

The first critically endangered right whale calf born this season will [likely die from a boat strike](#).

As a reminder, federal legislation to reduce speed limits for large vessels which strike and kill right whales in areas where the animals are known to live [was defeated in 2023](#).

LINK: https://www.floridatoday.com/story/news/2024/01/10/endangered-right-whale-born-this-calving-season-injured-off-south-carolina-noaa/72178301007/?utm_source=pbre-DailyBriefing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=daily-briefing&utm_term=Content%20List%20-%20Stacking%20-%20optimized&utm_content=1028FT-E-NLETTER65

LINK: <https://www.workboat.com/viewpoints/house-moves-to-delay-expanding-vessel-speed-limits-to-protect-whales>

Last week's conservation newsletter focused on the easiest actions you can take to benefit the planet. More difficult, but [by some estimations the #1 action individuals can take](#) to combat climate change, is reducing food waste through composting.

In the U.S., nearly one quarter of all landfill material is food waste. That food decomposes and releases methane, a greenhouse gas far more potent to trapping heat in our atmosphere than carbon dioxide.

LINK: https://www.nrdc.org/bio/darby-hoover/compost-climate-solution?utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=educational

Here's a clean energy innovation being tested by Duke Energy in central Florida: [floating solar panels](#).

LINK: <https://www.baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2023/12/21/duke-energy-completes-first-floating-solar-project-in-florida#:~:text=A%20total%20of%201%2C872%20solar,Spectrum%20News%20around%20the%20site>

The average liter of bottled water has nearly a [quarter million invisible pieces of nanoplastics](#), detected and categorized for the first time by a microscope using dual lasers. Another reason to stop drinking bottled water.

LINK: https://apnews.com/article/plastic-nano-bottled-drinking-water-contaminate-b77dce04539828207fe55ebac9b27283?taid=65a2ac7d08e2720001fed198&utm_campaign=TrueAnthem&utm_medium=AP&utm_source=Twitter

[Marjory Stoneman Douglass](#) was an early "environmentalist," even though she tried distancing herself from that label. She's best know for coining the term "river of grass" to describe the Everglades and her decades-long advocacy on behalf of that ecosystem.

Douglass was the focus of a recent episode of my "Welcome to Florida" podcast.

LINK: <https://www.pandora.com/podcast/welcome-to-florida/episode-184-marjory-stoneman-douglas/PE:1310173130>

Could taxes on gambling revenues in Florida be used to [support conservation](#)? Maybe?

As soon as I figure out the "catch," I'll let you know.

LINK: <https://www.wmnf.org/florida-legislature-is-considering-using-gambling-money-to-help-the-environment/>