



### A Notable Win-Win for Florida and Its Fabulous Parks by Don Philpott, Executive Director, CNE

Friends of Florida State Parks (FFSP) launched its largest ever legislative effort this year in support of environmental funding and we can all be very proud of the results:

With the full backing of the Florida Park Service and leadership of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, FFSP visited legislators in Tallahassee, took part in legislative educational events in the capital and produced a number of documents setting out the arguments for supporting the DEP's 2018 budget request and other environmental needs.

Read more [here](#).



### Kissimmee Prairie and St. George Island State Parks Officially Designated as "Dark Sky Parks" by Paula Russo, President

It is difficult to find a location in Florida that is removed from urban and suburban light pollution, but, thankfully, great star gazing is still possible in two of Florida's state parks.

In 2016, [Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park](#) was recognized as Florida's first Dark Sky Park by the [International Dark Sky Association](#).

Read more [here](#).



### Florida Park Service Celebrates New Campground at Colt Creek State Park in Polk County

Lakeland, Fla. - Today the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Service joined local officials for a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new campground facility at [Colt Creek State Park](#).

The new facilities include 28 campsites and one bathroom. The camping facilities include three accessible RV sites, four tents and two additional tent sites with mobility features.

Read more [here](#).

