

The 30th Annual J W Corbett Clean Up showcased the remarkable impact of community involvement in preserving the J W Corbett Wildlife Management Area. Thanks to the dedication of volunteers and organizations like the Florida Sportsmen's Conservation Association (FSCA), our natural spaces are thriving. This year, FSCA coordinated the cleanup with Earth Day, drawing over 75 enthusiastic volunteers who brought positivity to the task. While some were dismayed by the amount of trash removed by conservationists on April 21st, it's significantly less than what was present 29 years ago.

Initiated by FSCA nearly three decades ago, the cleanup has transformed the landscape through education and the tireless efforts of volunteers. Today, JW Corbett WMA is a clean and inviting environment for outdoor recreation. FSCA expresses gratitude to all volunteers by offering a complimentary lunch for those who contribute by collecting at least one trash bag. This year, the cleanup effort will utilize 20-yard dumpsters, a significant reduction from the four 30-yard dumpsters filled in previous years, which is a testament to the success of education and community involvement.

Acknowledging FSCA President Matt Nelson for his exemplary leadership in coordinating with agencies to secure resources such as dumpsters and permission to utilize swamp buggies out of season is crucial. Special thanks are also due to Tommy McGoldrick, the event chairman, who organized the turnout and personally cooked lunch alongside family and board members. However, the true heroes of this event are the dedicated volunteers whose participation made it a resounding success.

Bishop