



# SPRING NEWSLETTER

## SERV PROGRAM

### SOCIAL MEDIA & LINKS

#### FACEBOOK

Photos & Events!

#### TWITTER

Announcements & Trivia!

#### LINKEDIN

Join our network!

#### INSTAGRAM

Photo of the Day!

#### SNAPCHAT

Instant updates from events!

### IN THIS EDITION:

**SPRING EVENTS & EARTH MONTH**  
Read about exciting lake restoration opportunities, and “Earth Month” events!

**ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES**  
Read about our ongoing opportunities to protect the environment and make a difference in the community.

**NEW FERTILIZER ORDINANCE**  
Read about the ordinance details, and check out the fertilizer calculator and other useful resources.

**FEATURED VOLUNTEER**  
Read about our “Inspiring Volunteer” of the season!



Thank you to all of our new followers and visitors! You are the best!

### PHOTOS FROM THE WINTER



Invasive Species Raid



Wayside Park Clean-Up

### SPRING EVENTS



### LAKE HOWELL RESTORATION

Saturday, April 1st, 9 am - noon: Seminole County Watershed Management Division & the SERV Program invite you to help us plant shoreline vegetation to improve ecosystem function, habitat, and water quality! Kick-off: 1100 E. Semoran Blvd., Casselberry. Sign-up online <http://bit.ly/2kWrSba>, email [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov), or call 407-665-2457.

### LAKE TUSKAWILLA RESTORATION

Saturday, April 8th, 9 am - noon: Seminole County Watershed Management Division & the SERV Program invite you to help us plant shoreline vegetation to improve ecosystem function, habitat, and water quality! Kick-off: 4928 Tuskabay Ct., Winter Springs. Sign-up online <http://bit.ly/2lwbTwJ>, email [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov), or call 407-665-2457.



### SWEETWATER LAKES RESTORATION

Saturday, May 6th, 9 am - noon: Seminole County Watershed Management Division & the SERV Program invite you to help us plant shoreline vegetation to improve ecosystem function, habitat, and water quality! Kick-off: 830 Cove Park Place, Longwood. Sign-up online <http://bit.ly/2jOQRcu>, email [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov), or call 407-665-2457.

### EARTH MONTH EVENTS



### EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

April 22nd, 10am - 2pm, at Lake Lotus Park: this free, family-friendly event includes face painting, live animal displays, fishing instruction, educational booths & exhibitors, and much more! For more information visit <http://www.altamonte.org/>, or contact 407-571-8857. Park address: 1153 Lake Lotus Park Rd., Altamonte Springs.

### LAKE LOTUS INVASIVE REMOVAL

April 22nd, 9 am - 11 am, at Lake Lotus Park: Join the SERV Program in removing plant species from the park that threaten biodiversity. This fun activity will complement the Earth Day event, and you can stay for the festivities afterward! Sign-up online <http://bit.ly/LLRemoval> or contact Elizabeth Stephens (407-665-2457; [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov)) for more information.



### EARTH FEST

April 29th, noon - 8pm, at Concord Park: this will be a full day of environmentally friendly activities. Visit the educational booths, and enjoy the live music, food, environmentally friendly vendors, workshops, and free-tree giveaways. For more information, click [HERE](#). Park address: 95 Triplet Lake Dr., Casselberry.



### ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES



### ADOPT-A-ROAD / RIVER

Help protect our water resources and reduce pollution by joining our Adopt-A-Road and River Programs. Adopt your own section of road or river in Seminole County and schedule clean-ups at your convenience (roads: minimum 4/year, river: 2/year). Contact Elizabeth Stephens (407-665-2457; [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov)) for more information.

### ADOPT-A-PARK

The Adopt-A-Park Program facilitates the monitoring, clean-up and enhancement of parks, natural lands, trails, and trailheads maintained in Seminole County. For more information and to join this great program, contact Seminole County Leisure Services at 407-665-2001.



### ADOPT-A-SHELTER

This Program is an opportunity for any non-profit, faith-based, or private organization to demonstrate community involvement and support for the County's emergency shelters and citizens in a disaster. The American Red Cross and the Office of Emergency Management will provide free training for all volunteers wanting to assist in a shelter. For more information, click [HERE](#) or contact 407-665-5102.



### ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES



### FYN / FFL CLASSES

A Florida-Friendly Landscape is a quality landscape that is designed, installed and maintained according to the nine Florida-Friendly Landscaping Principles. It means using low-maintenance plants and environmentally sustainable practices. Learn more about how to make your landscape Florida-Friendly, and much more!  
<http://Seminole-extension.eventbrite.com>

### LAKEWATCH

Do you live on a lake? If so, consider joining LAKEWATCH! This citizen volunteer lake monitoring program facilitates “hands-on” participation in the management of FL lakes, rivers, & coastal sites through monthly monitoring activities. For more information, please visit <http://lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu/>, or contact Elizabeth Stephens ([serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov); 407-665-2457).



### ALGAE SURVEYS

The DEP Wekiva Aquatic Preserve staff are looking for volunteers to go out on the river to help collect and clean algae samples. This opportunity should be a lot of fun! Please contact Amanda Swisher with questions about the opportunity ([answisher@crimson.ua.edu](mailto:answisher@crimson.ua.edu)), or call 407-330-6727.



### CLASSES & WINTER FEATURE



#### FERTILIZER ORDINANCE

Stormwater runoff is a major source of pollution flowing into our natural waterbodies. Seminole County Board of County Commissioners approved a "NEW" Fertilizer Ordinance, effective February 28, 2017, that regulates fertilizers containing nitrogen and/or phosphorous and provides specific management guidelines for fertilizer application in order to minimize negative impacts to our natural waterbodies.

##### KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

\* June 1 - September 30:

Fertilizers with nitrogen and/or phosphorus are not permitted ("summer blends" with iron / micronutrients may be used)

\* October 1 - May 31:

Fertilizers with nitrogen may be used if nitrogen is at least 50% or more "slow release". Fertilizers with phosphorus may only be used if soil is deficient in phosphorus.

\* No fertilizer may be applied within 15 feet of a waterbody.

##### RESOURCES:

Fertilizer Ordinance Website  
Fertilizer Calculator



#### INSPIRING VOLUNTEERS

##### THOMAS WALCZYK

##### SERV HISTORY

Tom (on left above) started volunteering in 2016, and stepped up to be a site captain soon after that!

##### HIS STORY

"I moved to the Orlando area in 1981, and like many others can remember driving past fields with cows grazing on them where now there is little but housing developments and strip malls. Although I have no formal background in the environmental sciences, I've always been interested in environmental affairs. After recently retiring, I saw a notice about the monthly field trips conducted by the Seminole chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. Through them, I became aware of SERV and the opportunities the program provides. Such activities, while involving a certain amount of effort, are quite frankly fun. The work is beneficial, a constant hands-on learning experience, and a great way to meet many friendly, dedicated professionals and volunteers."

##### BACKGROUND

Tom earned his B.S. in History/Political Science from Fordham University, and his M.S. in Instructional Technology from UCF.