

# Florida State Parks Monthly Newsletter

In recognition of the 38th Earth Day, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is encouraging Floridians to join celebrations across the state highlighting conservation and environmental protection. Earth Day, April 22, is part of a month long effort to promote environmental stewardship and awareness.

"Earth Day events incorporate environmental education, conservation and recreation by celebrating natural resources," said Florida State Park Director Mike Bullock. "These celebrations encourage environmental stewardship for greater protection of Florida's resources."



## HOMOSASSA SPRINGS



### WILDLIFE PARK TO HOLD EASTER EGG HUNT ON APRIL 7TH

**HOMOSASSA SPRINGS** - The Friends of Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park are planning a big Easter Egg Hunt event at the Wildlife Park on April 7, 2007. Parents should bring baskets for their children to collect eggs. There will be thousands of plastic eggs in different colors to be found and redeemed for Easter goodies.

*Registration for Easter Egg Hunts*

8:30 a.m.

*Easter Egg Hunt for younger children (ages 1-4 years)*

9:00 a.m.

*Easter Egg Hunts for two older groups of children (ages 5-8 years and ages 9-12 years)*

9:30 a.m.



Please Check with your local parks to see  
what Earth Day and Easter  
celebrations are scheduled

Upcoming Events

## Some of the upcoming events at Florida State Parks

### **5TH FLORIDA BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL**

#### **Forest Capital Museum State Park**

**Date: April 6th and 7th, 2007.**

**Description:** Enjoy music, food vendors, arts and crafts and festivities.

Musicians: Valerie Smith & Liberty Pike, The Grascals, The Country Current U.S. Navy Band, Ernie Evans, Sweetwater Special, The Bluegrass Parlor Band, Ryan Holladay, Swinging Bridge, and Bits of Grass (schedule to be announced later) Bluegrass Music Competition to be held!

Fiddle, Banjo, Bass & Mandolin Workshops for attendees, sign up limited space (850) 584-5366

5th Annual Rotary Club Chili Cook-off with cash prizes. All the chili you can eat for \$5.00

**Fees:** \$10.00 for a weekend pass. Tickets will be available at the gate or in advance through the Taylor County Chamber Of Commerce.

**Contact:** For more information, call 850-584-5366.

**Directions:** 1 mile south of Perry on US 19 - South Alternate 27.

(A1A), for 16 miles until you come to the intersection of 8th Street and Atlantic Avenue. Turn right on Atlantic Avenue and go about two miles, Fort Clinch State Park will be on the left.

### **FIRST WEEKEND UNION GARRISONS**

#### **Fort Clinch State Park**

**Date: April 7 & 8, 2007. Saturday 9:00am – 5:00pm and Sunday 9:00am – 12:00pm.**

**Description:** Living historians recreate life at Fort Clinch during the War Between the States. Activities may include black powder artillery demonstrations and marching drills, as well as soldiers and civilians taking up duty in the laundry, infirmary and kitchen. Candlelight viewings on Saturday evenings every First Weekend.

**Fees:** Park entrance fee plus \$2.00 per person Fort admission.

**Contact:** For more information, call 904-277-7274.

**Directions:** Take I-95 to the Fernandina Beach/Callahan exit (Milepost Exit 373 - Old Exit 129), and stay to the right. You will then be traveling east on A1A. (This road becomes 8th Street within the town limits of Fernandina.) Stay on this

road, (A1A), for 16 miles until you come to the intersection of 8th Street and Atlantic Avenue. Turn right on Atlantic Avenue and go about two miles, Fort Clinch State Park will be on the left

### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

#### **Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, April 7th, 2007. 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

**Description:** Donation of \$5.00 for children includes admission to park; adults receive a 33% discount on park admission) The Friends will be holding an Easter Egg Hunt for area children. Activities include an Easter Egg hunt for plastic Easter Eggs, which can then be redeemed for goodies, trinkets and savings bonds. Parents can have their children's photos taken with the Easter Bunny (costumed character).

**Fees:** \$5.00 donation.

**Contact:** For more information, call 352-628-5343.

**Directions:** Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park is located in Homosassa Springs, 75 miles north of Tampa on U.S. 19 and 90 miles northwest of Orlando.

### **KIDS FISHING DERBY & 'FISHING HAS NO BOUNDARIES'**

#### **Oscar Scherer State Park**

**Date:** April 7th - 8:00 AM

**Description:** Sponsored by the Venice Kiwanis in conjunction with the Friends of Osacar Scherer Park, Inc.

We have combined these two events for one great day of Fishing and Friendship. Please check back for more event information.

**Fees:**

**Contact:** Call the park at: 941-483-5956

**Directions:** Oscar Scherer State Park is located on U.S. 41, six miles south of Sarasota. Heading south on I-75 take exit 200. Heading north on I-75 take exit 195.

### **EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE**

#### **Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park**

**Date:** Sunday, April 8, 2007. 6:45 a.m.

**Description:** Celebrate Easter with gospel choirs, soloists and clergy from the local community who gather together for a beautiful sunrise service.

**Fees:** There is no admission fee.

**Contact:** For more information, call 386-397-7005.

**Directions:** Located on U.S. 41 in White Springs. **From I-75 to S.R. 136** (Milepost Exit 439 - Old Exit 84), travel east on S.R. 136 for 3 miles. Turn left on U.S. 41. Park entrance is on the left. **From I-10 to U.S. 41 North** (Milepost Exit 301 - Old Exit 43), travel 9 miles to White Springs. Park entrance is on the left.

### **EASTER BUFFET**

#### **Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park**

**Date:** Sunday, April 8 from 11:30am – 2pm

**Description:** Make your Easter Celebration even more special. Experience our

sumptuous holiday buffet lunch, then stroll the grounds or enjoy a relaxing cruise on the beautiful Wakulla River

**Fees:** Reservations required. Call (850) 224-5950 for reservations & prices.

**Contact:** (850) 224-5950

**Directions:** Traveling East on I-10 to new Exit 196 (old Exit 28). Take SR-263 (Capitol Circle) South 12 miles. Turn right (South) onto US-319/SR-61 (Crawfordville Hwy) for 2 miles. Bear left onto SR-61 (Wakulla Springs Rd) for 6 miles. Turn left onto SR-267 at flashing stop light. Turn Right into Park entrance. From West I-10 use new Exit 203 (old Exit 30). Take SR-61 (Thomasville Rd) South. Continue on SR-61 thru Tallahassee for 10 miles. Take US-319/SR-61 (Crawfordville Hwy) South for 2 miles. Bear left onto SR-61 (Wakulla Springs Rd) for 6 miles. Turn left onto SR-267 at flashing stop light. Turn Right into Park entrance.

## **BEACH CLEANUP**

**John D. MacArthur Beach State Park**

**Date: April 14, 8 - 11:00 AM**

**Description:** Show that you care about the marine environment by helping to keep it free of litter. Trash bags will be provided to those who attend. Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful sponsors this event. For more information, visit their website, <http://www.keeppbcbeautiful.org/> or call Art at (561) 624-6952.

**Fees:** Free park admission

**Contact:** (561) 624-6952

**Directions:** John D. MacArthur Beach State Park is located 2.8 miles south of the intersection of U.S.1 and PGA Blvd. on A1A in North Palm Beach.

## **NATURESCAPING 2007**

**John D. MacArthur Beach State Park**

**Date: April 14, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**Description:** The 11th Annual NatureScaping event will take place on April 14, 2007, with free admission all day. It will open at 10:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m., featuring environmentally-themed vendors, excellent speakers, a silent auction, eco-crafts for children, animal exhibits, storytelling, kayak tours, nature walks, native plants for sale, great food and music. As in the past, the event is sponsored by the Palm Beach Post, the Florida Native Plant Society, Audubon Society of the Everglades and the Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park.

If you want to add beauty to your yard and attract butterflies and birds, you will be interested in the 11:30 a.m. talk: "Native Plants for Low Maintenance Gardening," by Dr. George Rogers, Ph.D. Local growers will have a large variety of the finest quality native plants for sale, including many hard-to-find specimens.

In addition, vendors will have exotic instruments, artwork, books, crafts, jewelry and much more for sale. Several, one-year-old kayaks that have been used for tours and rentals here at the Park will be included in the Silent Auction, which will

also feature items donated by area businesses.

Children will enjoy animal exhibits at 11:00 a.m. and 1:15 p.m., which will include native creatures native to Florida. The Eco-Crafts area is always a favorite gathering place for youngsters who enjoy making artwork inspired by nature, face painting and story telling at 10:30 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.

The 2007 Environmental Champion Award will be presented in the Nature Center Amphitheater at 1:00 p.m. This award is presented yearly to one or more individuals who have made exceptional contributions towards the preservation or betterment of the natural environment of Palm Beach County.

**Fees:** Free park admission

**Contact:** (561) 624-6952

**Directions:** John D. MacArthur Beach State Park is located 2.8 miles south of the intersection of U.S.1 and PGA Blvd. on A1A in North Palm Beach

## **FAMILY DISCOVERY DAY - AN EARTH DAY EVENT**

### **Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, April 14th, 2007 - 10:00 AM to 3 PM

**Description:** Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park presents Family Discovery Day - *Promoting Earth Day with activities & exhibits* – The Supporters of Del-Nor Wiggins Park, Inc. and the staff of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park invites the public to celebrate Earth Day at the park on April 14th, 2007. The Park will present environmental exhibits, native wildlife, children's games and activities for all ages. This event will start at 10 AM and end at 3 PM. The park is open seven days a week from 8 AM until sundown, 365 days a year. The park is located just north of Naples on the Gulf of Mexico. Take I-75 to exit 111, go west 5 miles to the park entrance. Should you need assistance to enable your participation, please contact the park office.

**Fees:** The Parks regular entrance fee will be waived and a suggested donation of \$ 4 per vehicle with up to 8 people and a single person in a vehicle will be \$2. Walkers and Bicyclists will be \$1 each.

**Contact:** Park Office: (239) 597-6196.

**Directions:** Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park is located six miles west of Exit exit 111, old 17, on I-75

## **NATURE'S DAY**

### **Rainbow Springs State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, April 14th, 2007. 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

**Description:** Demonstrators with live animals, a bird walk, and lectures on various aspects of wildlife and our freshwater springs will dominate this educational day. Please call for specific lectures. Good for the whole family.

**Fees:** \$1.00 park entrance fee.

**Contact:** For more information, call 352-465-8555.

**Directions:** From I-75, exit at the second Ocala exit onto State Road 40. Take State Road 40, west. Drive until it deadends at U.S. 41. Turn left, the park entrance is on the left-hand side of the road. From Tampa, take U.S. 41, north.

Drive through the town of Dunnellon. The park is located on the right-hand side of the road, approximately 2.5 miles north of Dunnellon. From areas in the northwest, take U.S. 41 to the town of Williston. After passing through Williston, you will come to a traffic light where State Road 40 has come to a deadend. Go through this light; the park entrance is on the left-hand side of the road. The campground is separate from the headsprings day use area and is located 2.5 miles north of C.R. 484 off of S.W. 180th Avenue or 2.5 miles south of Highway 40 off of S.W. 180th Avenue.

## **12TH ANNUAL EARTH DAY CELEBRATION**

### **Bahia Honda State Park**

**Date:** April 14, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Description:** Bahia Honda State Park is having its 12th Annual Earth Day Celebration on April 14, 2007 from 9AM - 2PM. There will be live music. A barbecue with all the fixin's will be prepared by the Big Pine Moose Lodge. Admission to the park is free (come early, parking is limited). Activities will include: free prize drawing for children (over \$1,500 in prizes), face painting, puppet shows, sand sculpture contest and create your own free fish print T-shirt (while supplies last). There will be environmental exhibits and booths, marinelife touch tanks and children's activities. For more information, call the Bahia Honda Sand and Sea Nature Center at (305) 872-9807.

**Fees:** Free park admission.

**Contact:** (305) 872-9807

**Directions:** Bahia Honda is located 12 mile south of Marathon on US1.

## **RUSSIAN EGG DECORATING**

### **Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park**

**Date:** Sunday, April 15, 2007. 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

**Description:**

### **RUSSIAN EGG DECORATING**

*--Art and Traditional Feast Food Celebrate Russian Orthodox Easter--*

The traditional art of Ukrainian or Russian decorated eggs will be taught in a class on April 15 at Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park.

Russian decorated eggs bear elaborate and colorful designs created with a wax-resist dyeing process. Literally, the eggs are "written upon" rather than painted because the designs represent hopes for fertility, good health, and wealth. Traditionally, the elaborately decorated eggs were given away to others with good wishes for the coming year.

The class commemorates the observance of Russian Orthodox Easter and will



include traditional refreshments. Jean Davidoff, an artist whose work also includes pottery and culinary arts, will teach the class and prepare traditional foods for the Easter feast. A round, cylindrical bread customarily baked and eaten at Easter with kielbasa, Russian tea, and the sweet creamy spread known as paska will be served to students in the class.

The class will be held at Nelly Bly's Kitchen and is free with regular park admission of \$4 for a vehicle with up to 8 passengers. There is no additional fee for the refreshments and all class supplies will be provided by the instructor.

**Fees:** Regular park admission of \$4 for a vehicle with up to 8 passengers.

**Contact:** For more information, call 386-397-1920.

**Directions:** Located on U.S. 41 in White Springs. **From I-75 to S.R. 136** (Milepost Exit 439 - Old Exit 84), travel east on S.R. 136 for 3 miles. Turn left on U.S. 41. Park entrance is on the left. **From I-10 to U.S. 41 North** (Milepost Exit 301 - Old Exit 43), travel 9 miles to White Springs. Park entrance is on the left.

## **WAKULLA WILDLIFE FESTIVAL!**

### **Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park**

**Date:** Thursday-Saturday, April 19-21 during normal park hours

**Description:** Celebrate Wakulla County's Natural Beauty! Enjoy a wide variety of premium guided tours (fee involved) throughout Wakulla County over the three day period. Festivities culminate at Wakulla Springs State Park Friday night with a live performance by Sammy Tedder and the opening of Art on the Terrace. On Saturday take part in the many free shows, presentations, tours, and children's activities at the park. For more information, go to [Wakulla Wildlife Festival](#)

**Fees:** Free with park entrance fee

**Contact:** (850) 224-5950

**Directions:** Traveling East on I-10 to new Exit 196 (old Exit 28). Take SR-263 (Capitol Circle) South 12 miles. Turn right (South) onto US-319/SR-61 (Crawfordville Hwy) for 2 miles. Bear left onto SR-61 (Wakulla Springs Rd) for 6 miles. Turn left onto SR-267 at flashing stop light. Turn Right into Park entrance. From West I-10 use new Exit 203 (old Exit 30). Take SR-61 (Thomasville Rd) South. Continue on SR-61 thru Tallahassee for 10 miles. Take US-319/SR-61 (Crawfordville Hwy) South for 2 miles. Bear left onto SR-61 (Wakulla Springs Rd) for 6 miles. Turn left onto SR-267 at flashing stop light. Turn Right into Park entrance.

## **LAKE LOUISA TRIATHLON SERIES**

### **Lake Louisa State Park**

**Date:** April 19, 2007

**Description:** Swim in Lake Louisa, bike and run along Park Drive and trails. Thursday races are held in the evenings. Advanced registration required.

**Fees:** \$25.00 per race

**Contact:** [www.usantc.com](http://www.usantc.com)

**Directions:** Lake Louisa State Park is located on US 27, seven (7) miles south of State Road 50.

## **CELEBRATE EARTH DAY WITH FRIENDS**

### **Caladesi Island State Park**

**Date:** April 21st, 10 AM -5:30 PM

**Description:** Please join us to celebrate Honeymoon and Caladesi Island State Parks and the wonderful resources they provide the community and visitors. This year's Festival will highlight the parks, birds, animals and environment that makes the Island Parks special. There will be great live outdoor entertainment, delicious food and much more for the whole family to enjoy! Highlights of this event will include seafood, fine artists, craft and environmental vendors and a bigger than ever environmental display in Osprey Village! There will also be guided walks, talks and information on our upcoming Nature Center.

**Fees:** Fee for participants.

**Contact:** For more information visit [www.islandparks.org](http://www.islandparks.org)

**Directions:** Caladesi Island is accessible only by boat or ferry.

The ferry service to Caladesi leaves from HISP hourly beginning at 10 AM. Folks can call the ferry service directly 727-734-1501.

**By Boat:** From channel marker #14, just west of the Dunedin Causeway Bridge, take an approximate 212° degree heading on your compass for approximately 1 mile. Follow the channel markers into the Caladesi Island State Park Marina.

### **Driving Directions**

From I-75 (north of Tampa): I-75 south to I-275 south towards Tampa. Follow I-275 south to Hillsborough Ave west (SR-580). Take SR 580 west to SR-586 fork then left. Follow SR-586 into park. From I-75 (south of Tampa): I-75 north to I-4. I-4 to I-275 north. I-275 to Hillsborough Ave west (SR-580). SR-580 west to SR-586 fork then left. Follow SR-586 west into park.

## **4TH ANNUAL SHARK BITE CHALLENGE KAYAK RACE**

### **Caladesi Island State Park**

**Date:** April 21st, 8:30am Registration 9:45am Mandatory Race Meeting 10:00am Race Begins.

**Description:** Formerly the Caladesi Kayak Challenge. 1 personal flotation device per paddler is required. Visit [active.com](http://active.com) to register.

**Fees:** \$20 per paddler if postmarked by 3/25/07 - \$25 per paddler 3/26/07 through race day.

**Contact:** For more information visit [www.islandparks.org](http://www.islandparks.org)

**Directions:** Caladesi Island is accessible only by boat or ferry.

The ferry service to Caladesi leaves from HISP hourly beginning at 10 AM. Folks can call the ferry service directly 727-734-1501.

**By Boat:** From channel marker #14, just west of the Dunedin Causeway Bridge, take an approximate 212° degree heading on your compass for approximately 1 mile. Follow the channel markers into the Caladesi Island State Park Marina.

### **Driving Directions**

From I-75 (north of Tampa): I-75 south to I-275 south towards Tampa. Follow I-



275 south to Hillsborough Ave west (SR-580). Take SR 580 west to SR-586 fork then left. Follow SR-586 into park. From I-75 (south of Tampa): I-75 north to I-4. I-4 to I-275 north. I-275 to Hillsborough Ave west (SR-580). SR-580 west to SR-586 fork then left. Follow SR-586 west into park.

#### **CELEBRATE EARTH DAY WITH FRIENDS**

##### **Honeymoon Island State Park**

**Date:** April 21st, 10 AM -5:30 PM

**Description:** Please join us to celebrate Honeymoon and Caladesi Island State Parks and the wonderful resources they provide the community and visitors. This year's Festival will highlight the parks, birds, animals and environment that makes the Island Parks special. There will be great live outdoor entertainment, delicious food and much more for the whole family to enjoy! Highlights of this event will include seafood, fine artists, craft and environmental vendors and a bigger than ever environmental display in Osprey Village! There will also be guided walks, talks and information on our upcoming Nature Center.

**Fees:** Fee for participants.

**Contact:** For more information visit [www.islandparks.org](http://www.islandparks.org)

**Directions:** Honeymoon Island State Park is located at the extreme west end of S.R.586, north of Dunedin. From I-75 (north of Tampa): I-75 south to I-275 south towards Tampa. Follow I-275 south to Hillsborough Ave west (SR-580). Take SR 580 west to SR-586 fork then left. Follow SR-586 into park. From I-75 (south of Tampa): I-75 north to I-4. I-4 to I-275 north. I-275 to Hillsborough Ave west (SR-580). SR-580 west to SR-586 fork then left. Follow SR-586 west into park.

#### **4TH ANNUAL SHARK BITE CHALLENGE KAYAK RACE**

##### **Honeymoon Island State Park**

**Date:** April 21st, 8:30am Registration 9:45am Mandatory Race Meeting 10:00am Race Begins.

**Description:** Formerly the Caladesi Kayak Challenge. 1 personal flotation device per paddler is required. Visit [active.com](http://active.com) to register.

**Fees:** \$20 per paddler if postmarked by 3/25/07 - \$25 per paddler 3/26/07 through race day.

**Contact:** For more information visit [www.islandparks.org](http://www.islandparks.org)

**Directions:** Honeymoon Island State Park is located at the extreme west end of S.R.586, north of Dunedin. From I-75 (north of Tampa): I-75 south to I-275 south towards Tampa. Follow I-275 south to Hillsborough Ave west (SR-580). Take SR 580 west to SR-586 fork then left. Follow SR-586 into park. From I-75 (south of Tampa): I-75 north to I-4. I-4 to I-275 north. I-275 to Hillsborough Ave west (SR-580). SR-580 west to SR-586 fork then left. Follow SR-586 west into park.

#### **EARTH DAY 2007**

##### **Washington Oaks Gardens State Park**

**Date:** April 21 and 22 2007, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Description:** 17th annual Earth Day Celebration Activities include arts & crafts, living history demonstrations, environmental & cultural booths, live entertainment, nature programs, live animals, a butterfly exhibit, Smokey the

Bear, & a large children's environmental activity center. A variety of food & drink will also be sold by vendors & local organizations. This year we will be featuring a Live Butterfly exhibit. For an additional charge of \$2.00; you may walk through the greenhouse full of plants & view hundreds of live butterflies. A guest speaker from the Butterfly Rainforest in Gainesville giving a 1 hour program on Florida butterflies and Moths. Also new this year will be touch tanks from Whitney Laboratory, where participants will get to touch live sea creatures such as Sea Urchins, Sea Stars, & Crabs. Special programs for kids include a Nature's Painting Wall Exhibit, constructing a bat house, butterfly house, or bird house to take home with them. An interpreter will speak on the importance of bat's, and other native animals to our environment. Smokey Bear will visit with children throughout the day and kid's can participate at the Youth Potting Program and pot up a native butterfly plant to take home. Special Thanks to the Kiwanis for sponsoring our Youth Programs. Live Entertainment will be provided both days including; popular vocalist Tim Rippey. Other types of music include Barbershop, Blues, Bluegrass, and Cultural Music. The Friends will also be hosting their popular plant sale, where you will find an array of exotic and unusual plants, including orchids and seasonal plants. They will also be selling park related merchandise which includes t-shirts, hats, post cards, tote bags & auto tags. Environmental programs include bird walks, garden tours, Live Oak Tree programs, project wet and project learning tree mini workshop, sea turtle and butterfly programs, and History Programs. Environmental Groups & Cultural Clubs will have information booths set up such as, GTMNERR, Division of Forestry, St. Johns Water River Mngt., Audubon Society, & the Human Society will also be here for you to adopt a pet!

**Fees:** \$8.00 per vehicle

**Contact:** Please contact park for more information

**Directions:** Washington Oaks Gardens State Park is located two miles south of Marineland, off A1A.

## **EARTH-DAY SWEETWATER BRANCH TRASH CLEAN-UP**

### **Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, April 21, 2007. 9:00 a.m.

**Description:** Meet at the LaChua Trail entrance, Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, Friends of the Prairie, Alachua County Watershed Action volunteers, Earth Stewardship Conservation Commission, and others will combine forces to clean Sweetwater Branch. This creek flows through downtown Gainesville as it makes its way to the wetlands of Paynes Prairie and ultimately Alachua Sink and the Floridan aquifer. On its course to the Preserve and during stormwater incidents, the creek picks up all sorts of goodies – TRASH! Trash bags, gloves, water, and a healthy dose of adventure will be provided – bring boots or shoes for getting dirty. Long pants and closed-toed shoes are highly recommended. **RSVP is required. For additional details and RSVP contact:** JulieAnne Tabone, Park Services Specialist, JulieAnne.Tabone@dep.state.fl.us

**Fees:** N/A.

**Contact:** For more information, call 352-466-4100.

**Directions:** Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park is located 10 miles south of Gainesville, in Micanopy, on the east side of US 441.

**Coming from the north on I-75:** Take exit 374, the Micanopy exit, and turn

left at the end of the exit ramp. You will then be traveling east on CR 234. Stay on this road 1.4 miles until it intersects with US 441. Turn left onto 441 and go 0.6 miles to Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park (on the right).

**Coming from the south on I-75:** Take exit 374, the Micanopy exit, and turn right at the end of the exit ramp. You will then be traveling east on CR 234. Stay on this road 1.4 miles until it intersects with US 441. Turn left onto 441 and go about 0.6 miles to Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park (on the right).

### **3RD ANNUAL OLD TIMERS DAY**

#### **Troy Spring State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, April 21, 2007. 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

**Description:** Troy Springs State Park would like to welcome back visitors who came to the area before the State Park opened. Bring a lawn chair for comfort, a covered dish to share, and old photos or stories to share about your times at Troy Springs. Enjoy a free day at the park to help us learn more about your experiences at the park in past years.

**Fees:** No fee for participants

**Contact:** For more information, call 386-935-4835.

**Directions:** From Branford go 6 miles on US 27 North. Turn right on CR 425 and go 1.3 miles. Park entrance is on the right. From Mayo take US Highway 27 South approximately 13 miles. Turn left on CR 425 and go 1.3 miles. Park entrance is on the right.

### **CELEBRATE EARTH DAY AT LOVERS KEY STATE PARK**

#### **Lovers Key State Park**

**Date:** Sunday, April 22nd, 2007 10:00AM.

**Description:** *Guided Beach Walk Promotes Environmental Awareness*

Lovers Key State Park invites visitors to participate in a guided beach walk celebrating Earth Day. Join a park naturalist to learn about the wildlife and vegetation that make the estuary and barrier island environments so unique. This one-mile tour through the estuary and along the shore will educate visitors about nesting shorebirds, seashells and marine species, mangrove swamps, and sea turtles.

**Fees:** The cost of the event is included in the regular park entrance fee of \$5.00 per carload from two to eight people, \$3.00 for one person in a car and \$1.00 per pedestrian or bicyclists. Sunday, April 22nd, 2007 10:00AM.

**Contact:** Register for this event by calling (239) 463-4588.

**Directions:** Lovers Key is located at 8700 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach. The park boundaries are Big Carlos Pass and New Pass. We are 10.5 miles west of I75 on exit 116.

### **EARTH DAY CELEBRATION**

#### **The Barnacle Historic State Park**

**Date:** April 22, Park hours: 9 - 4:00 PM

**Special activities:** 11 - 3:30 PM

**Description:** Enjoy this new event on the grounds of this 19th century pioneer home site. Bring a blanket and a picnic lunch and enjoy the day's celebration.

**Fees:** Free with park admission

**Contact:** (305) 442-6866

**Directions:** The Barnacle is located in Coconut Grove (Miami) at 3485 Main Highway.

## **EARTH DAY CELEBRATION**

### **Oscar Scherer State Park**

**Date: April 22nd - 10:00 AM**

**Description:** Join us for an Earth Day Celebration - Juried Photography Exhibit. New This Year!! - People's Choice Award. All photographs must embody the theme "Natural Florida: Its plants, wildlife, and scenery". Deadline for postmarked or hand-delivered submissions is April 9th. Ribbons and prizes will be awarded. Entry forms and guidelines can be requested by: Calling: (941)483-5956 E-mailing: [lynn.crossfield@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:lynn.crossfield@dep.state.fl.us) or by opening the following links:

[Event Flyer](#)

[Entry Form](#)

[Contest Rules](#)

**Fees:** Entry fee is \$3.00 per photograph with no limit.

**Contact:** Call the park at 941-483-5956.

**Directions:** Oscar Scherer State Park is located on U.S.41, six miles south of Sarasota. Heading south on I-75 take exit 200. Heading north on I-75 take exit 195.