

Manatee Lagoon's "Wild About Wildlife" Virtual Summer Camp Returns

Manatee Lagoon – An FPL Eco-Discovery Center®, Loggerhead Marineline Center, and Mote Marine Laboratory are offering free week-long virtual camp experiences focused on wildlife and the environment.

Now in its fourth year, the popular "Wild About Wildlife" Virtual Summer Camp program is a collaboration between Manatee Lagoon – An FPL Eco-Discovery Center®, Loggerhead Marineline Center, and Mote Marine Laboratory. The two week-long virtual summer camp sessions will feature half-day morning schedules filled with animal observations, experiments, games, crafts and educational lessons hosted by educators from each organization. Camp sessions will feature a mix of live, prerecorded and do-at-your-own-pace content, focusing on wildlife and

the environment. Although lessons are geared towards children ages six to nine, other ages are welcome to register and participate.

"Our 'Wild About Wildlife' virtual summer camp has gotten rave reviews from children and parents for three years in a row," said Manatee Lagoon's Conservation Liaison and Educator Rachel Shanker. "Loggerhead Marineline Center and Mote Marine Laboratory partner with us to teach camp-goers about the importance of conservation for Florida's wildlife through fun, interactive learning."

"Wild About Wildlife" is free for families and individuals with a voluntary donation option to support the environmental and educational missions of the organizations that make this program possible, including the nonprofit organization Friends of

Manatee Lagoon. Summer camp organizations can also register to access the camp's content for \$50 per week, including login access for one device.

Week-long morning summer camp sessions on June 12-16, 2023, and July 10-14

June 12-16 - World Ocean Week: From birds to sea turtles to manatees and more, campers will go on an exciting mission to explore our world ocean and learn what scientists are doing to protect it.

July 10-14 - Wild About Wildlife Week: Campers will come along on a virtual adventure to hear about the intriguing stories of some amazing animals and learn how they can help conserve wildlife in their own lives.

To learn more or register for the virtual camp, visit online at: www.visitmanateelagoon.com/virtual-summer-camp

PBC Earns National Achievement Awards for Programs and Services

Palm Beach County has received 30 Achievement Awards honoring 16 county departments from the National Association of Counties (NACo). These awards honor innovative, effective county government programs and services, which support residents. Designed and launched in 1970, the program recognizes innovation in county government by judging each program on its own merits and not against other nominated applications.

Eighteen categories make up the NACo Achievement Awards. Categories reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice and public safety, county administration, information technology, health, civic engagement, and more. Palm Beach County's Youth Services won Best in Category in the Children and Youth category for its Enhanced Mentoring Engagement (Level Up) program. Congratulations!

Airports: PBI's Great Airport Adventure with Avelo Airlines

Criminal Justice Commission: Palm Beach Coun-

ty Felony Mobile Probation Unit

Community Services: Homeless Point-in-Time Survey; Housing Counseling Services; Self-Sufficiency Project; Air Conditioning Replacement Program for Low-Income Homeowners; Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP); Employee Wellness: Walktober presented by the Employee Wellness Program

Facilities Development and Operations: Fleet Management Rental Reservation System

Information System Services: Comprehensive Emergency Medical Plan (CEMP) Portal; Enterprise Contract Management System (eCMS); Workforce and Affordable Housing Dashboard; Community Connect Mobile App; Community Services Department Robotic Technology for application processing; Community Services Resources and Referral Portal;

Library System: Adult Literacy Program Reorganization

Office of Financial Management and Budget: Fixed Asset Lifecycle Management System (FATS)

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue: Emergency Prehospital Whole Blood Administration Program

Palm Tran: Launches Additional Paradise Pass Technology and Services, Including Open Payment and Retail Locations

Parks and Recreation: All Abilities Play Inclusion Planning Zoning and Building: Building Compliance and Inspection Tracking System (eField Application)

Public Safety: Animal Care & Control - Field Officer Application; Home Care Giver Management System

Risk Management: Creating and Maintaining a Culture of Safety

Water Utilities: Addressing Water Loss in The Glades; Delivering long-term, safe, reliable, and affordable water and wastewater service to the Glades; Managing Performance, Risks, and Costs Effectively and Efficiently; AMI Meter Replacement and Management System

Youth Services: BEST IN CATEGORY for Children and Youth Enhanced Mentoring Engagement (Level Up).

Visit naco.org to view award details and all recipients.

Free June Events at Okeetchee Nature Center

Live Animal Feeding Presentations: Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 3:30 p.m. Families/all ages, (No reservations required)

Alligator Feeding: Saturdays, 1 p.m. Families/all ages, (No reservations

required)

ONC Visits the Library - Wild Florida Friday: Friday, June 16, 3-4 p.m. Families/all ages. (No reservations required). Join ONC at the Main Library's Florida Friday series where participants will get up close

and personal to some of Florida's native wildlife with Okeetchee's team of naturalists and ambassador animals, including an owl, snake and turtle. Call the Main Library at 561-233-2600 or visit www.pbclibrary.org for more details.



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