



Landmarks

Spring/Summer 2018

PROTECTING THE LAND THAT PROTECTS THE LAGOONSM

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Membership Open-House a Success

Supporters and friends of the Indian River Land Trust were able to explore the Lagoon Greenway. This property is a great example of a public-private partnership with the Land Trust, Indian River County and Florida Inland Navigation District. It is conveniently located at the corner of 8th street and Indian River Boulevard. The property boasts 187 acres of an ecologically diverse three-mile trail system for hiking, jogging or bike riding.

Everyone was encouraged to enjoy the property's wonderful views of the Lagoon from the boardwalk either on foot or with bikes provided through the generosity of Orchid Island Bikes and Kayaks.

At the main tent, breakfast treats were served while attendees enjoyed the great music of the band, Low Key, and learned more about the Land Trust's most recent accomplishments. Thanks to Fidelity Investments for sponsoring the event!



First Living Shoreline is Installed

The Ocean Research and Conservation Association (ORCA) and the Indian River Land Trust received a \$100,000 Impact 100 grant in 2017 for a Living Shorelines project. In an effort to improve the health of the Indian River Lagoon, the two organizations have partnered to transform eroded waterfront sections of the Lagoon into stabilized habitats for plants and animals that, in turn, improve our Lagoon's water quality.

A section of shoreline along the Land Trust's Toni Robinson Waterfront Trail was the first to receive attention. IRLT and ORCA staff and 30 volunteers installed 400 bags of rock and shell into the shallow waters to create living reefs. Wetland plants, grown by both grade school and high school students, were planted to further stabilize the surrounding area.

The newly established Living Shoreline will be monitored by both ORCA and Land Trust staff, and it is hoped the revitalized shoreline will breathe new life into the Lagoon.



Ladies of the Lagoon Explore the Estuary

The Ladies of the Lagoon embarked on the pontoon boat the River Explorer. Enjoying brunch treats provided by founding member Kathleen Schulke and Schacht Groves, the Ladies had an opportunity to learn first-hand how the dollars they have raised have made a difference in our Lagoon.

The Ladies of the Lagoon are a group of women who are determined to Save the Lagoon – the cradle of the Ocean, by taking an active role in encouraging innovative science in understanding and improving interconnectivity between the land and the Lagoon.

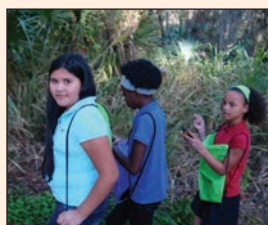
Membership is annual, and open to all ladies as either founding or general members. Call 772-794-0701 and join today!



Collage
photographed
and created
by member
Phoebe Larson

Wednesdays in Nature: A Partnership with Gifford Youth Achievement

The Land Trust is proud to host the children from Gifford Youth Achievement Center on half-day Wednesdays. This is the fourth year the children have been enjoying activities along the Indian River Lagoon courtesy of the Land Trust. This year we had Busch Wildlife Sanctuary share some of the extraordinary animals they have rescued. The children, ages 8 to 14, also hunted for treasure with the Geo-Caching Club of Indian River County, were encouraged to run and play along the trails of the Lagoon Greenway and explored the Lagoon with nets in the ponds at the Environmental Learning Center.





Third Annual Gator Gallop, More than a 5k

The Land Trust hosted the third Gator Gallop, the only trail run in Vero Beach. Runners and walkers came from points both north and south to enjoy the 5k on natural trails among the oaks and mangroves at the Lagoon Greenway.



Many thanks to our Sponsors:

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If you are interested in volunteering, there are many opportunities both in the office and on the land. Look on our Website or Contact us 772.794.0701.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

NOVEMBER 8

**Land Water Wildlife
at Rock City Gardens**



*For details or to sponsor
the event contact*

**Ann Taylor 772-794-0701
or ataylor@irlt.org**



Make a Tax Free Gift!

Did you know you can make a gift to the Land Trust from your IRA? Starting at age 70 ½ you are required to take distributions from your IRA. This gift is tax free as long as you transfer the money directly to the Land Trust. You can talk to your IRA administrator, or call Ann at 772-794-0701 to learn more about how you can help Protect the Land that Protects the Lagoon!

Special thanks to:

-  **Adventure Kayaking**
-  **Complete Cleaning**
-  **Clements Pest Control**
-  **Orchid Island
Bikes & Kayaks**
-  **Schacht Groves**



Indian River Land Trust

80 Royal Palm Pointe, Suite 301
Vero Beach, FL 32960

Phone: 772.794.0701
Fax: 772.794.0795

Info@IRLT.org
www.IRLT.org