

Homosassa Springs

## What is a spring?

Springs are amazing natural phenomenon where vast underground caves and caverns form to hold water. They are the window into the health of our groundwater, which is the source of 90 percent of drinking water for Floridians. Florida's springs not only offer many recreational opportunities such as swimming, kayaking and diving, but they provide habitat for many unique plants and animals.



Silver Springs

## Did you know that your neighborhood could affect a spring?

A spring is only as healthy as its springshed, which is the area of land that contributes water to a spring. Even if you live far away from a spring, your actions as a neighbor have an impact on the health of the aquifer and the springs.

## Why is it important to protect springs?

Florida's springs have been impacted by population growth, growing demand groundwater and introduction of fertilizers and other pollutants to the springsheds. Healthy springs support diverse and unique ecosystems, and strengthen local economies. Together, we can take action to restore Florida's springs to support thriving ecosystems of plants, wildlife, and people.

Learn more by visiting [MyHomeMySprings.org](http://MyHomeMySprings.org).



Madison Blue Spring

## Together we can protect and restore Florida's springs

- Over time, the water quality and flow of Florida's springs have been impacted by both human activities and natural factors.
- Nutrient pollution from sources such as fertilizer, human and animal waste can be greatly reduced with better practices and management of waste water.
- Water conservation efforts can restore spring flows to levels that support healthy ecosystems.



Silver Springs

## Florida's laws require springs protection

- The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is restoring springs by setting limits on nutrient pollution.
- Florida's water management districts protect springs by regulating water use.
- DEP and Florida's water management districts also work with local communities to assess and restore springs.

## You can help – individual actions make a difference

- Save water for the springs. At home, conserve water inside and out, and use Florida-Friendly landscaping.
- Less nitrogen on your lawn means less nutrient pollution in springs. Use fertilizers with slow-release nitrogen and little or no phosphorous.
- By removing pollution from wastewater and stormwater and returning clean water to the aquifer, your community will keep Florida's springs flowing clean.



Gilchrist Blue Springs

## Help by visiting Florida's springs parks

By using and enjoying our abundant and unique springs, you show you care.



Facebook.com/FloridaSpringsFest

Saturday & Sunday  
March 7th & 8th, 2020  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Silver Springs State Park  
FloridaStateParks.org



FLORIDA  
STATE PARKS

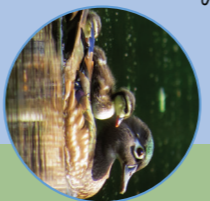
...the Real Florida<sup>SM</sup>

Southwest Florida  
Water Management District

# Florida Springsfest

**Saturday & Sunday**  
**March 7th & 8th, 2020**  
 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Silver Springs State Park**  
[FloridaStateParks.org](http://FloridaStateParks.org)

## Festival Map



### Springfest Festival Key

- Glass Bottom Boat Tours
- Mansion Stage
- Mermaids
- Festival Information
- Music Venues
- Scenic River Overlook
- Paddling
- Restrooms
- Hiking
- Parking
- Picnicking
- 1 Friends of Silver Springs
- 2 Silver Springs Gift Shop
- 3 Touch a Turtle Exhibit
- 4 Photo Art Gallery
- 5 Springside Café and Paradise Treats
- 6 Silent Auction (ends 2 p.m. Sun.)
- 7 Paradise Ballroom - Boat Captain Recognition on Saturday. Movie screening "Out of the Mist" both days. (closes 2 p.m. each day.)



## WELCOME TO ANOTHER EXCITING FLORIDA SPRINGSFEST!

Learn about the importance of springs while having a great time with your friends and family during Springsfest. Check out shows, exhibits, displays and booths from over a dozen springs in central Florida. After the festival, come back and check out the rest of the park, where you can paddle, hike the trails, camp or stay in the cabins, or visit the Silver River Museum.

This year's festival will feature Florida blues and folk music on two stages. Food trucks and games will be nearby while you enjoy music at the mansion. Thirty minute tours will be half price for adults and children.