

*LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION DEMANDED*

# The LEADer



JUNE 2021

## EFFORT FOR TAR CREEK'S RIGHTS

Papers have been submitted to the City of Miami requesting eligible voters in the city have the opportunity to vote on a Miami Clean Water Protection Ordinance stating the people of Miami possess the right to clean water, including the right to a clean Tar Creek as well as it will give rights to Tar Creek to: exist, regenerate, and flourish, which shall include the right to naturally recharge, the right to flow, the right to water quality necessary to provide habitat for native plants and animals, the right to provide clean water and the right to restoration. Tar Creek has the right to be free from activities or projects which violate those rights.

Based on the number of voters who exercised their right to vote in the last municipal election which was for mayor, 25% of those voting would have to be verified as registered voters to allow the ordinance to be brought to the voters.

We believe 603 signatures will be achieved quickly and our intention is to continue gathering signatures and presenting them to the City until the 90 day signature collection period ends or until the City makes a determination on the ordinance or the date for the vote is determined to be October 5 or some date sooner. The ordinance will be introduced to the Miami City Council later in June. Show your support if you are a registered voter in the City add your name to one of our circulator's petitions.

**603 NEEDED**

THOUSANDS OF MIAMI REGISTERED VOTERS ARE EXPECTED  
TO SIGN THE OFFICIAL PETITIONS.  
WHO WOULDN'T WANT CLEAN WATER?

We all have a right  
to clean water

## RIGHTS OF NATURE

**WHY?** - Because nature—the air, land, water and all species of life - have inherent rights, and the regulatory system has failed to effectively protect it. Current law treats nature as property, and (corporate) property rights generally prevail. Bad law must be changed.

**HOW will this help?** The Rights of Nature is a legal movement to shift perspectives and create new doctrine.

Locally and immediately, it is a legal tool. It empowers communities, on an individual level, to sue business or government entities violating the inherent rights of nature. Without it, environmental advocates are left to beg, plead, protest and lobby for sound public policy and effective protections: efforts which may or may not be successful.

### What is “Rights of Nature”?

Three basic elements are required to be considered a “Rights of Nature” measure:

1. Recognition that Nature has certain legally enforceable rights, which may include:

The right to exist

The right to flourish / flow

The right to regenerate / evolve

The right to be free from harmful pollution

the right to maintain / sustain healthy ecosystems

In addition humans have the right to clean water.

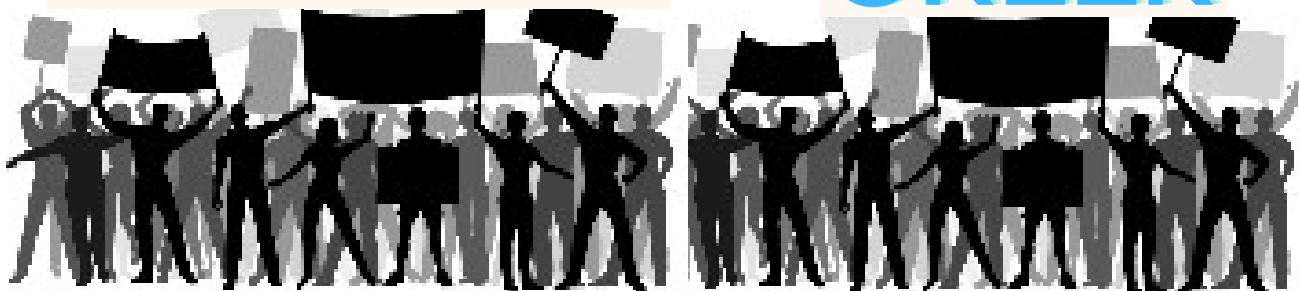
2. The creation of due process, legal standing to enforce such rights and

3. That legal remedies should include restoration, so the party found to have violated rights would be responsible for returning the damaged natural system to its pre-damaged condition. Nature has a right to be restored when and where harmed.

*Our*  
TARCREEK

IS

#My  
TAR  
CREEK



## RIGHTS OF NATURE

**WHY?** - The Environment is a nonpartisan issue.

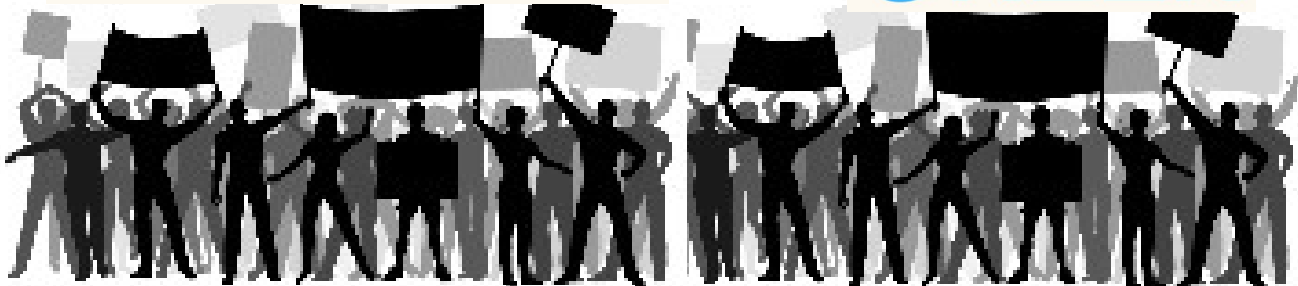
*Rights of Nature demonstrates traditional conservative values:*

- Promotes home-rule and rights of local self-government/ determination and recognizes the fallibility of big government
- It supports individual rights, especially inalienable natural rights to life and liberty. We each have the right to life, clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, healthy systems like pollinators for food to eat
- We should work to secure the blessings of liberty such as accessing and enjoying healthy, pristine natural areas. Rights of Nature measures create due process.
- It recognizes the sacred duty of stewardship. We share in the sense that we have been blessed with nature's beauty, providence and bounty, and with such gifts come responsibilities to care for and protect it, to use wisely and sustainably.
- It promotes fiscal conservatism. Permitting pollution and destruction of natural system, followed by billions of dollars of taxpayers money to clean it up or restore our mistakes *IF* it is ever cleaned up or restored is irresponsible. Bad actors are still able to do their damage and leave, creating monumental burdens on taxpayers and local economies, diminishing opportunities and hope for enterprise.
- Clarifying standards through a rights based approach allows the “free market” to reward responsible businesses while forcing a necessary change in business model for others. The consensus is solid and growing; a healthy economy requires a healthy environment, and enacting Rights of Nature is a wise investment for both short and long-term returns.

*Our*  
TARCREEK

IS

#My  
TAR  
CREEK



**STAND UP FOR**

*Tar Creek*



**BE A HERO**

**VOTERS IN THE MIAMI CITY LIMITS  
SIGN PETITIONS FOR TAR CREEK**

**WE ALL THANK THE PROPONENTS  
FOR THE TAR CREEK ORDINANCE :  
JAMES COUCH JOHN HOLT JACKLYN ROBINSON  
PAULA JOHNSTON**

**BE A HERO      SIGN A PETITION**