



# The Clean Scene

Serving Lee County Since 1989!

## February 2018 Newsletter

### Community News and Upcoming Events

#### Flint Pen Strand March 22, 2018 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

The CREW Land & Water Trust will be holding a cleanup event to remove trash and debris from this beautiful natural preserve. Help us restore and protect this portion of Lee County that has been targeted by people doing illegal dumping on this protected property.

If you would like additional information on how you can participate in this effort please contact [MIKE@KLCB.ORG](mailto:MIKE@KLCB.ORG)



#### **KEEP LEE COUNTY BEAUTIFUL, INC.**

#### **20TH ANNIVERSARY**

#### **GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP**

#### 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 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 register for this event.

#### Global Youth Service Day April 21, 2018

**8:00 AM to 12:00 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.



This event is for youths ages 12 to 18.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for this event.



Help us beautify our communities and protect the environment!

### Help Us So We Can Help Our Local Communities

Keep Lee County Beautiful has greatly increased the amount of events and projects which we are involved in over the past year. We are striving to make our county the absolute best it can be. With the damage done by hurricane Irma our goal has only become harder to attain which has made us even more resolute to reach it.

On April 21, 2018 we have two events taking place. The Great American Cleanup and Global Youth Service Day. Between these two events we will be at approximately 30 locations with hundreds of volunteers all working to help us improve our community and the environment. For both events we will be giving our volunteers custom t-shirts which will have our sponsors name or logo printed on the back. We expect to be distributing 750 to 1,000 of these custom t-shirts. For our company sponsors we also place their logos on banners and they are included in media posts leading up to the event. There are various levels of sponsorship ranging from this one event date to being a year long sponsor of multiple events.

To be included on our t-shirts and banners for the April 21st events we need to have a confirmed commitment of sponsorship by 3/17/18. If you have any questions regarding the levels of sponsorship please contact [mike@klcb.org](mailto:mike@klcb.org) or call 239-334-3488.

Please visit our webpage listing the sponsorship opportunities that are available.

[CLICK HERE](#)

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## Ongoing Programs and Projects

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**Adopt A Shore**

This program covers all of the waterways and shorelines in Lee County. The objective is to not only clean our shorelines but to also change the public's attitudes and behavior towards littering. This is attained when people see groups cleaning the shorelines and they recognize the effort it takes to maintain them. It has also been shown that a clean location is less likely to be polluted than one that is already covered with litter. Keeping our shorelines litter free will go a long way towards changing bad habits and also improving our environment.

[CLICK HERE](#) - for additional information



Any civic or service group, organization, business or corporation willing to assume the responsibility for a specified area of shoreline is eligible.

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## Event Updates

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### Flint Pen Cleanup January 25, 2018

On this cool morning in January all 42 of us who had shown up to volunteer at the Flint Strand Pen did not realize just how much trash and debris we were going to uncover. Time after time we came across locations where someone had obviously come onto the property unlawfully and dumped large amounts of items.

This is protected property that is managed by CREW Land & Water Trust. One good thing we had going for us is that CREW was there managing this cleanup and they knew the area very well. They work very hard to maintain this area and are fighting an uphill battle to get the entire area into pristine shape. This area is vitally important to our local environment so anything we can do to help get trash removed needs to be done.

During the cleanup over 100 tires were gathered and a roll off dumpster was completely filled. We could have continued gathering but the dumpster was full! On March 22, 2018 there will be another cleanup effort to remove more of this trash that has been illegally dumped.



### Koreshan State Park Painting & Restoration Project January 6, 2018

Keep Lee County Beautiful would like to thank The Urban Land Institute for their participation in the painting of a historical building at the Koreshan State Park. This building was in much need of repair and paint and the ULI did a wonderful job getting this done.

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## Orange River Cleanup December 8, 2017

Hurricane Irma deposited a large amount of debris into our rivers here in Lee County. One that did receive a good amount of trash was the Orange River. This river becomes the home of many manatees during the winter so it is imperative that we get it cleaned up. We did a cleanup using kayaks, one 20' powered flat bottom boat, and thankfully we had a large pontoon boat which was used as our floating barge to transport our trash to as we gathered it.



We have to give a huge thank you to John Cookman and his crew from Manatee & Eco River Tours for running their tour boat as our floating trash barge. Without their assistance we would not have been able to gather a 10th of what we did. By the end of the day we collected over 450 pounds of litter from the Orange River.

If you look closely at this picture you will see that the orange kayak has a tire sitting at the front of his kayak that he collected. The gray kayak has a stringer that is being used to drag pieces of Styrofoam. Thank you to Lehr's Economy Tackle for donating these stringers. I would also like to thank Sweetwater Landing Marina for providing the dumpsters for all the debris we collected.

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