS

The hotel provides a complimentary breakfast & coffee, etc.

We hope to meet to go out for dinner at 6pm on Wednesday & Thursday (Lester's Diner 1393 NW 136th Ave, Sunrise, FL 33323. TBD

Captains with boats are needed!

Sign up by sending a text to Rainy or Rick

If you don't have our phone number, send an email to:

FFFAevents@gmail.com

You are welcome to contact Rainy or Rick directly.

**If you don't have our contact information, please ask us at the next Club meeting. Or text any FFFA Board Member, to find out.

FloridaFlyFishingAssociation@gmail.com

www.FloridaFlyFishingAssociation.com

FloridaFlyFishingAssociation



FFFA ANNUAL AUCTION



FFFA KAYAK OUTING



FFFA KAYAK OUTING



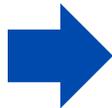
COQUINA POND - ASST BOYS + GIRLS CLUBS



FFFA FLY TYING

Club Sponsors & Discounts

SHOP ONLINE OR CALL
FOR AN APPOINTMENT
TO VISIT THEIR FLY SHOP



Clouser's Fly Shop

Club Members Save **15%**
Coupon Code FFFA
at Checkout

Home of the Clouser Deep Minnow & World-Renowned flies for
all species

4173 Balsa Place
Cocoa, FL 32926
321-890-4876



Bob Clouser Sr. & Jackie Prock
Owners & Business Partners in Fly Fishing & Fly Design
sales@clousersflyshop.com

10 % Discount w/FFFA Membership Card



Harry Goode's Outfitters

1231 E New Haven Ave
Melbourne, FL 32901

Hours:

Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm
Sunday - 10am-4pm

harrygoodesoutfitters@gmail.com 321-723-4751

FLY TYING - HARRY GOODE'S
2ND + 4TH TUESDAY EACH MONTH
STARTS AT 6PM

Monthly FlyTying
2nd & 4th Thursday
Starting 6pm
Bring Vice & Tying Tools

Contact Amir for more information at
FFFAevents@Gmail.com