

# Welcome to:

## TAYLOR CREEK STORMWATER TREATMENT AREA

### Introduction

The key purpose of a stormwater treatment area is to remove phosphorus from urban and agricultural runoff to prevent it from flowing into the Everglades. The plants in the area take up or absorb phosphorus from water traveling through the wetlands, reducing the amount of nutrients reaching Lake Okechobee and the estuaries.

Taylor Creek Stormwater Treatment Area covers 170 acres in Okeechobee County on a publicly held portion of the Grassy Island Ranch, east of Taylor Creek. The treatment area's purpose is to divert and treat about 10% of the water flow from the Creek. This is accomplished by allowing the water to flow parallel to the creek through the Stormwater Treatment Area for about 1.6 miles before it returns to the Creek. The public access at this stormwater treatment area provides opportunities for the public to learn and enjoy the site.

### What can you do?

- Hike along the levee trail and see a variety of wildlife in the treatment area
- Bicycle on more than three miles of trail/levee around the treatment area
- Or simply enjoy nature through a pair of binoculars or camera

### What can you see?

Prior to being channelized, Taylor Creek was a much wider system that flowed south toward Lake Okechobee. Today you can see many of the remnant cypress areas and other wetland tree species where the creek historically flowed. The treatment area now attracts a variety of migratory and resident birds. Commonly observed birds include sandhill cranes, crested caracaras, wood storks, great blue and tricolored herons, white and glossy ibises, a variety of egrets, and many songbirds. In addition, deer, wild turkey, and American alligators are observed here.

### Partnerships

The Taylor Creek Stormwater Treatment Area has been implemented by a partnership between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District. Public use of this Stormwater Treatment Area is made possible by the partnership between Okeechobee County and the South Florida Water Management District.

For more information, please contact Okeechobee County Parks and Recreation at (863) 763-6950 or South Florida Water Management District, Okeechobee Service Center at (800) 250-4200.



come out and play

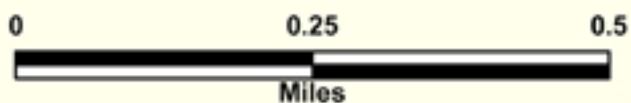
[sfwmd.gov](http://sfwmd.gov)



US Army Corps of Engineers



Project Boundary  
 Hiking/Bicycling Trail



Be advised that there are always risks associated with visiting natural areas. There are few, if any, amenities, such as shelters or potable water. For your own comfort, please plan ahead.

### Permitted Uses

