

New Release!

***Rivers of the Green Swamp (an anthology)*. Edited by Judith Redfern and Albert Vogt III. (St. Petersburg: Tampa Bay Writers Network, 2007). 148 pp. \$15.00.**

**A Paddle With
Gators and Springs
Wading Birds and Warfare
Ditches and Destruction**

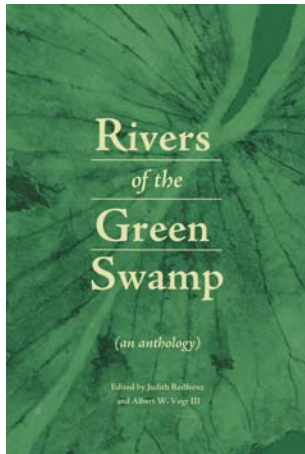
The Withlacoochee, Hillsborough, Peace, and a fraction of the Ocklawaha reach into the Green Swamp of West Central Florida. These four rivers each tell a different story. *Rivers of the Green Swamp* collects these stories into one volume, bringing together student writing, scholarship, and favorite regional authors.

All rivers need friends like these, whose energy, mindfulness, and intelligence have created a body of work that is sturdy and lasting. This vivacious and pleasing book is a true collaboration, the product of visionary professors and their students, and consequently, it possesses the richness of an artifact of many hands. What greater scholarship than that of place? What loftier classroom than nature? In the end, a river is the ultimate teacher.

Janisse Ray, *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*

Here's all I'm going to tell you about this cool book: It makes me want to get up early, I mean before seven a.m., make myself a peanut butter sandwich, fill the thermos with cafe con leche, load the canoe and drive like hell to the Hillsborough River, which happens to be the nearest to my house. Did I mention my flyrod? I'll take my flyrod, cast a bumblebee popping bug at the lily pad next to the cypress stump, try to fool a largemouth bass. I feel sorry for people who believe real Florida is gone. What are they thinking? They should read this book and head for the nearest river.

Jeff Klinkenberg, *St. Petersburg Times*



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For more information contact
Thomas Hallock (tbwn@stpt.usf.edu)
Tampa Bay Writers Network and Florida Studies Program
University of Florida St. Petersburg
140 7th Ave. South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
www.stpt.usf.edu/tbwn
(727) 873-8296