

Marshall Hampton Reserve

2014



www.friendsoftheparks.net

GPS Coordinates:

N 28° 00.473 W 081° 49.259



TREK TEN CACHE COORDINATES:

N 28° 00.166 W 081° 50.400

SCRAPBOOKERS:

Place your souvenir stamp in this circle!



DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From US 98 South turn east onto Winter Lake Road / CR 540 about 4 miles, then turn right on Thornhill Road. Parking area is on the right side of the road.



OSPREY OVERLOOK LOOP TRAIL

(2.5 mile loop—moderate—uneven ground) This trail follows an elevated berm all the way around the 60 acre pond (approximately 2.5 mile loop). Travelers beware that this manmade feature is plagued with uneven ground and scattered holes. Hikers and horseback riders should watch your footing while traveling this trail. During extreme storm events section of this trail may washout and caution should be taken. The advantages of this trail are an elevated view of the pond and its wildlife. Wildlife watchers will enjoy watching the ospreys, cormorants, coots and eagles catching their prey. There are also a couple of resident alligators that patrol the shoreline, waiting for an easy meal.

THINGS TO SEE:

A variety of wildlife have been observed on the site, such as gators, bobcat, turkey and pileated woodpeckers. If you listen while you walk you may hear animals and insects moving about in the palmettos as this is a great place for them to hide

ACORN HAMMOCK LOOP

(3.5 mile loop—moderate—shaded) This trail gives visitors the opportunity to hike a 3.5 mile shaded loop trail through a scenic oak hammock. The trail starts at the base of the pond, breaking away from the Osprey Overlook Loop Trail and then meanders into the oak hammock where it loops through historic pine flatwoods, and an oak hammock. The trail is mostly shaded. Trails may be seasonally wet; look for the old footbridges which allow visitors to cross some of the wetter areas.

FIND THE CACHE WITHOUT GPS:

Follow Acorn Hammock trail past first bench, trail will split past this bench, take the Acorn Trail to the right. You will come to a footbridge, cross bridge and look for a bench on left side of trail, continue walking past the bench until you reach a two track road. Turn south and you will pass a bench on the west side of the two track road. Continue past the bench, about .2 past the bench you will see a pine tree growing along the road on the west side, 10 feet to the west is a palm tree and 10 feet to the west of the palm is an oak tree. The geocache is at the base of the oak tree. After finding the geocache continue following the trail and you will loop back to parking area. 3.5 mile loop hike



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All trails start on the western edge of the parking area, and leads visitors through the equestrian parking area to the main trail head. Once past the main trail head, the trail quickly allows visitors to escape the open pasture and enter a small oak hammock. The shade of the large trees provides great refuge for visitors as well as wildlife. The trail then shortly exits the oak hammock and under the protection of a couple of large oaks, visitors can view the pond. Just a short distance to the west is where the trail splits, giving visitors two trail options.

TREK
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TRAILS