



Friends of Sarasota County Parks, Inc.

Become a Volunteer Today!

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Chapters Earn with Pavers

Your Chapter can earn when someone buys a Siesta Beach Paver

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Volunteer Today!



There are so many ways to volunteer.

The skill sets of Sarasotans

are amazingly deep and varied, and the curiosity of our residents -- young, older and in-between -- is endless.

Why not give it a try? On the County's [Volunteer Page](#), you'll see many existing [opportunities](#) to choose from - some that are "Done in a Day," others that can be ongoing tasks.

Even better, bring your own creativity. Do you know a little something about owls, or mushrooms, or growing veggies? How

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about the history of parks? Fishing?
Stormclouds? Fitness? Create your own
volunteer opportunity!

▶ TAKE ACTION

Fill out an [application](#) online, then
Email [Vickie](#) or [Brenda](#), the coordinators
who'll work with you to be a successful
contributor, keeping our parks and
community active, stimulating, and always
new.



New Initiatives

*Expanded ballfields . . . drinking fountains
along the Legacy Trail . . . more RV parks .
. . . those are a few of the many suggestions
offered by those at the Friends' All
Chapters meeting on June 25th. The
County is seeking the public's input on
priorities for our parks and facilities, and
its "Master Plan" survey is open until July
5th. [Take the survey online here](#) and help
shape the future of Sarasota's public
spaces.*

More suggestions at the meeting included
*kayak storage . . . fishing ponds for kids ...
How about open wifi in parks?*



All Chapters Attendees

Folks also heard about the Friends' grant writing initiative that would spearhead the effort to install shade structures in athletic fields countywide. The Friends is formally committed to becoming a self-supporting nonprofit by developing earned income plans.

"Unbelievably Successful"

That's how Friends' fundraiser Carol Kranitz described the first three weeks of the Friends' [Siesta Beach Paver](#) program. In that brief time 60 pavers have been ordered - the orders are coming from all over the US, she says.

Chapters who get the word out about the Pavers can benefit, Carol added. If a purchaser mentions that a particular Chapter was responsible for her or his purchase of a Paver, a portion of the proceeds can go to the referrer.

Among the messages received that will be found on a Paver: a **marriage proposal**.

Click the image to learn more . . .



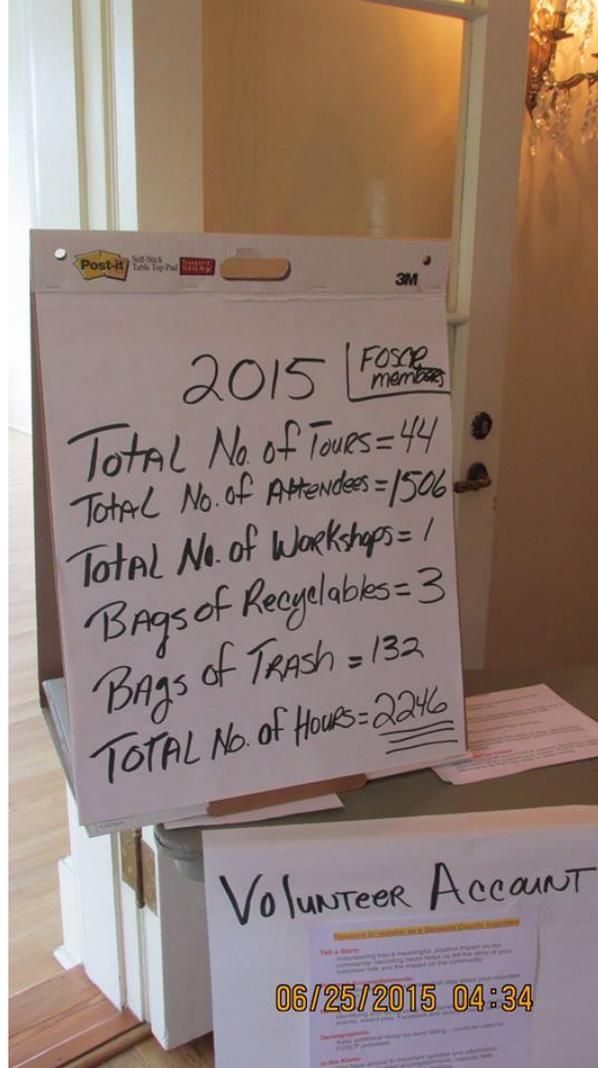
Reaching and Teaching

The Friends currently has some [40 chapters](#) ranging variously in size and mission. Some, like the Friends of the [Carlton Reserve](#), have one location; others, like the [Paw Parks](#), are countywide.

When you hear, as we did at the All Chapters meeting, that one Chapter - The [Englewood Farmers Market](#) - had 130,000 visitors last season, you begin to get a sense of the scale of the public reach of the Friends of Sarasota County Parks.

And where some have that direct encounter with the public, others like [Culverhouse Community Garden](#) are experimenting with growing [techniques](#) and developing methodological [resources](#) available for free on their websites.

The variety, public contact and opportunity for a fun niche in the many Chapter activities of the Friends are plentiful. Why not volunteer and see for yourself? Or, if you're passionate about a park or recreational activity that's not among the current Chapters, you can always [start your own](#).



A few FOSCP stats Jan-May

Liberty Litter CleanUp: A poem

After the Fourth

After all the bombs bursting in air,

On our beaches the litter'll be there.

Come out to the shores

And join in our chores

On the Fifth - all will know that you care!



LIBERTY LITTER CLEANUP

Sunday, July 5
7-9 a.m.

**Keep Sarasota County Beautiful
and volunteer to cleanup after
the July 4 festivities.**

LIBERTY LITTER CLEANUP LOCATIONS:

- Lido Beach
- Ted Sperling Park
- Nokomis Beach
- North Jetty Park
- Siesta Beach
- Blind Pass Beach

Please register early; space is limited.

For more information, or to register for the event,
call (941) 861-5000
or visit www.scgov.net/kscb



Sarasota County prohibits discrimination in all services, programs or activities. View the complete policy at www.scgov.net/ADA.

A Safe, Happy 4th (and conscientious 5th)
to all the Friends of Sarasota County Parks.

Tom M.