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FRIENDS OF FLORIDA STATE PARKS

Parks Cannot Run Without Volunteers by Eric Draper, Florida State Park Director

"Parks cannot run without volunteers." I've heard this repeated so many times by park managers, volunteer coordinators and rangers. The new leadership at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and the Division of Recreation and Parks take this statement to heart and are looking at how to improve support for volunteers as we refocus on the mission of the Florida Park Service.

Read more [here](#).



Money Doesn't Grow on Trees - Right?

Well, actually, in a way it does. Last year over 32 million people visited Florida State Parks adding \$3 billion in direct economic impact to the state's economy.

Over the last few weeks, FPSP board members have been to Tallahassee visiting the offices of influential legislators and every senator and representative has been sent a letter pointing out the enormous economic benefit state parks have in their respective districts.

Read more [here](#).



Visit Florida's Tourism Day in Tallahassee

On January 17, FPSP took part in Visit Florida's Tourism Day in Tallahassee and, despite the frigid temperatures, hosted a booth at the traditional street party that night attended by the Governor and many members of the legislature. It was a great opportunity to meet them and extol the benefits of our award-winning park system.



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