



metromix your double feature

Find theaters,
listings and more.

Go now »

Coupons & Offers

Get big-time savings
on groceries & offers
from local merchants.
Start saving money.



Home » News » **Local news**

In the Know: Beach antenna and snow for the holiday season

By TIM ATEN (Contact)

6:29 p.m., Tuesday, November 4, 2008

STORY TOOLS

- E-mail story
- iPod friendly
- Printer friendly

TELL US ABOUT IT

- What would you add to this story? Tell us what we missed.
- Do you have photos from this event? Documents we need to see? Share with us.
- Upload photos & videos
- More ways to get your stuff online and in the paper.

MORE LOCAL NEWS

- Collier advisory board recommends Pepper Ranch purchase
- Fort Myers home resales up in October
- Education Channel to air Veterans Day programs Tuesday

SHARE AND ENJOY [?]



Beach antenna part of coastal monitoring system

Q: While at Lowdermilk Park, we noticed something that looks like a large antenna stuck in the sand near one of the chickee huts. What is this used for?

Jay Miller, Naples

A: The antenna is part of a West Florida Shelf observing station for the Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System.

"That is a University of South Florida project where they are reading offshore currents," said Mike Bauer, natural resource manager for the city of Naples.

Lowdermilk Park actually has two antennas, one at its north end and one at the south end, said Cliff Merz, COMPS program director.

"One is a transmitter and one is a receiver," Merz said.

He explained that the antennas, installed in 2005, measure the top surface of the water, and data is compared with information from an offshore buoy.

The USF system provides real-time data needed for a variety of management issues, including more accurate predictions of coastal flooding by storm surge, safety and efficiency of marine navigation, search and rescue efforts, fisheries management and basic research programs, according to the system's Web site, <http://comps.marine.usf.edu>.

Go to the COMPS site for live data, provided from information collected 24/7.

MOST COMMENTED

MOST EMAILED

Hot stories over the past 24 hours:

- Obama to meet Bush; visit Oval Office for first time (48)
- Letters to the Editor: Nov. 10, 2008 (38)
- After Amendment 2 passes, some still optimistic about acceptance (26)
- POLL: Woman pays fortune teller \$13,200 (37)
- Minus zero: Collier elementary schools make 50 the lowest possible score (115)
- Estates man gets prison for sex with teen (26)
- POLL: New species of cockroaches may invade Florida, experts warn (20)
- Family members, including cashier, accused of theft from Kmart (13)
- East Naples man gets jail for having sex with teen (12)
- Collier superintendent to answer questions on 'Open Mic' Monday (13)

Currently: 81 °

Sunny

Hi: 78° | **Low: 59°** | **Humidity: 45%**

Wind: ENE at 6 mph

[More weather »](#) | [Tide Charts »](#)

