

# Scenic Watch



Citizens for a Scenic Florida:  
Panhandle's Dune Lakes



Photo: Live Oak Production Group

We are glad that people are asking about the video at the top of our new [website!](#) It's by tEmmy award winning Elam Stoltzfus who made the 1 hour Public Television documentary, "Coastal Dune Lakes: Jewels of Florida's Emerald Coast". He travels from Australia to the United States in search of what coastal dune lakes are and what can be done to protect them.

The production company, Live Oak Productions, is located in the Panhandle and they have extensively documented the natural scenic beauty of Florida over

August  
2016



## Fun Festivals and Events

### Central and West

Sept 2-4  
Central Florida Film Festival,  
Ocoee  
Sept 2-3  
9-10, 16-17  
Bandshell Concert Series, Daytona  
Beach  
Sept 3  
Art Walk on Flagler, New Smyrna  
Beach  
Sept 3  
First Saturday Jam, Barberville  
Sept 3-5  
Cold-Blooded Weekend, Melbourne

years!



Photo: Live Oak Production Group

Public Broadcasting Stations (PBS) are periodically re-airing this popular program or you can [visit this site to find more information and/or get a copy](#) of your own.

[Visit Citizens for a Scenic Florida's NEW site](#)

LED Streetlights:

AMA Issues medical warning while St. Petersburg battles Duke Energy.



Photo: Carlos Gonzalez, Star Tribune

"AMA Adopts Community Guidance to Reduce the Harmful Human and Environmental Effects of High Intensity Street Lighting"

- Sept 4  
Brevard Caribbean Fest, Cocoa
- Sept 4-7  
NKF Surf Festival, Cocoa Beach
- Sept 9-10  
Rock the Universe at Universal Studios, Orlando
- Sept 9-11  
UmiCon Daytona, Daytona Beach
- Sept 10  
Turtle Krawl 5K Run/Walk, Indialantic
- Sept 10-11  
Florida International Reptile Expo, Lakeland
- Sept 10-11  
Corks for Cancer, Clermont
- Sept 14-Nov 14  
Epcot International Food and Wine Festival, Walt Disney World
- Sept 15-18  
Southern Women's Show, Orlando
- Sept 16-Oct 31 (select nights)  
Universal's Halloween Horror Nights, Orlando
- Sept 16  
Cocoa Beach Friday Fest, Cocoa Beach
- Sept 17  
Art Walk, Sanford
- Sept 17  
Cruisin' Downtown DeLand Classic Car Show, DeLand
- Sept 19-25  
Global Peace Film Festival, Orlando
- Sept 23  
New Smyrna Beach Jazz Festival, New Smyrna Beach
- Sept 24  
Wine Walk & Art Walk, New Smyrna Beach
- Sept 24-25  
The Villages Craft Festival, The Villages
- Sept 24-25  
Craft & Quilt Show, DeLand
- Sept 30-Oct 1  
Ranch Rodeo Finals and Cowboy Heritage Festival, Kissimmee
- Sept 30-Oct 2  
Klingon Feast, Daytona Beach
- Sept 23-24  
Pirates of the Saint Juans Festival, Sanford

## South

- Aug 27-Sept 11  
Annual International Ballet Festival of Miami, Miami
- Sept 1-5  
Key West Brewfest, Key West
- Sept 3-4  
Labor Day Weekend Craft Festival, Venice
- Sept 7-11  
WomenFest, Key West
- Sept 9-10  
Key Largo Lionfish Derby, Key Largo

"Strong arguments exist for overhauling the lighting systems on U.S. roadways with light emitting diodes (LED), but conversions to improper LED technology can have adverse consequences. In response, physicians at the Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association (AMA) today adopted guidance for communities on selecting among LED lighting options to minimize potential harmful human and environmental effects.

Converting conventional street light to energy efficient LED lighting leads to cost and energy savings, and a lower reliance on fossil-based fuels. Approximately 10 percent of existing U.S. street lighting has been converted to solid state LED technology, with efforts underway to accelerate this conversion.

"Despite the energy efficiency benefits, some LED lights are harmful when used as street lighting," AMA Board Member Maya A. Babu, M.D., M.B.A. "The new AMA guidance encourages proper attention to optimal design and engineering features when converting to LED lighting that minimize detrimental health and environmental effects."

High-intensity LED lighting designs emit a large amount of blue light that appears white to the naked eye and create worse nighttime glare than conventional lighting. Discomfort and disability from intense, blue-rich LED lighting can decrease visual acuity and safety, resulting in concerns and creating a road hazard.

In addition to its impact on drivers, blue-rich LED streetlights operate at a wavelength that most adversely suppresses melatonin during night. It is estimated that white LED lamps have five times greater impact on circadian sleep rhythms than conventional street lamps. Recent large surveys found that brighter residential nighttime lighting is associated with reduced sleep times, dissatisfaction with sleep quality, excessive sleepiness, impaired daytime functioning and obesity.

Sept 10-11  
Galloway Captiva Triathlon,  
Captiva Island  
Sept 14-18  
Key West Poker Run, Key West  
Sept 15  
Downtown Gallery Walk, Punta  
Gorda  
Sept 15-17  
Swim for Alligator Lighthouse,  
Islamorada  
Sept 19  
Plant Show & Sale, Coral Gables  
Sept 17-18  
Sullivan Street Craft Festival,  
Punta Gorda  
Sept 23-Oct 2  
Island Hopper Songwriter Fest,  
Fort Myers area  
Sept 24-27  
Florida Keys Birding and Wildlife  
Festival, Marathon and Lower Keys  
Sept 24  
Conch Life Scramble, Islamorada  
Sept 24-25  
PalmCon 2015, West Palm Beach

## North

Sept 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
Americana Under the Stars, Santa  
Rosa Beach  
Sept 2-4  
Pepsi Gulf Coast Jam Country  
Music Festival, Panama City Beach  
Sept 3  
Gulf Coast Summer Fest,  
Pensacola  
Sept 3-4  
First Weekend Union Garrison,  
Fernandina Beach  
Sept 4  
Jerk Food Fest, Jacksonville  
Sept 4-6  
Greek Festival, Fort Walton Beach  
Sept 8  
Menendez Founder's Day, St  
Augustine  
Sept 8-11  
Spanish Wine Festival, St  
Augustine  
Sept 9-10  
Emerald Coast Beer Festival,  
Pensacola  
Sept 9-11  
Juana's Good Time Regatta,  
Navarre Beach  
Sept 9-11  
Old Time Music Weekend, White  
Springs  
Sept 10-11  
Shriners Morocco Shrine Fall Arts  
& Crafts Show, Jacksonville  
Sept 10  
Artrageous Artwalk, Amelia Island  
Sept 12-18  
Lobster Festival  
Sept 17  
Spanish American War Event,  
Fernandina Beach  
Sept 15-17  
Florida Heritage Book Festival &



Photo:CNN

The detrimental effects of high-intensity LED lighting are not limited to humans. Excessive outdoor lighting disrupts many species that need a dark environment. For instance, poorly designed LED lighting disorients some bird, insect, turtle and fish species, and U.S. national parks have adopted optimal lighting designs and practices that minimize the effects of light pollution on the environment.

Recognizing the detrimental effects of poorly-designed, high-intensity LED lighting, the AMA encourages communities to minimize and control blue-rich environmental lighting by using the lowest emission of blue light possible to reduce glare. The AMA recommends an intensity threshold for optimal LED lighting that minimizes blue-rich light. The AMA also recommends all LED lighting should be properly shielded to minimize glare and detrimental human health and environmental effects, and consideration should be given to utilize the ability of LED lighting to be dimmed for off-peak time periods..."

[Read entire article here](#)

"St. Petersburg at odds with Duke Energy over using LED bulbs"

"To be clear, Duke doesn't mind using the energy saving bulbs, but the city says the utility doesn't want to give a financial break for the reduction in electricity. 'The problem is they just don't want to do it,' said City Council chairman Karl Nurse. 'Some of it is the standard resistance to change. The motivation beyond that I'm

Writers Conference, St Augustine  
Sept 15-17  
Quiltfest, Jacksonville  
Sept 23  
River Rhythms, Ocala  
Sept 23-24  
Taste of the Beach, Pensacola  
Beach  
Sept 25-26  
Florida Catfish Classic,  
Wewahitchka  
Sept 23-24  
Oktoberfest, Niceville  
Sept 23-24  
Annual Chasin' the Sun Music  
Festival, Panama City Beach  
Sept 30-Oct 2  
Pensacola Seafood Festival,  
Pensacola

[For many more events and details please visit the Orlando Times Travel Calendar here](#)



not entirely sure'.

St. Petersburg and all local governments in the Duke Energy Florida service area pay their street light bills according to a utility tariff or pay schedule approved by the state Public Service Commission.>br /> For St. Petersburg, that tariff amounts to \$4.7 million a year. Based on savings the Raleigh-Durham area received in North Carolina from Duke, the city could see a 40 percent reduction or savings of \$1.8 million by using the LED bulbs, Nurse said.

If Duke reduced St. Petersburg's tariff, it would also have to reduce the rate for any other local government in its service area in Florida that switched to LEDs, Nurse said. That could have a substantial impact on Duke's bottom line at a time when the utility is grappling with the loss of its Crystal River nuclear plant and billions of dollars in related costs.

Ann Marie Varga, a Duke spokeswoman, said the utility is working with St. Petersburg to resolve the concerns but could not immediately say what tariff rate the city would be charged with the new light bulbs..."

-- Ivan Penn, Tampa Bay Times

[Read entire article here](#)

Legal News:

"Palm Beach doesn't want big advertising signs on vehicles in town"



Photo: Town of Palm Beach

"The Town Council directed its two-member Ordinances, Rules and Standards Committee on Tuesday to study the use of signs on vehicles to promote business...

'Specifically, panels of any material that are added to any portion of a vehicle which extends from, attaches to, or adds to the original vehicle body would be included in the prohibition,' staff wrote to council members.

'Painted and magnetic signs applied flush to commercial vehicles which identifies the business owner or lessees would remain permitted.'

The recommendation stems from incidents during Memorial Day weekend when police spotted a pickup truck displaying large advertising signs mounted on its bed parked along the 300 block of South Ocean Boulevard. Current town code does not prohibit signs on vehicles to promote business.



Photo: Meghan McCarthy

In January, Sweet Spot ice cream shop owner Thomas Tomas was fined for chaining his bike – with a mounted surfboard sign advertising his business – to the public bike rack near Midtown Beach. He was found in violation of town code prohibiting posting or placing advertising on private or public property without

consent of the owner."

-- Aleese Kopf, Palm Beach Daily News

[Read entire article here](#)

