



FLORIDA State Parks *...the Real Florida*



Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Naples, FL

VOLUNTEER NEWS – September 2012

Stormy weather.....Thank you to **Joe Gagnier** and **Ben Koonce** for coming in on Tuesday morning 7am after we were closed for Hurricane Isaac, to help put the park back together. This took hours of physical work and this additional help made the task easier for everyone!

Thank you to **New York Pizza and Pasta Sports Bar and Lounge**, located in Riverchase Plaza for donating pizza to staff and volunteers who worked tirelessly preparing the park for the storm. You must try this place! Authentic and Delicious!

Welcome new volunteer, **Al Stavole**. Al brings a wealth of experience to the park including being a master gardener as well as knowledge of maintaining and repairing golf carts! He has already put two carts back on the road, transplanted a Jamaican Caper tree at the ranger station and started several new plants in our nursery from the seeds. We are grateful to have Al here every Monday!

Our Post Holiday Cleanup on Tuesday Sept 4th went very well thanks to the volunteer services of **Deborah** and **Wayne Martin, Jean Fischer, James Bowles, Delane & Ben Koonce, Patricia Linhoff, Joe Gagnier, Gerry Sugarman, Jim DePalo (FGCU), Ashley Petreseu (FGCU), Keani Aabel (PRHS/Edison)**. Your help was appreciated!

THIS SATURDAY!

Coastal Cleanup September 15

8:00 AM—11:00 AM

Volunteers Needed:

If you would like to help

with the beach cleanup or assist with at out table giving

out supplies and collecting the tally cards, please contact Donna

Young at 239-597-6196 or email donna.young@dep.state.fl.us

Keep in mind that if you own a kayak or boat, consider launching from the park to cleanup the mangroves and shoreline areas that cannot be reached on foot.



National Public Lands Day

September 29th is National Public Lands

Day. Thousands of volunteers around the nation will build trails and bridges, pull invasive plants, plant trees, remove trash and have fun getting back to nature. **We have specific outdoor projects for groups who would like to participate in Public Lands Day here at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park. 8am-2pm** Contact Donna Young, Park Service Assistant to sign up.



September Interpretive Programs

Friday September 14th: **Native Plant Walk** – Ranger

Wednesday September 19th: **Beachcombing** by Volunteer, Brian Settle

Friday September 21st: **Castnetting** – Ranger

Wednesday September 26th: **Beachcombing** by Volunteer, Brian Settle

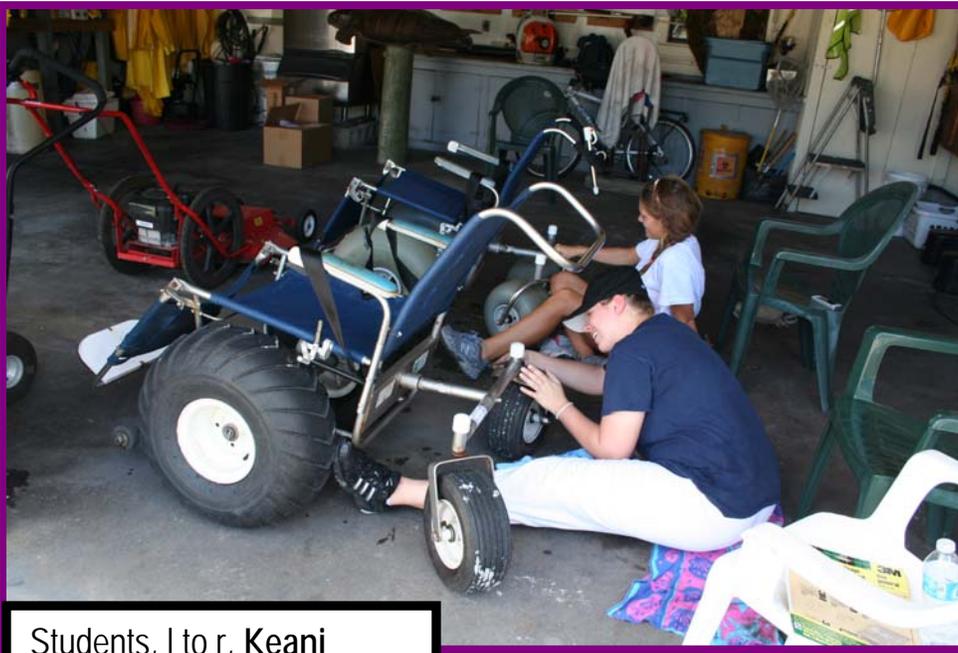
Friday September 28th: **Mammals** – Ranger



We welcome and encourage volunteers to learn and give our interpretive programs! Please contact Donna Young for more information.



EDISON STATE
COLLEGE



Students, l to r, Keani Aabel who is dual enrolled at Palmetto Ridge HS and Edison State College, and Ashley Petrescu of FGCU clean, sand and polish our ADA Beach Wheelchairs to keep them it top shape for our visitors.



Meanwhile.....



.....Rangers **Alyssa Rothstein** and new Ranger, **Mike Odum** make improvements to the storage area for the wheel chairs to keep them clean, dry and available for our visitors.



Farewell and best wishes to Ranger **Bruce Nichols** from the Park staff and volunteers. Bruce is pursuing another line of work much closer to his home. Below; Bruce in a professional photo shoot as he re-enacts Joe Wiggins who operated a small apiary and trading post in the area in the 1880's. We will miss you!



Welcome new Ranger, **Michael Wood** who comes to us from the State Park system in Georgia. We welcome Michael and his family to the Sunshine State!





SAVE THE DATES.....



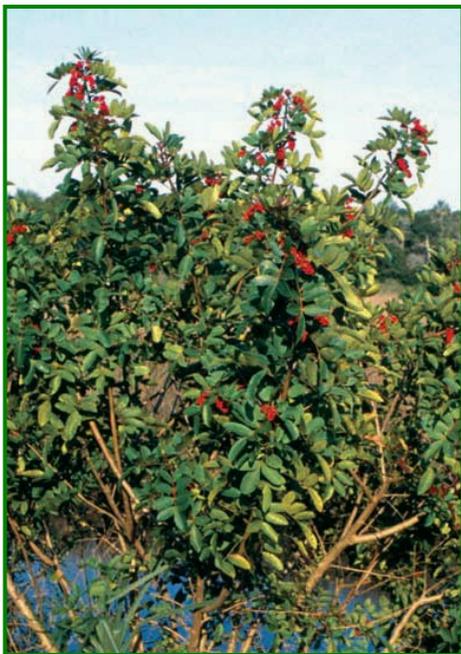
October 8, 2012 at 10:00 AM is the next scheduled CSO meeting which will be held in the CSO room. Special guest speaker!!

Strangers in Paradise....Invasive and Exotic Plant work day....

October 17, Delnor-Wiggins State Park, 9am-2pm. The main species we will be targeting that day will be Brazilian Pepper and Wedelia 9am – 2pm

- Recommended dress: long sleeve shirts, work gloves (for pulling), protective eyewear, long pants, closed shoes, hat, etc.
- Pack lunch, bring re-fillable water bottle, sunscreen.

Please contact donna.young@dep.state.fl.us to sign up



Brazilian Pepper



Wedelia

Saturday, October 20, 2012 from 3pm and 9 pm, kids will be having a wildly good time celebrating Halloween in a safe environment during Boo at the Zoo. We will have a



table so that we can share information about the park and our wonderful Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Group (as well as give out tons of candy!). Volunteers are needed for a minimum of 2 hour shifts. Please contact Donna Young, donna.young@dep.state.fl.us to register.



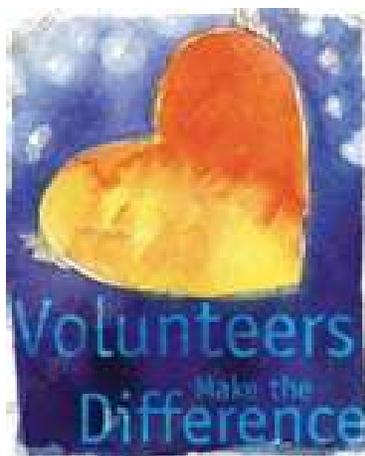
The Great Outdoor Adventure Day will take place:

Saturday December 8th, 2012
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
at

Lovers Key State Park
8700 Estero Boulevard
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931



Contact Donna Young if you would like to volunteer at our table. This is a great event!





*Please visit
The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins
on Facebook and "LIKE" us!*



Donna Young

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To be removed from this email list please email donna.young@dep.state.fl.us