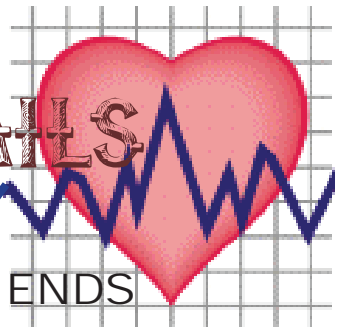


TREK TEN TRAILS

The Nature of Health

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Lake Marion Creek / Stokes Preserve

TRAILHEAD PARKING GPS COORDINATES: N 28° 07.037 W 081° 32.511

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From Lakeland follow US92 east through Auburndale, Lake Alfred and Haines City. In Haines City US17/92 turns left, stay on US17/92. In ½ miles, turn right on CR580 and follow CR580 for 3.9 miles to Lake Marion Creek Road. Turn right on Lake Marion Creek Road. Parking is on the right .8 miles. Look for the Polk County Environmental Lands sign.

From Bartow follow US17 north to Lake Alfred. Continue east on US17/92 through Lake Alfred and Haines City. In Haines City US17/92 turns left, stay on US17/92. In ½ miles, turn right on CR580 and follow CR580 for 3.9 miles to Lake Marion Creek Road. Turn right on Lake Marion Creek Road. Parking is on the right .8 miles. Look for the Polk County Environmental Lands sign.

From Lake Wales follow SR17 north to Haines City. In Haines City turn right on E. Hinson Ave, then take left onto US17/92. Turn right onto CR580, follow CR580 for 3.9 miles to Lake Marion Creek Road. Turn right on Lake Marion Creek Road. Parking is on the right .8 miles. Look for the Polk County Environmental Lands sign.



The 225-acre Sherwood L. Stokes property was acquired in January 2002 as an addition to the Water Management District's Lake Marion Creek "Save Our Rivers" Project. The site, which is managed by the Polk County Environmental Lands Program, was acquired to help protect the headwaters of Lake Marion Creek. The trail takes you through white sugar sand scrub, gradually transitioning to a lower elevation with moss covered ground and tall cabbage palms. At the end of the trail is a picnic shelter and views of Lake Marion Creek.



ATTRIBUTES



SCRAPBOOKERS: Place your souvenir stamp in this circle!

Things to See

Come enjoy the natural walkway through the forest, marshes, scrub and hammocks. Experience the extensive mosaic of plant communities, view the more than 70 species of birds, and maybe even catch a glimpse of deer, turkey or feral hogs. Our cache stamp represents the rare Rafinesque's big-eared bat which is known to inhabit the area.



TREK TEN CACHE COORDINATES: N 28° 06.615 W 081° 32.387



FIND THE CACHE WITHOUT GPS: Park at the trailhead and use the walk through to enter the preserve. Follow the footpath until you reach the two track road. Turn south and walk down the two track. When you reach a fork in the road stay right and continue walking down the two track until the trail opens up. Walk past the house, keeping it on your right side, look for the utility pole past the house. The geocache is located at the base of a palm at the utility pole. 1 mile roundtrip hike

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