

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Recreation and Parks**

**Ruth B. Kirby Gilchrist Blue Springs State Park  
Public Hearings  
October 23 and 24, 2019**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this meeting is to receive public input on proposed improvements and facilities at Ruth B. Kirby Gilchrist Blue Springs State Park.

**Background**

Gilchrist Blue Springs is Florida's 175<sup>th</sup> State Park. This 402-acre addition to the Florida Park Service contains six natural springs and includes over one mile of frontage along the Santa Fe River. This park namesake spring, known as Gilchrist Blue, is a large second magnitude spring that discharges an average of 44 million gallons of water per day through a spectacular spring run about one-quarter mile to the Santa Fe River.

**Improvements**

The following developments/improvements are proposed for the management plan:

- Redesign and redevelopment of the main day use area, including a new bathhouse, picnic pavilions and improved parking.
- Hiking trail development
- New canoe/kayak launch
- New boardwalk
- New 30-Site Family Campground
- New park entrance drive and ranger station
- New support facilities including a shop and staff residences

**Public Input**

Thank you for taking the time to share your comments with us. Please provide any comments you have on the [back of this page](#) no later than **November 7, 2019**.

You may also provide your comments by calling (850) 245-3051, sending an email with the park name in the subject line to [FL\\_StateParkPlanning@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:FL_StateParkPlanning@dep.state.fl.us), or by regular mail at the address below.

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**PLEASE COMPLETE COMMENT FORM ON REVERSE**

