



**Florida Department of Environmental Protection
CITIZEN SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
2022 LEGISLATIVE REPORT
(pursuant to Section 20.058 Florida Statutes)**

Citizen Support Organization (CSO) Name: Friends of DeLeon Springs State Park

Mailing Address: 601 Ponce DeLeon Blvd.; DeLeon Springs, FL 32130

Telephone Number: 386-985-4212

Website Address (*required if applicable*): None

Check to confirm your Code of Ethics is posted conspicuously on your website.

Statutory Authority:

Section 20.2551, F.S., Citizen support organizations; use of property; audit; public records; partnerships. In summary, the statute specifies the organizational requirements, operational parameters, duties of a CSO to support the Department of Environmental Protection (Department), or individual units of the Department, use of Department property, audit requirements, public records requirements, and authorizes public-private partnerships to enhance lands managed by the Department.

Section 258.015, F.S., Citizen support organizations; use of property; audit. In summary, the statute defines a CSO, requires authorization by the Division of Recreation and Parks, and specifies the use of property. This statute authorizes the Partnerships in Parks (PIP) program for state parks, the program's operational parameters, CSO's operational parameters, and donor recognition.

YOUR MISSION AND LAST CALENDAR YEAR'S PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

CSO's Mission: (Consistent with your Articles and Bylaws)

Our mission is to provide support for the development and operation of the park, including the Visitor Center; to provide educational programs and interpretations; to promote special events; to hold fund-raising events; and to complete other special projects needed for the park.

Describe Last Calendar Year's Results Obtained: Brag! (List or discuss the past calendar year's accomplishments and contributions. Cite specific support from last calendar year's Annual Program Plan.)

We did not sponsor our usual annual events. but assisted when asked for various tasks around park. Funded supplied items and staffed Heritage nursery. We supplied plants to enhance entrance at the office. We supplied equipment either purchased or rental when needed. We went to various community-based gatherings promoting volunteerism in the park.

Describe the CSO's Plans for the Next Three Calendar Years:

Rebuild our membership roster.

Recover and repair our reputation, by holding well-planned and well-executed events.

Re-establish and ambitiously pursue corporate sponsorships.

Create a logo for the CSO.

Build a CSO website based on the one that lapsed several years ago.

Obtain signage to promote events, meetings, and other activities.

Focus on our own park on Facebook.

Establish a presence on Instagram and Next Door.

Foster relationships with other service groups, local tourism organizations, and local leaders.

Involve more people, especially members, in volunteer work in the park.

Continue our successful relationship with the Heritage Plant Nursery, and foster a partnership with the DeLeon Springs Garden Club members who volunteer at the nursery.

Build a relationship with DeLeon Springs Community Association, and partner in events and projects.

Organize a system to regularly recognize volunteers for their dedication and hard work in our park.

Host a cane-pole fishing tournament for kids.

Celebrate the 40th anniversary of becoming a state park with an evening of fun activities and history presentations.

Begin organizing kayak tours in the spring run and surrounding area.

Hold events suited for later in the day, when visitor numbers are low, such as campfires, sunset paddles, movie nights, etc.

Plan more events for winter season, when park visitor numbers are low.

Organize regularly scheduled guided hikes, park tours, and other activities that highlight the features of the park.

Establish a Friends of DeLeon Springs State Park Junior Board of Directors, inviting local high school juniors and seniors to become involved in our park while learning about the workings of a professional board.

Start Manatee Mornings, a group of swimmers who swim the springs on winter mornings.

Hold a kayak race around our spring run and Spring Garden Lake.

CSO's LAST CALENDAR YEAR STATISTICS:

Total Number of CSO General Membership: 10

Total Number of Board of Directors: 5

Total Volunteer Hours for the Board of Directors 750 (Hours from VSys - Work with your parks' volunteer manager):

PARK & CSO RELATIONSHIP:

Do not duplicate by describing accomplishments and contributions in the summary. Brag in the above Results Obtained. Below, describe the relationship.

Park Manager's Comments on the CSO & Park Relationship and Support:

Provide your perspective on

- Changing developments of the park provided by the CSO.
- Effectiveness of the organization in fulfilling their purpose to support the park(s).
- Effectiveness of the Board of Directors in completing their Annual Program Plan.
- The relationship between the park and CSO. What went well? Are there areas of improvement?

Since becoming Park Manager at DeLeon Springs in March of 2022, I have been working closely with the new CSO President, Sharon Pinder, and the board of the CSO, to assist in preparing for the activities and events put on by the organization. 2021 was another difficult year, and there were no CSO events. New officers have been elected for 2022, and I see this as an opportunity to rebuild and restructure CSO activities to better support the park and its mission. With a new slate of officers, I look forward to working with them toward successfully fulfilling the purpose of the CSO at De Leon Springs State Park.

CSO President's Comments on the CSO & Park Relationship and Support:

Provide your perspective on the relationship between the park and CSO. What went well? Are there areas of improvement?

With the help of Park Manager Rene Acuña, I believe we can increase membership and make improvements in our CSO. Rene is easy to work with, and consistently supports the CSO. Our former manager, Ken Torres, initiated discussions with several people and convinced them to fill officer positions that are vacant, or held by those who are no longer able to serve. In doing so, Ken set us up for success, growth, and positive change. I am looking forward to working with Rene to achieve our goals.

SUMMARIZE FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR LAST CALENDAR YEAR, DIRECT PARK(S) SUPPORT & REVENUES:

Program Service Expenses are costs related to providing your organization's programs or services in accordance with your mission. Describe and provide expenses that directly support the park(s). For established nonprofit organizations, program service expenses generally represent most of the overall expenses of the organization. For the last calendar year provide description and total \$ for each that apply.

Building improvement, construction, or renovations	\$ 0
Cultural resources (e.g., historic structure restoration/ renovation)	\$ 0
Natural resources (e.g., native plants, natural lands restoration)	\$ 0
Maintenance equipment (e.g., mowers, chippers, blowers, chainsaws)	\$ 338.00
Other facilities and landscape maintenance	\$ 0
Vehicles (e.g., trucks/cars, UTVs, golf carts, accessible devices, etc.)	\$ 0
Amenities (e.g., water fountains, benches, picnic tables, recreational equipment, kiosks etc.)	\$ 0
Park employees or volunteers support (e.g., interns, training, uniforms, awards, or recognition)	\$ 0
Big ticket visitor center exhibits or interpretation updates	\$ 0
Park exhibits, displays, signage	\$ 0
Park publications, brochures, maps, etc.	\$ 675.00
Programing/interpretation support material purchases	\$ 0
Other program services	\$ 0
Total Program Service Expenses	\$ 1013.00

Visitor Services Revenue

Describe revenues and the sources generated from fundraising on park property.

Park gift shops, craft stores, and concession sales	\$ 0
Merchandise sales (e.g., plants, firewood, ice, t-shirts, hats, etc.)	\$ 2704.00
Programs and Special Events (e.g., fundraising workshops, seasonal events, concerts, etc.)	\$ 0
Vending (e.g., drink machines, penny press, laundry, Wifi, etc.)	\$ 213.75
Rentals (e.g., bikes, canoe, kayak, SUPs, etc.)	\$ 0
In-park donation boxes	\$ 1178.68
Other visitor services revenue	\$ 0
Total Visitor Services Revenue	\$ 4096.43

NET ASSETS: \$ 8156.00

Organizations end of last year's Total Liabilities minus Total Assets. This is not the above's Visitor Service Revenue minus Program Service Expenses.

CSO AUDIT THRESHOLD:

Last Calendar Year's Total Expenses (including grants) \$ 1404.20

Are the CSO's annual total expenses \$300,000 including grants? Then Section 215.981(2), Florida Statute requires an independent CPA audit using Government Audit Standards ([U.S. GAO Yellow Book](#)). The audit is **due by September 1** (9

months after the CSO's calendar year ends) to the Florida Auditor General and to the Department.

This information is complete to the best of my knowledge pursuant to Section 20.058 Florida Statutes			
Title	Name	Signature	Date
CSO President	Sharon Pinder	<i>Sharon Pinder</i>	05/25/2022
Park Manager	Rene I Acuna	<i>Rene Acuna</i>	05/27/2022

- CSO's Code of Ethics is attached
- CSO has attached the most recent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N receipt. All IRS Form 990's must be *complete* with Part III Program Service and *all* appropriate Schedules (A, O and others as appropriate). If filing an IRS extension, attach the IRS 8868 receipt and the most recent complete 990 and schedules.

FRIENDS OF DELEON SPRINGS STATE PARK, INC

CODE OF ETHICS

PREAMBLE

It is essential to the proper conduct and operation of FRIENDS OF DELEON SPRINGS STATE PARK, INC

- (1) (herein "CSO") that its board members, officers, and employees be independent and impartial and that their position not be used for private gain. Therefore, the Florida Legislature in Section 112.3251, Florida Statute (Fla. Stat.), requires that the law protect against any conflict of interest and establish standards for the conduct of CSO board members, officers, and employees in situations where conflicts may exist.

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state that no CSO board member, officer, or employee shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or incur any obligation of any nature which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties for the CSO. To implement this policy and strengthen the faith and confidence of the people in Citizen Support Organizations, there is enacted a code of ethics setting forth standards of conduct required of FRIENDS OF DELEON SPRINGS STATE PARK, INC

- (2) board members, officers, and employees in the performance of their official duties.

STANDARDS

The following standards of conduct are enumerated in Chapter 112, Fla. Stat., and are required by Section 112.3251, Fla. Stat., to be observed by CSO board members, officers, and employees.

1. Prohibition of Solicitation or Acceptance of Gifts

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall solicit or accept anything of value to the recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the CSO board member, officer, or employee would be influenced thereby.

2. Prohibition of Accepting Compensation Given to Influence a Vote

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall accept any compensation, payment, or thing of value when the person knows, or, with reasonable care, should know that it was given to influence a vote or other action in which the CSO board member, officer, or employee was expected to participate in his or her official capacity.

3. Salary and Expenses

No CSO board member or officer shall be prohibited from voting on a matter affecting his or her salary, expenses, or other compensation as a CSO board member or officer, as provided by law.

FRIENDS OF DELEON SPRINGS STATE PARK, INC
CODE OF ETHICS

4. Prohibition of Misuse of Position

A CSO board member, officer, or employee shall not corruptly use or attempt to use one's official position or any property or resource which may be within one's trust, or perform official duties, to secure a special privilege, benefit, or exemption.

5. Prohibition of Misuse of Privileged Information

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall disclose or use information not available to members of the general public and gained by reason of one's official position for one's own personal gain or benefit or for the personal gain or benefit of any other person or business entity.

6. Post-Office/Employment Restrictions

A person who has been elected to any CSO board or office or who is employed by a CSO may not personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the governing body of the CSO of which he or she was a board member, officer, or employee for a period of two years after he or she vacates that office or employment position.

7. Prohibition of Employees Holding Office

No person may be, at one time, both a CSO employee and a CSO board member at the same time.

8. Requirements to Abstain From Voting

A CSO board member or officer shall not vote in official capacity upon any measure which would affect his or her special private gain or loss, or which he or she knows would affect the special gain or any principal by whom the board member or officer is retained. When abstaining, the CSO board member or officer, prior to the vote being taken, shall make every reasonable effort to disclose the nature of his or her interest as a public record in a memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes. If it is not possible for the CSO board member or officer to file a memorandum before the vote, the memorandum must be filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting no later than 15 days after the vote.

9. Failure to Observe CSO Code of Ethics

Failure of a CSO board member, officer, or employee to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the removal of that person from their position. Further, failure of the CSO to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection terminating its Agreement with the CSO.

> **Tax Year 2021 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)**

Tax Period:

2021 (01/01/2021 - 12/31/2021)

EIN:

58-1959138

Legal Name (Doing Business as):

Friends Of Deleon Springs State Park Inc

Mailing Address:

601 ponce deleon blvd
deleon springs, FL 32130
United States

Principal Officer's Name and Address:

Karen K Clark

1855 GRAND AVE DELAND 32720
deleon springs, FL 32130
United States

Gross receipts not greater than:

\$50,000

Organization has terminated:

No

Website URL: