

## **CEITUS BARRIER REPLACEMENT UPDATE #8**

**“Nothing is so firmly believed as that which is least understood.”**

The proponents of the Ceitus Barrier replacement have mounted a campaign of misinformation about the “poor” quality of the storm water flowing into Matlacha Pass from the north spreader canal system.

**NOTHING, BUT NOTHING, COULD BE FARTHER FROM THE TRUTH!**

Comments in letters and other communiqués supporting this mistruth are numerous. Quotations selected from three documents sent to DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) read as follows:

- “The economy and environment of southwest Florida will be irreparably harmed if pollution from the septic systems north of the Barrier is allowed to flow into downtown Matlacha, Pine Island Sound and beyond.”
- “...help keep the Sound water from getting more polluted.”
- “...barrier should be restored in order to keep the pollution under control and save the environment.”

These assertions, of course, are absurd. The freshwaters flowing into Matlacha Pass are of equal or superior quality to the saltwater in the Pass. To provide reassurance in this regard, Connie Jarvis, M.S., Superintendent, City of Cape Coral Environmental Resources Department, has prepared graphs of three specific parameters most often linked to pollution or nutrient concerns:

nitrogen, phosphorus and fecal streptococcus. Copies of these graphs are attached for your review and use.

The next time someone claims that the waters flowing from the northwest canal system are tainted, ask them to provide some proof. This question has been asked of the proponents of Barrier replacement numerous times in the past and to this date no “proof” has been provided. Armed with the attached graphs you will now be able to present the FACTS.

The northwest canal system is an insignificant source of water borne contaminants. No segment of the population is more interested than the residents of the Northwest Cape in protecting the environment and in following or exceeding recognized sound ecological best practices at all times.

**AFTER ALL, WE RECREATE HERE, WE LIVE HERE!**



Northwest Cape Coral Neighborhood Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 411, Cape Coral, FL 33993-0411

[nwna@nwcape.com](mailto:nwna@nwcape.com)

[www.nwcape.com](http://www.nwcape.com)

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