



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 8, 2008**

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***REMINDER: Watershed Awareness Week October 13-19***

***Lunch Time Nature Walk Hosted by Sarasota Bay Estuary Program and City of Sarasota at Ken Thompson Park October 14***

**SARASOTA, FL – October 8, 2008** - the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program (SBEP), has partnered with the City of Sarasota to offer a FREE lunch time nature walk at Ken Thompson Park starting at 12:30 pm on Tuesday, October 14. Get out from behind your desk and enjoy a lunch-time stroll through the mangroves and coastal habitats at Ken Thompson Park located on City Island. Learn about the plants and animals that call the Sarasota Bay watershed home and what you can do to protect that natural legacy for future generations. The nature walk will be preceded by the dedication of a Watershed Education Kiosk that has been installed at Ken Thompson Park as part of the efforts of the Science and Environment Council of Sarasota County (SEC) and its partners to build watershed awareness in the community. For more information about this event please contact the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program at 955-8085.

To help increase public awareness about the importance of watersheds to our community, the Sarasota County Commission has declared October 13<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup> “Watershed Awareness Week.” To celebrate, watershed-related educational events and programs for the whole family are scheduled throughout the week by member organizations of the SEC. For more information about these events visit <http://www.secsc.org/watershed.htm> or call 941-955-9089.

**The Sarasota Bay Estuary Program** is dedicated to restoring the area's greatest and most important natural asset—Sarasota Bay. Its unique program strives to improve water quality, increase habitat and enhance the natural resources of the area for use and enjoyment by the public. Sarasota Bay is one of 28 estuaries in the United States that have been named by the U.S. Congress as an "estuary of national significance."

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