

## **Plans underway for St. Mary's River Celebration**

Registration is under way for the 2007 St. Mary's River Celebration, the annual spring cleaning of the river and its tributaries. The event will be held on Saturday, March 17th, in Nassau and Baker Counties in Florida and Camden and Charlton Counties in Georgia.

The Celebration is a one-day volunteer cleanup of the St. Mary's River. Throughout the four-hour event, volunteers from four counties will comb the shorelines of the rivers, lakes, and streams of the St. Mary's River system.

The cleanup takes place from 8 a.m. until noon, followed by a celebration lunch for volunteers until 2:30 p.m. at White Oak Plantation. Tickets will be distributed to cleanup volunteers and are required to gain entry to White Oak. Volunteers also will receive a St. Mary's Celebration T-shirt.

More than 500 volunteers participated in last year's Celebration, removing more than 40,000 pounds of trash totals from the waterway and its banks. Volunteers also filled a 40 cubic yard trash container with foam that washed onto the Fernandina Beach shoreline from an abandoned barge in the river. Weeks later, the side of the barge collapsed and the remaining foam washed out and onto the shore.

Over the past decade, about 6,200 St. Mary's River Celebration volunteers have removed nearly 460,000 pounds of trash from the river and tributaries.

For more information or to register as a group, family, or individual, contact Dean Woehrle at (904)879-3498 or Keep Nassau Beautiful at (904) 548-0162.