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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Guess What's on Your Beach!

WABASSO ISLAND, Fla. Dr. Blair Witherington is an experienced research biologist and serious scientist, studying turtles with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. During his years of exploring beaches in search of turtles he became increasingly aware of a host of other artifacts and “things” that can be found on the ocean’s edge.

Turning from trade publications to the popular press, Dr. Witherington and his illustrator wife Dawn have authored two books, *Florida’s Living Beaches: A Guide for the Curious Beachcomber* and *Florida’s Seashells: A Beachcomber’s Guide* .

In conjunction with the Indian River Land Trust, the Environmental Learning Center will host Dr. Witherington for its next Noted Environmentalist Lecture Series event to be held on the ELC campus from 6:30 until 8:00 PM on Wednesday, April 1. The price is \$30 per person (\$25 for ELC and IRLT members) and reservations can be made by calling 589-5050.

On this “beach quest” presentation Dr. Witherington will talk about and show examples of some of the wonderful and sometimes mysterious things you may find on your own beach walks. He will also describe a series of treasure hunts that amateur naturalists can use to challenge themselves.

As always for the lecture series, wine and locally grown finger foods are complimentary. The final in the series is “The Coastal Plain” to be presented on May 6.

The Environmental Learning Center is located north of Vero Beach off County Road 510 at the western edge of the Wabasso Bridge. Its 64-acre island campus includes exhibit areas, native plant gardens, picnic facilities, gift shop and visitor center. A list of its many field excursions including hikes, boat excursions, nature walks and bird watching can be found at www.DiscoverELC.org.

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