



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

**CITIZEN SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
2018 REPORT
(pursuant to Florida Statute 20.058)**

Citizen Support Organization (CSO) Name: The Friends of Fort Cooper, Inc.
Mailing Address: 3100 S. Old Floral City RD. Inverness, FL 34450
Telephone Number: 352-726-0315 Website Address (if applicable): ww.thefriendsoffortcooper.com

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.

Brief Description of the CSO's Mission:

The Friends of organized to operate exclusively as a support group for Fort Cooper State Park. The Friends will work to increase public awareness about the park and its local heritage and will provide volunteer service for the advancement of park programs.

The Friends will assist the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection with the preservation and conservation of park property including structures, grounds, recreational facilities and Lake Holathlikaha.

Brief Description of the CSO's Results Obtained:

CSO members volunteer approximately 2,000 hours each year to support park maintenance projects. These projects included: repairing the Fort Site Trail; disking fire lines; fence line replacement and repairs; removing dead trees throughout the park; purchasing lumber to repair front fence and gate. The CSO also purchased and donated equipment and supplies to the park. CSO sponsored special events include Fort Cooper Days, Living History Days, Night of Lights and the Bluegrass Festival.

Brief Description of the CSO's Plans for Next Three Fiscal Years:

The CSO will continue supporting Fort Cooper State Park through its volunteer maintenance program, special events, fundraising, donations of supplies and equipment and park programs to increase public awareness of Fort Cooper State Park and its local heritage. With direction from the park manager, the CSO will help in the preservation and conservation of park property including structures, grounds, recreational facilities and Lake Holathlikaha.

- Copy of the CSO's Code of Ethics attached** (*Model provided; see CSO 2014 instructions*)
- Certify the CSO has completed and provided to the Department the organization's most recent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N/Annual Financial Statement**

The Friends of Fort Cooper, Inc.
CODE OF ETHICS

PREAMBLE

(1) It is essential to the proper conduct and operation of The Friends of Fort Cooper, Inc. (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.

(2) 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 The Friends of Fort Cooper, Inc. 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.

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.

Adopted at The Friends of Fort Cooper board meeting July 22, 2014

[Home](#) > [Tax Exempt Organization Search](#) > [The Friends Of Fort Cooper Inc](#)

[< Back to Search Results](#)

The Friends Of Fort Cooper Inc

EIN: 59-2978381 | Inverness, FL, United States

Publication 78 Data

Organizations eligible to receive tax-deductible charitable contributions. Users may rely on this list in determining deductibility of their contributions.

On Publication 78 Data List: Yes

Deductibility Code: PC

Form 990-N (e-Postcard)

Organizations who have filed a 990-N (e-Postcard) annual electronic notice. Most small organizations that receive less than \$50,000 fall into this category.

> Tax Year 2017 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)

Tax Period:

2017 (01/01/2017 - 12/31/2017)

EIN:

59-2978381

Legal Name (Doing Business as):

The Friends Of Fort Cooper Inc

Mailing Address:

3100 S Old Floral City Rd
Inverness, FL 34450
United States

Principal Officer's Name and Address:

Ken Koch

10037 E Newport Ln
Inverness, FL 34450
United States

Gross receipts not greater than:

\$50,000

Organization has terminated:

No

Website URL:

www.FriendsofFortCooper.com

> **Tax Year 2016 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)**

> **Tax Year 2015 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)**

> **Tax Year 2014 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)**

> **Tax Year 2013 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)**

> **Tax Year 2012 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)**

> **Tax Year 2011 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)**

> **Tax Year 2010 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)**

Page Last Reviewed or Updated: 18-May-2018

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Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

2017

Open to Public Inspection

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990EZ for instructions and the latest information.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2017 calendar year, or tax year beginning January 1, 2017, and ending December 31, 20 18

B Check if applicable:

- Address change
- Name change
- Initial return
- Final return/terminated
- Amended return
- Application pending

C Name of organization

Friends of Fort Cooper, Inc

Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address)

3100 S. Old Floral City Rd

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code

Inverness, FL, USA 34450-6913

D Employer identification number

59-2978381

E Telephone number

352-726-0315

F Group Exemption

Number ▶

G Accounting Method: Cash Accrual Other (specify) ▶

H Check if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

I Website: ▶ www.FriendsofFortCooper.com

J Tax-exempt status (check only one) — 501(c)(3) 501(c) () ◀ (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

K Form of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. ▶ \$

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

		Revenue		Expenses		Net Assets	
1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	2,639				
2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2					
3	Membership dues and assessments	3	195				
4	Investment income	4	62				
5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a					
b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b					
c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c					
6	Gaming and fundraising events						
a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a					
b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ <u>2,639</u> of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	13,336				
c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	10,103				
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	3,233				
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	801				
b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b	2,000				
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	-1,199				
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8					
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8 ▶	9	4,930				
10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10					
11	Benefits paid to or for members	11					
12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12					
13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13					
14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14					
15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	345				
16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	8,328				
17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16 ▶	17	8,673				
18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	-4,930				
19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	30,571				
20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20					
21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20 ▶	21	26,828				

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

Table with columns for question number, question text, and Yes/No response boxes. Questions include: 33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? 34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? 35a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities? 35b If "Yes" to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? 35c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? 36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? 37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions 37b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year? 38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return? 38b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved 39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter: 39a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 39b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities 40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911; section 4912; section 4955 40b Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? 40c Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 40d Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization 40e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? 41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed 42a The organization's books are in care of 42b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country? 42c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the United States? 43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? 44b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? 44c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year? 44d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? 45a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? 45b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I

	Yes	No
46		✓

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

	Yes	No
47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II		✓
48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		✓
49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?		✓
b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?		✓
50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees, and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."		

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
None				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ▶ _____

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
None		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 ▶ _____

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note:** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A ▶ Yes No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	Signature of officer _____ Lesly Smith, Treasurer Type or print name and title	Date _____
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Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN
	Firm's name ▶	Firm's EIN ▶			
	Firm's address ▶	Phone no.			

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions ▶ Yes No

**SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.
▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2017

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization

Friends of Fort Cooper, Inc

Employer identification number

59-2978381

Part I LN 16 Membership Fee - Friends of Florida State Parks - \$100

LN 16 Membership Fee - Chamber of Commerce - \$180

LN 16 Membership Fee - Floral City Heritage Council - \$50

LN 16 Membership Fee - Citrus County Historical Society - \$30

LN 16 Donations to Bat Belfry's Inc. - \$200

LN 16 Florida Department of Revenue - \$81

LN 16 Cards & Flowers for Volunteers - \$76

LN 16 Office Supplies - \$284

LN 16 Webpage Development - \$441

LN 16 Refreshments for programs, parties, and kitchen supplies not included in direct expenses - \$149

LN 16 Signs not included in direct expenses - \$345

LN 16 Equipment rental/parts/repairs - \$2,006

LN 16 Pay for concrete for pathway repairs - \$2,800

LN 16 Pay for A/C parts - \$176

LN 16 Purchase new washer & dryer/parts - \$554

LN 16 Purchase cypress planks for fence project - \$190

LN 16 Purchase parking area light bulbs - \$107

LN 16 Purchase PA System, microphone & accessories - \$559

Part III LN 29 and Part V LN 35b - Fort Cooper State Park donated six WaterWheeler5 pedal boats for the Friends of Fort Cooper to sell and purchase kayaks which are more suitable for water recreation at the Park. Four were sold in 2017. The Park purchased the pedal boats for \$650 each and were never used. However, four rudders were purchased (\$74) for 4 of the 6 pedal boats. Using a 10% depreciation value, each boat is valued at \$500 which is the fair market value (FMV) today. Four boats were sold for a total of \$875.00.