

# TROUT LAKE NATURE CENTER



Issue: February, 2025

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## Volunteers Make the Difference

The Lake Sumter State College faculty and staff are coming to TLNC for a day of service on Friday February 7. Each year, staff from this college go to non-profits in Lake and Sumter College to give back to their communities. We appreciate the efforts these volunteers make to help us keep our facilities and habitats in shape.

If other businesses are interested to volunteering at TLNC, contact Eileen Tramontana at 352-357-7536 or email [TLNC.director@gmail.com](mailto:TLNC.director@gmail.com).

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## Support Letters Needed

The Trout Lake Nature Center(TLNC) is once again requesting state funding for Phase 3 of its Education Complex Expansion. Funds are to support the construction of a new building, renovations of the existing Education Building, updated furnishings, and improved exhibits and displays.

As Lake County and Central Florida grows, TLNC has also grown. We've reached full capacity and need to expand. We completed Phase 1 and will complete Phase 2 of this expansion by June, 2025. Now we are onto the most important part of the expansion--the additional building, updating and renovating the old buildings and improving exhibits and displays.

**We are asking you to send letters or emails of support to:**

FL. Representative Nan Cobb, c/o TLNC, 520 East CR 44, Eustis, FL 32736 or email [Tristan.Raimundo@flhouse.gov](mailto:Tristan.Raimundo@flhouse.gov) (Rep. Cobb's aide Tristan Raimundo) with your letter or email of support.

Senator Keith Truenow, Lake County Agricultural Center, 1951 Woodlea Road, Tavares, FL 32778 or email [dennis.debbie@flsenate.gov](mailto:dennis.debbie@flsenate.gov) (Sen. Truenow's aide Debbie Dennis) with your letter of support.

Anything you can do to help support our funding request is appreciated. Please, send copies of your letters or email to our office for our records. Use [TLNC.director@gmail.com](mailto:TLNC.director@gmail.com) for cc'ing your emails to us.

Thank you for your support in advance.

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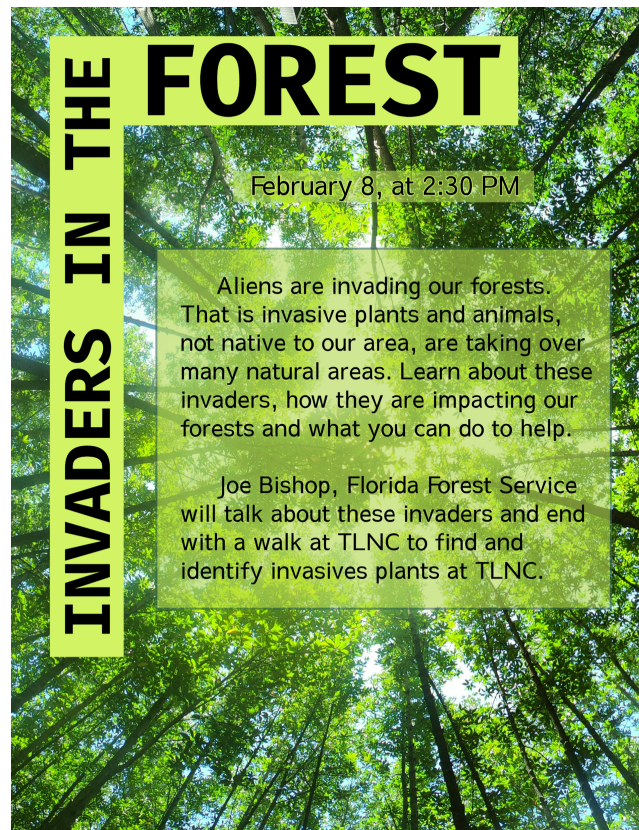
## See What's Coming...

**Saturday, February 8, 1:30 to 3:30 PM**

### **Star Charts and Invaders in Our Forests**

It's another twofer day with two programs in one afternoon. The first program starts at 1:30 PM and you will make a **star chart** under the direction of Mike Ryan, former Lake County School District Planetarium Director. The star chart can be used in different locations to help you identify the stars in the night sky. Each participant will assemble a star chart to take home.

The second program is called **Invaders in our Forests** by Joe Bishop, FL Forest Service. Bishop will tell you about the invasive species, both plants and animals, that are invading our forests and the damage they are causing. He will talk about control measures and what you can do to help.



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**Wednesday, February 12, 4 PM**  
**Nature Love Photo Contest**

Have you seen a heart as you walked, hiked, boated or got out in nature. Hearts can be found throughout nature---in the shape of clouds, on a branch, flower, rock, reflection in the water and more. Take a photo of the heart you find and submit it to TLNC.

All submissions must contain the name of the photographer, permission for TLNC to use the photo in its publications, what the subject of the photo is and where the photo was taken. Email your photo to [TLNC.director@gmail.com](mailto:TLNC.director@gmail.com) by February 12 at 4 PM.



**Saturday, February 22, 10:30 AM to Noon**

### **Inspired by Nature Water Color Painting: Bunny**

Water color artist Ellen Westerholm guides participants in painting a rabbit using water colors. Westerholm is skilled in teaching beginners how to create a masterpiece with a paint brush even those who have never painted before. Other upcoming classes are:

\* March 5, 10:30 to Noon, Potting Shed \* April 2, 1:30 to 3:30 PM, Flower Pot \* April 26, 1:30 to 3:30 PM, Panther

Cost of each class is \$50/person and includes all painting supplies and entry fee to TLNC.

[Register Here](#)

Wednesday, February 26, 10:30 to 11:30 AM

## Nature Sprouts

Calling all 2 to 5-year olds for our Nature Sprouts program. This program is designed for younger children using age-appropriate activities to engage the children and provide a positive experience in nature.

Each child must be accompanied by an adult. Dress to go outdoors and probably get dirty. **Call 352-357-7536 or email [TLNC.info@gmail.com](mailto:TLNC.info@gmail.com).** Your registration is important so we have enough materials for every child.

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## Trout Lake Nature Center

520 East CR 44, Eustis  
352-357-7536

*[troutlakenaturecenter.com](http://troutlakenaturecenter.com)*



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