

URBAN & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

A.R.M. LOXAHATCHEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE SYSTEM

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service established the Urban Wildlife Conservation Program (UWCP) with the purpose of fostering strong, meaningful partnerships with diverse communities. By working with others, we seek to co-create equitable & accessible programs that connect urban communities to nature and conservation.

Contact us to get involved!

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Partnership Programs

The UWCP aims to support the needs of partners and connect them to nature. We offer various levels of engagement activities to build toward long term collaborative partnerships.

Below are **EXAMPLES** of ongoing partnerships and program highlights.

Ranger Talk Programs

Allow us to come visit you to speak on a topic of interest!

Current programs include (but are not limited to): *Beginner Birding*, *Wetland & Everglades Habitats*, and *Green Careers*.

Field Trips to Loxahatchee

Come visit the refuge! Spend a day at Loxahatchee enjoying guided nature walks and outdoor activities.

Pocket Refuge Program - City of Delray Beach

Through this program we plant native pollinator gardens in public spaces. These areas serve as a refuge for both people and wildlife away from urbanized areas. The planting events support community connectivity through conservation efforts.

Floating Wetlands Program - South Tech Academy

Through this program we partner with local schools to create mini replicas of the Everglades ecosystem. This creates learning and research opportunities for students as they build and monitor their own living laboratory.

Growing Our Urban Earth Force (GoUEF) - FAU Pine Jog

GoUEF allows students from local schools to address community environmental issues. Teens work collaboratively to identify issues, design, and implement projects to address them.

Youth Tree Team - Community Greening

This program employs local teens to work on increasing tree canopy in low-income neighborhoods, while providing practical work skills for students pursuing green careers.

South FL Regional Partnership Specialist - National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA)

This partnership with NWRA allows them to hire a partnership specialist to assist the goals and operations of our refuge's urban program.