



Grass Roots Newsletter



Remembering Buddy Powell

Our hearts are heavy to learn of the passing of Crystal River's own Buddy Powell. Buddy spent his life advocating for manatees as well as sea turtles, whales and a variety of marine life.

Buddy once remarked "What's good for manatees is good for everything else," highlighting the vital role these mammals play and the importance of the ecosystems they embody.

RIP Buddy, and thank you for the tremendous impact you had on Crystal River.

You can visit Buddy's manatee pictured here at Hunter Springs Kayaks & Tours, located at 36 NE 4th Street.



Success!

- 850+ Spring Vents Opened
- 105+ of 171 Permitted Acres Cleaned
- 590K+ Eelgrass Plants, Hand Planted
- 680M+ lbs Lyngbya & Detrital Material Removed
- 99% Phosphorous & 50% Nitrogen Removed Through Specialized Filtration

How Can You Play
an Important Part?

[Donate Today!](#)



We're back with another edition of our newsletter, packed with the latest project updates, how you can get in on the action, and other cool stuff. Keep Reading!

Like and Share!



Continuing Conservation & Stewardship in Scallop Season

The 2025 Crystal River scallop season runs from July 1st to September 24th. This 3 month season offers ample opportunity for scalloping in the Crystal River area. Continuing to adhere to established conservation and stewardship guidelines is strongly recommended.

- **Respect marine life:** Avoid disturbing manatees, sea turtles, and other marine life.
- **Responsible shell disposal:** Do not discard scallop shells in inshore waters or rivers; dispose of them in a trash receptacle or in larger bodies of water where they can disperse. Piles of discarded scallop shells can create hazards for swimmers and damage seagrass habitat.
- **Release small scallops:** While not legally required, it's recommended to release scallops smaller than 1.5 - 2 inches (about the size of a golf ball) to allow them to mature and reproduce.
- **Avoid overharvesting:** Stick to the bag limits and only harvest what you plan to eat.

By following these guidelines, recreational scallopers can enjoy this activity while contributing to the long term health of Florida's valuable bay scallop population and the marine environment.



It's super easy to "Do Good With Chipotle! Bring this flier with you or show it on your e-device to effect a donation by Chipotle of 25% of your sale to Save Crystal River!

Weds. September 3rd
4 - 8 PM

*mark
your
calendar*



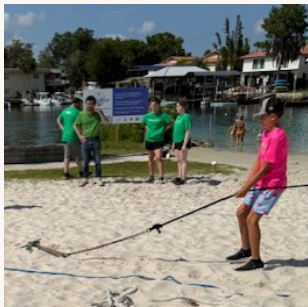


Community Strong



Save Crystal River's mission to engage, educate, and empower our residents and youth to be stewards of the environment is the focus of the hard work of our all-volunteer board of directors who work tirelessly to ensure the success of our mission. Whether through shoreline cleanups, public forums, or classroom initiatives, these restorative efforts galvanize a shared sense of responsibility and pride in the places we call home. That's why we've expanded our outreach to local schools—hosting field trips, sponsoring hands-on seagrass labs, and providing educational materials that spark lifelong curiosity and care for our waterways.

These are shared values of community supporters like Publix who graciously gave their time and talents as volunteers at Save Crystal River's educational Annual Planting Day project. Save Crystal River believes that today's students are tomorrow's environmental leaders.



The Publix volunteer team members were everywhere on Planting Day! They were eager and efficient in stepping up to the plate with multiple stations like the anchor pull, the science exhibit, and the recycling info table, in addition to serving up their delectable lunch of hot dogs, chips and beverages. We are particularly inspired by the support of Publix - a testament to vision, community spirit, and relentless advocacy.



It serves as a reminder that consistent, grassroots efforts can lead to extraordinary results when we work together. We are very appreciative of the support of volunteers, (in their signature green shirts in these photos), who participated in our Annual Planting Day this year, which was one of the most successful yet—and a launchpad for even greater achievements like this in the years to come. We look forward to working with Publix and their valued volunteers again on this, and other future Save Crystal River projects and programs.



Publix Volunteers are in the green shirts - thanks guys!