



**MISSION OF THE CITRUS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:**  
The Citrus County Chamber of Commerce is an organization of businesses unified in efforts to advance the economic growth of theregion, promote the interests of the business community, provide key leadership on key commerce issues and preserve the county's quality of life.

Promotional information provided by the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce.

# Chamber Connection

915 N. Suncoast Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429 · 352-795-3149 · 203 E. Dampier St., Inverness, FL 34450 · 352-726-2801

## 38th Annual Florida Manatee Festival

*Mark the date: Event set for January 18-19, 2025*

**T**he Citrus County Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to announce the 38th Annual Florida Manatee Festival, presented by Coast to Coast Heating & Air Conditioning, on January 18-19, 2025, in the heart of downtown Crystal River.

Celebrating our favorite floating friends, the manatees, this two-day festival offers a vibrant array of activities for all ages. Attendees can embark on guided manatee boat tours and

kayak adventures in Kings Bay, providing unique opportunities to observe these gentle giants in their natural habitat. Art enthusiasts will delight in "Art in the Park," featuring works from talented local and regional artists in the beautiful town square. Adding to the excitement, live music will fill the air throughout the weekend on four stages spanning the festival grounds, showcasing an incredible lineup of bands and

performers. Whether you're into lively tunes or relaxing melodies, the festival offers something for every music lover.

Festival-goers can also enjoy free shuttle services to the world-famous Three Sisters Springs, where they can witness manatees up close in the crystal-clear waters. The event also boasts a diverse selection of food vendors, nearly 400 craft and business vendors offering

their wares, a Kids Zone with engaging activities for children, and plenty of opportunities to explore Crystal River's local charm.

Admission is \$10 for adults, with free entry for children aged 12 and under. On Sunday, January 19, attendees can take advantage of a special offer: a \$5 discount per person for up to four adult admissions with a coupon from the Citrus County Chronicle.

Join us for a weekend of fun, live entertainment, and community spirit as we celebrate the majestic manatee and the natural beauty of Crystal River.

Free parking and shuttles will be available from Crystal River High School and the West Citrus Government Building. For more information, visit [www.gomanateefest.com](http://www.gomanateefest.com) or contact the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce at (352) 795-3149.

## Christmas Parade Float Applications Close Soon!

As the holiday season approaches, excitement is building for this year's Crystal River and Inverness Christmas Parades, set to celebrate a Patriotic Christmas theme! These beloved annual events promise to fill the streets with festive cheer and a proud display of American spirit.

The Crystal River Parade will take place on December 7th at 6:00 PM,

followed by the Inverness Parade on December 14th at 12:00 PM. This year's theme encourages participants to showcase their creativity by designing floats that embody both holiday joy and patriotic pride. Whether it's incorporating stars and stripes or classic holiday symbols, there's plenty of room for imagination!

Community members, organizations,

and businesses are all invited to join in the merriment. Applications for float participation are open!

This is a fantastic opportunity for

seasoned participants and first-time entrants alike to engage with the community and create a memorable experience for all.

To register your float and be part of this joyous celebration, please visit [www.citruscounty-chamber.com/christmas-parades/](http://www.citruscounty-chamber.com/christmas-parades/). Applications close on November 30th! Let's come together to illuminate our towns with the spirit of a Patriotic Christmas and make this year's parades truly unforgettable!



### Upcoming Chamber Events

- 12/07 Crystal River Christmas Parade; 6PM
- 12/14 Inverness Christmas Parade; 12PM
- 12/19 December Chamber Mixer; 5PM-7PM; Location TBA
- 12/13 December Chamber Luncheon; 11:30am – 1:00pm; Speaker TBA; Host: Business Women's Alliance; Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club

### RECENT RIBBON CUTTINGS

#### Suncoast Skin Solutions



Welcome to the Chamber, Suncoast Skin Solutions - Inverness & Lutz! Discover radiant skin with Suncoast Skin Solutions, where cutting-edge dermatology meets personalized care in the heart of Florida. Specializing in a range of services from advanced skin cancer treatments to rejuvenating cosmetic procedures, Suncoast Skin Solutions is dedicated to enhancing your skin's health and beauty. Their expert team offers comprehensive care including Mohs surgery for skin cancer, state-of-the-art laser treatments, and aesthetic enhancements tailored to individual needs. Whether you're seeking relief from skin conditions or looking to refresh your appearance, Suncoast Skin Solutions combines expert knowledge with compassionate care to help you achieve your best skin ever. Trust them to provide exceptional dermatological care with a focus on results and patient satisfaction.

Inverness Location - 2242 Hwy 44 W Inverness FL 34453. (352) 995-7546.  
Lutz Location - 4651 Van Dyke Rd Lutz FL 33558. (352) 746-2200.

#### Sweet Sassalicious



Welcome to the Chamber, Sweet Sassalicious! Sweet Sassalicious brings a fresh twist to food truck dining in Citrus County with its ever-evolving menu of extraordinary sandwiches and catered experiences! They delight in venturing out to bring unique and delectable creations to local events, offering a dynamic selection that keeps things exciting and fresh. Their commitment to excellence extends beyond sandwiches, as they specialize in full-service private dinners. With no limits on creativity and a dedication to personalized service, Sweet Sassalicious ensures every event is a memorable and flavorful experience. (813) 787-9379. <https://sweetsassafla.com/>

#### Enchanted Swimstress



Welcome to the Chamber, Enchanted Swimstress! They offer a magical introduction to the underwater world with their PADI Discover Scuba Diving program—an ideal, commitment-free way to explore Citrus County's stunning springs and determine if scuba certification is the next step for you. For those enchanted by fantasy, their PADI Mermaid courses allow participants to transform into the mystical mermaid of their dreams, with options ranging from introductory classes to advanced certifications that grant access to exclusive dive locations. Enchanted Swimstress also provides year-round Manatee Tours in Kings Bay, where guests can observe these gentle giants up close with expert guidance and photography. Equipped with top-notch amenities and equipment, Enchanted Swimstress promises unforgettable aquatic adventures for everyone! (850) 798-0064. 9301 West Fort Island Trail, Crystal River, FL, 34429.

### Chamber Legacy Members



The Chamber recognizes our Legacy Partners that have made a special investment in the Chamber to support the programs and mission of the Chamber. For information on becoming a Legacy Partner, please contact the Chamber by emailing [Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com](mailto:Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com).