



The Clean Scene

Serving Lee County Since 1989!

April 2018 Newsletter

Community News and Upcoming Events

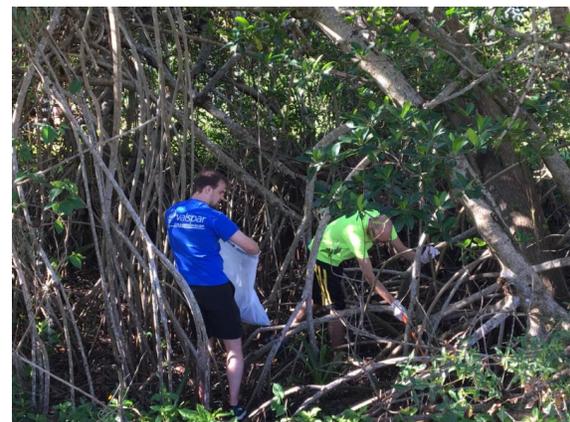
We are "growing" because of you!

2017 was a fantastic year! KLCB volunteers removed 39,020 pounds of litter and debris and planted 13,570 new trees during 115 events in Lee County. After Hurricane Irma, volunteers picked up some unusual items; a mini fridge, inflatable dinghy, suitcase full of framed photos, water cooler, and a port-a-potty just to name a few. They also to planted over 13,500 new mangroves (pictures right) to replace some of the ones lost in the storm.



2018 is off to a great start with volunteers already collecting more than 10,000 pounds of litter and debris just in the first quarter! With 30+ events scheduled in the month of April there is sure to be an event near you.

Please consider joining the more than 3,000 Keep Lee County Beautiful supporters who serve as stewards of this beautiful place we call home. Donating is easy and tax-deductible, simply [click here](#). To sponsor a particular beautification or restoration effort, please call executive director Trish Fancher directly at 239-334-3488 or email trish@KLCB.org.



For more information on our 2017 results please take a moment to view our [2017 Annual Report](#)

Great American Cleanup April 21, 2018 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Join Keep Lee County Beautiful in our county-wide cleanup. This year will be our 20th anniversary holding this event and we could use your participation to make this a tremendous success. We will be hosting over 25 locations

20th Anniversary Great American Cleanup



doing roadside, beach, waterway and park cleanups. Come out and help us make a difference in the community and environment that plays such an integral part of our lives as this is not only where we live and work but also the place we call home.

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit our webpage with additional information and a link to our registration page for this event.

Global Youth Service Day April 21, 2018 8:45 AM to 1:00 PM

Global Youth Service Day is a worldwide event that is celebrated by youths every year in more than 135 countries. Young people work together to help improve their local communities. This year our students ages 12 to 18 will be volunteering at Koreshan State Park in a variety of projects such as tree plantings, building plant boxes and other fun and worthwhile tasks.

Koreshan State Park is where our Lee County youths volunteered last year. They did a painting project, trail trimming, exotic removal, building picnic benches and tables and other projects. At the end of the day the youths had a good sense of accomplishment. Like last year, they will enjoy a free lunch in the afternoon and admission to the park for the day.

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit our webpage with additional information and a link to our registration page for this event.



This event is for youths ages 12 to 18.



Leave The Scene Clean Art Contest Entries Due By: April 23, 2018

The deadline for the "Leave The Scene Clean" calendar art contest is quickly approaching. We urge all of our Lee County students in grades 1-12 to submit an entry into this fun and educational experience. Winners receive prizes and 13 of the winning artwork will be in next years calendar with the overall best picture being selected for the cover. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to show off your artistic abilities.

[CLICK HERE](#) for additional information

Keep America Beautiful Celebrates Its 65th Anniversary!

This year marks the 65th anniversary of Keep America Beautiful. We are proud to be one of more than 600 affiliates of KAB that all strive towards making our local communities a better place to live while also educating the public on how



KEEP AMERICA
BEAUTIFUL

to improve recycling, reduce waste and, protect the environment

President and CEO of Keep America Beautiful Helen Lowman commented at this this years National Conference "As we enter our 65th year, Keep America Beautiful has its eyes on a future in which everyone deserves to live in a clean, green and beautiful community, while sharing a responsibility to contribute to that vision. Today, we turn our attention to 'The Next 65' for our organization -- empowered and inspired by our state and community-based affiliates, millions of volunteers as well as our corporate supporters and other partner organizations. The future of Keep America Beautiful lies in our ability to continually educate and inspire a new generation of community stewards."

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the 2018 National Conference highlights video.

Keep Lee County Beautiful, Inc. has been a nonprofit affiliate of Keep America Beautiful since 1990. These past 28 years we have worked with our Lee County volunteers, partner organizations, and sponsors to continually work towards making our county a beautiful place to live while also educating our community and improving the environment.

Ongoing Programs and Projects

Cigarette Litter Prevention Program

Even though cigarette butts may be a small item of litter they are consistently the most collected item during the majority of all cleanup events. While being harmful to animal and aquatic life, who often mistake them for food, they also release harmful toxins. Each butt contains up to 4,000 different toxins. To make this an even worse item for the environment these butts are not biodegradable as the filters contain plastic which breaks down into pieces of plastic microfibers.

Keep America Beautiful is piloting a test program using an interactive cigarette butt holder made by Hubbub called Hubbub's Ballot Bin Receptacle. Currently in use at five KAB affiliate locations, one of them being Keep Manatee Beautiful in Manatee County, Florida. The ballot question is designed to be changed weekly to encourage smokers to continue "casting their vote" for the current topic. So far the results have shown around a 50% reduction in cigarette butts being thrown on the ground where these are placed. Here at Keep Lee County Beautiful we are hoping to be implementing some of these at high volume smoking areas in the near future. We will keep you informed.



[CLICK HERE](#) - for additional information

Event Updates

Fort Myers Beach Wave Challenge March 24, 2018

Keep Lee County Beautiful would like to thank Fear No Fin Apparel and the Lani Kai Resort for hosting the second annual Fort Myers Spring



Break Wave Challenge. They brought together hundreds of participants to create an enormous wave stretching up and down the shoreline.

This was done to bring awareness to water quality and water conservation, both extremely important topics here in Lee County and throughout Florida. The challenge portion of the event was to get other spring break destinations such as "Daytona, Fort Lauderdale, Gulf Shores, South Beach, etc." to have Fear No Fin come to their beach to promote "The Wave" and see if they can make a longer wave than we did here in Fort Myers. It would also help to spread the importance of water quality and conservation while everyone has a good time.

Flint Pen Cleanup March 22, 2018

The CREW Land & Water Trust in partnership with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the South Florida Water Management District held the second cleanup of the year at the Flint Pen Strand.

Volunteers did an amazing job collecting all sorts of trash and debris that has been illegally dumped at the Flint Pen Strand over the past few years. By the time they were done 650 tires had been removed and a 30 yard dumpster filled with carpet, tile, toilets and other assorted debris. These volunteers truly made a difference that will have a positive impact on this area.

Crew Land & Water Trust have been working hard to open a parking lot and trail system later this year. Additional information on the opening will be made available by CREW as the opening gets closer.



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