

Loxahatchee River Celebrates 25th Anniversary of Wild & Scenic Designation

Saturday, May 15 was officially deemed "Loxahatchee River Day," including proclamations by the State of Florida, Palm Beach County, Martin County, the Town of Jupiter, the Loxahatchee River District and the Village of Tequesta.

Local environmental leaders, managers, politicians and supporters gathered along the banks of the Loxahatchee River at Jonathan Dickinson State Park to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the river's national "Wild & Scenic" designation.

The Loxahatchee River was the first river in Florida to receive this national designation, and remains one of only two National Wild & Scenic rivers in the state.

Special guests included U.S. Congressman Tom J. Rooney, Florida Representative Carl J. Domino, and Florida Representative William D. Snyder.

The Loxahatchee River

The Loxahatchee River meanders through our community like a gentle, quiet common thread. It serves as a refuge for both young and old, anglers, boaters, and naturalists. 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 National "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 39 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.

For more information about the river, educational activities, special events, and volunteer opportunities, please visit www.loxahatcheeriver.org.

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