

The Loxahatchee River meanders through our community like a gentle, quiet common thread. It serves as a refuge for both young and old, fisherman, boater, biologist. It offers a safe habitat for wildlife, as well as a living memento of Florida's natural beauty.

The Loxahatchee River is one of only two nationally designated "Wild & Scenic" rivers in Florida, and it was Florida's first river to receive this prestigious title. This May marks the 25th anniversary of that designation, as well as one of the most significant milestones in our community's environmental heritage.

The Loxahatchee River invites the community to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the "Wild & Scenic" designation. This prestigious title, garnered by political leaders and their constituents so many years ago, has enabled the river to receive special state and federal funds toward its preservation. This designation also has created a special treasure -- a backyard treasure -- for our community and the generations who will follow.

In tandem with this historic event, and for the last 38 years, the Loxahatchee River District continues to protect and preserve the Loxahatchee River. As one of the leading environmental managers of the river, the District's guardianship has included environmental management, river research and environmental education.

In order to preserve the river and address the challenges of a growing community, we've developed an award-winning regional wastewater management program, and created an innovative water recycling program. The WildPine Lab conducts environmental research on the river, and this data is shared with other agencies and used to better manage the river. The River Center and Busch Wildlife Sanctuary provide free environmental education programs and special activities to further promote stewardship of the Loxahatchee River.

As you enjoy the beginning of a new year, we encourage you to learn more about the Loxahatchee River and join us as we celebrate this anniversary.

For more information about the River's 25th Anniversary celebration, its history and the Loxahatchee River District, please visit www.loxahatcheeriver.org.