

# The KMB Monthly

February 2024

## From the Director

We're so fortunate to live in a paradise that doesn't get covered in snow this time of year. But we sure had our share of chill and rain during January, didn't we! For every gorgeous day in the high 60s or low 70s, we seemed to have another that was drenched in rain and wind.

As we hope you heard, severe weather forced us to cancel our two cleanup events. The only scheduled event that proceeded as planned was a tree giveaway on **Florida Arbor Day** when 100 trees were distributed to the visiting public.

We hope the worst of our wild-then-mild winter is behind us and we'll have clear skies for the rest of February and March (though gardeners among us won't wish away the great rain we've been having after such a dry 2023)!

Our February newsletter arrives after our two cleanup events. I'm happy to report that those two events netted nearly 1,000 pounds of trash in Palmetto and Bradenton! Thanks to everyone who helped. If you weren't able to make it in February, save the dates for our two March clean-up events listed here!

**Jennifer Hoffman**  
Executive Director  
Keep Manatee Beautiful



**FIRST SATURDAY**

Neal Park, 1740 Ballard Park Dr, Bradenton

March 2  
9 am

**CLEANUP**

**FIRST TUESDAY  
CLEANUP!**

**Lamb Park**

Sixth St. W. & 10th Ave. W.  
(tennis courts across street from Sutton Park)

**March 5 at 5:30 p.m.**



# Envirothon winners!



*Congrats to the sharp team from Manatee High School for placing first at the Jan. 25 Envirothon, a team environmental competition testing students in forestry, aquatics, soils, wildlife and more! We're proud of all the bright young students who competed -- they give us hope for a sustainable future!*

**Manatee River**  
**2024 Cleanup** **SAVE THE DATE**  
underwater  
**Sat. May 11**

KEEP MANATEE BEAUTIFUL  
RSVP today at  
[ManateeBeautiful.com](http://ManateeBeautiful.com)





*Thanks to the 32 Lee Middle School students and volunteers who joined us on a foggy morning in Palmetto to clean Riverside Boat Ramp. We found shopping carts, pillows, discarded clothing, mats, wood planks, cigarette buds, cans and other items along the boat ramp. We made the most of our time and collected **665 POUNDS** of trash!*

# February highlights



# Earth Day, 2024

## Saturday, April 20

We have *HUGE* plans for Earth Day, 2024!

Earth Day will officially take place on April 22, a Monday. Two days earlier, on **Sat., April 20** Keep Manatee Beautiful is partnering with Trinity United Methodist Church, 3200 Manatee Ave. W, Bradenton, to plant a **community garden**! That day, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. we'll construct the framework for a community garden behind Trinity United. The church will oversee the garden tenants and surplus food will be delivered to local food pantries each month.

Also that day, we'll host an **e-scrap drive through** disposal line. If you have old electronics, batteries and fluorescent bulbs and other e-scrap, just drop it off that day and KMB will make sure the junk is disposed of safely.

Sign up for this great event today at our website, [www.ManateeBeautiful.com](http://www.ManateeBeautiful.com)



### April Tree Giveaway

During April's last Friday of the month, the 26th, we'll hold a tree giveaway at **Palma Sola Botanical Park**, 9800 17th Ave NW, Bradenton. We'll give away 100 native trees from 9 a.m. until all trees are given away.