



# WINTER NEWSLETTER

## SERV PROGRAM

### SOCIAL MEDIA & LINKS

#### FACEBOOK

Photos & Events!

#### TWITTER

Announcements & Trivia!

#### LINKEDIN

Join our network!

#### INSTAGRAM \*New!\*

Photo of the Day!

#### SNAPCHAT \*New!\*

Instant updates from events!

### IN THIS EDITION:

**WINTER EVENTS**  
Join us for our exciting winter opportunities that are coming up soon!

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

**WINTER CLASSES**  
Learn something new at a Florida Friendly Landscaping / Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Class!

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



SERV is now on Instagram and Snapchat! Visit us using the links above.

### PHOTOS FROM THE FALL



Buttonwood Pond



Myrtle Lake

### WINTER EVENTS



### INVASIVE SPECIES RAID!

Join Seminole County Natural Lands & the SERV Program in this CISMA (Central Florida Invasive Species Management Area) event on Saturday, Jan. 21st, 9 - 11am! We will be removing invasive plants from multiple locations. To sign-up, email [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov), call 407-665-2457, or click one of the following links: Spring Hammock Preserve, Casselberry Greenway Trailhead, Wekiwa Springs State Park.

### TOUCH-A-TRUCK

In recognition of the State of Florida's Severe Weather Awareness Week, the Office of Emergency Management will host the annual "Touch-a-Truck" Public Safety Day on Saturday, Jan. 28th from 9am-1pm at the Sanford Riverfront. This FREE event will be great for families and kids! For more information, click [HERE](#), or contact Marie Lackey ([mlackey@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:mlackey@seminolecountyfl.gov); 407-665-2424).



### SAVE THE DATES!

Join Seminole County Watershed Management Division biologists and the SERV Program in helping to restore our valuable waterways by planting beneficial native plants. We will be working on Saturdays between the end of March and beginning of June (each event: 9am-noon). For more information, email [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov); call 407-665-2457.

### ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES



### STORMDRAIN MARKING

With sixteen drainage basins in the county, and thousands of stormdrains to mark, we need your help! The goal of this county-wide project is to educate everyone that stormdrain systems carry not only water, but also anything else (excess nutrients, trash, and other waste) that runs off into the streets, and ends up in our lakes and rivers. Contact Elizabeth Stephens (407-665-2457; [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov)) for more information.

### ROAD & WATERWAY CLEAN-UPS

Help protect wildlife, water quality, and beautify the community by joining us for a roadway or waterway clean-up! These activities are great for a 1 day event; volunteers can spend a few hours collecting litter and immediately see the fruits of their labor! Contact Elizabeth Stephens (407-665-2457; [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov)) for more information.

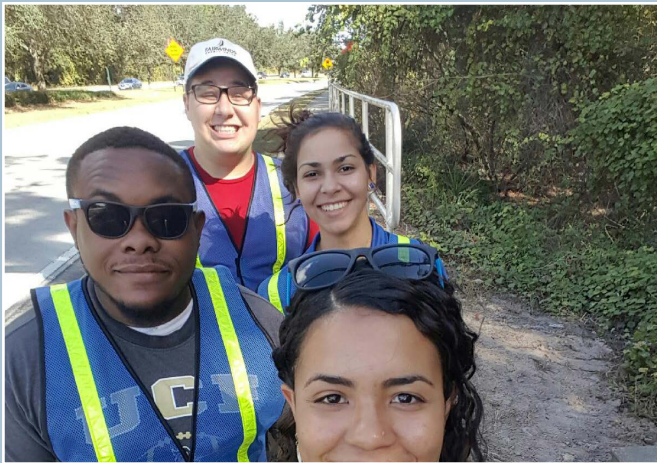


### INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL

Invasive species are a serious threat to our waterways and natural areas because they harm native plants and animals, and decrease water quality. We work to remove them in order to protect our precious natural resources. Invasive species removal activities, usually along shorelines or in the water, are great for group-tailored events! Contact Elizabeth Stephens (407-665-2457; [serv@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:serv@seminolecountyfl.gov)) for more information.



### 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.



### WILDLIFE SURVEYS

This is a great opportunity to enjoy the Wekiva Wild and Scenic River and tributaries! Enjoy a boat ride or canoe while you help protect this river and its wildlife with your data collection! For more information, please contact Virginia Oros, the FDEP River Ambassador (407-330-6727; [Virginia.Oros@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:Virginia.Oros@dep.state.fl.us)).



### CLASSES & WINTER FEATURE



#### FYN / FFL CLASSES

##### PREP FOR SPRING

Saturday, Jan 21, 2017, 9:30 – 11:30 am,  
Extension Auditorium, 250 County Home  
Rd, Sanford. [https://prep-for-spring.  
eventbrite.com](https://prep-for-spring.eventbrite.com)

##### LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Wednesday, Jan 25, 6:30 am – 8:30 pm,  
Extension Auditorium, 250 County Home  
Rd, Sanford. [https://landscapedesign-  
seminole.eventbrite.com](https://landscapedesign-seminole.eventbrite.com)

##### LANDSCAPING FOR SHADE

Wednesday, Feb 8, 6:30 – 8:30 pm,  
Extension Auditorium, 250 County Home  
Rd, Sanford. [https://landscaping-for-shade.  
eventbrite.com](https://landscaping-for-shade.eventbrite.com)

##### GETTING TO KNOW INVASIVE SPECIES

Wednesday, Mar 1, 6:30 – 8:30 pm,  
Extension Auditorium, 250 County Home  
Rd, Sanford. [https://know-invasive-species.  
eventbrite.com](https://know-invasive-species.eventbrite.com)

##### LANDSCAPING W/ POTTED PLANTS

Saturday, Mar 11, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm,  
Extension Auditorium, 250 County Home  
Rd, Sanford. [https://landscape-potted-  
plants.eventbrite.com](https://landscape-potted-plants.eventbrite.com)



#### INSPIRING VOLUNTEERS

##### STEPHEN NAIVAR

###### SERV HISTORY

SERV volunteer & site captain since the beginning of the program in 2010 (and with Watershed Action Volunteers, WAV, before that!).

###### HIS STORY

"I decided to start volunteering with (WAV) SERV when I was kayaking and saw a man sampling the water. I became a water tester, invasive plant remover, and a stormdrain marker. I enjoy attending SERV events for many reasons. I always meet interesting people, with varied experience & interests. It's a great way to learn. You are working alongside biologists, so it's a fantastic opportunity to ask questions & find out what experiences biologists have! To give back is beneficial in many ways, and just feels good. A little sunshine & time spent outdoors is a good thing."

###### BACKGROUND

Stephen earned his B.S. in Zoology from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, and taught science, before moving to FL. He is interested in returning to the science field and pursuing an environmental career.