

Making Venice Gardens a garden spot in South Venice

Source: Venice Gondolier, 3/26/2016

STAFF REPORT

The Keep Sarasota Beautiful Adoption Program gives residents, businesses and civic groups an opportunity to support Sarasota County's anti-litter campaign by selecting an area to maintain and beautify.

The Venice Gardens Lakes Group adopted the shorelines of three lakes in Venice Gardens and the property surrounding the Venice Gardens Community Center, 406 Shamrock Drive. The volunteers, organized

by VG Lakes Group member Heather Bryen, meet quarterly on Saturdays to clean up the area.

Participants follow their hard work with a pot luck lunch.

The Venice Gardens Civic Association meets on the last Monday of each month, September through May, at 7 p.m. in the community center. The VG Lakes Group, meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., also in the community center.



Mike Swanson cleans up one of the three lakes at Venice Gardens in January 2015.



Sarasota County environmental manager John M. Ryan, front boat at left, and Cris Costello, at right, participate in the January 2015 cleanup of one of the lakes at Venice Gardens. In kayak at rear are cleanup participants Jeff Bryen and his daughter, Aeryal Bryen.



Ashley Melton, a Saarsota County environmental specialist, holds up a fish she caught in one of the three lakes in Venice Gardens during a January 2015 cleanup at Venice Gardens.



Bruce Jardine navigates a kayak in one of the three lakes at Venice Gardens during a cleanup on March 5, 2016.