

FLAPOL

Takeaways from Tallahassee — A time for giving

By [Staff Reports](#) on December 5, 2020

The Florida Youth Conservation Centers Network hosts contests and giveaways as part of a social media campaign this December and January to celebrate its 10th birthday.

The campaign also includes a new partner rewards program, donor recognition and a virtual, crowdsourced fundraising event.

FYCCN credits its growth to its partnership with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida and parents' desires to get their children outdoors and away from devices. More than 2 million youth have participated in the program, part of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, through its first decade.

"We are thrilled with the success of FYCCN's efforts not just to get kids outside but also to offer conservation education and positive outdoor experiences that shape how the next generation engages in conservation of our natural resources," said FWC Executive Director **Eric Sutton**. "It's a sad fact that youth are spending less time outside every year, but FYCCN — with huge community support — is reversing that trend."



FWC Executive Director Eric Sutton wants kids to spend more time outdoors.

In honor of their decennial, FYCCN will give away a free week of residential summer camp at the Everglades Youth Conservation Center in West Palm Beach, a free week of summer day camp

each at the Joe Budd Youth Conservation Center in Tallahassee and the Suncoast Youth Conservation Center in Apollo Beach, free rod and reel sets, and a family 4-pack of passes to the Florida Aquarium.

“Anyone who participates in our ‘pillar challenge’ on Facebook and Twitter will be entered into the giveaways, and they can win some great prizes,” said Daniel Parker, the program’s director. “We want to encourage kids and families to go outside, make some memories, and enjoy all the natural resources our great state has to offer.”

The event will also feature former campers who benefited from one of FYCCN’s programs.