

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release
Contact: Chelle Koster Walton
239-472-3499
ChelleTrav@aol.com

Image of teacher recipients available upon request.

DDWS awards \$4,244 in school conservation education grants

(Sanibel Island, FL, January 2009) “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society (DDWS) recently awarded \$4,244.11 in grants to seven Lee County Schools for conservation education-related projects.

Teachers and, in some cases, students submitted grant applications to the DDWS Environmental Education Committee last fall. The committee chose seven awards based on need and relativity to conservation.

Schools to which DDWS awarded grants include Gulf Elementary for “An Ornithological Journey through the Nature Center,” Littleton Elementary for a fifth-grade trip to Manatee Park, North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts for a “Recyclabugs” project, Orange River Elementary for “Birds Need Our Wonderful Wetlands,” Pelican Elementary for “Birding Buddies,” Royal Palm Exception for “Wow Wildlife at ‘Ding’,” and Sunshine Elementary for “Fine Feathered Friends: Let’s Love and Protect Them.”

“This is the third year the Society has awarded these conservation teacher grants,” says Doris Davey Hardy, education committee chair. “It’s one of many ways we fulfill our mission of environmental education. We encourage teachers to watch for the announcement to apply for next year’s grants come September.”

The teacher grants are funded by DDWS funds received from the “Ding” Darling Foundation specifically for education. DDWS is a non-profit friends organization that supports J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge. For more information on next year’s grants, contact Toni Westland at 239-472-1100 ext. 236 or Hardy at hardydd@comcast.net, or visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org.

To join DDWS and become a friend of the refuge, stop in at the Refuge Education Center or visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org.

###