

Tri-Council of FFGC
September 7, 2022
Environmental Consultant Representative Report
Janice Miller

Greetings from Kentucky. I could not attend in person.

Since my report from the last Tri-Council Meeting held at the FFGC Convention, I have continued to send emails concerning issues related to our Florida environment.

The Monarch Butterfly has been listed as ENDANGERED. This is major news. Doug Tallamy has written an article that lists many activities that we can do to help restore these gentle, beautiful gifts from God. We all need to do something to help save them from total extinction. Butterflies are Pollinators and this directly affects our food.

If farmers and everyone who has enough land, could plant strips of milkweed and nectar plants for the butterflies, Monarchs would find these sanctuaries. "If you build it, they will come."

Cutting pesticide use could make a huge difference. Educating our Youth could affect the future of the Monarch. Florida has a native population of Monarchs. I do not have an individual update on their numbers but they should be counted in all reports.

Water all over Florida continues to have serious and destructive issues. Blue-Green Algae is an ongoing major problem that continues to plague our precious aquifers and waterways.

We also create extremely excessive amounts of trash of which a large percentage is paper and plastic. NGC has made a paperless policy.

These are just a few of the issues, that concern the environment, that are sending up red flags that we are destroying our planet. Many other species are also endangered.

There is great flooding in areas where trees were removed to strip mine coal and that land was left with no resolution or repair to the damage done. A family in Southeastern Kentucky lost all four of their children to this extreme flooding directly related to what had been done to the land.

I saw a sign that was on US 41 that said "If you wear out your body, where are you going to live?" This is appropriate to what we face each day in trying to help repair and heal our land, our air and our water. Our planet is endangered.

I would like to have each member of Tri-Council submit an idea on what we can be doing to help us save Florida and planet Earth. Even small projects that require little time or money can have a positive effect on the Environment. Please, do something!