

DuPuis Environmental Education

Florida Atlantic University's Center for Environmental Studies (CES) is under contract with the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and coordinates a student volunteer service-learning program focusing on land stewardship and water resources management projects. The objective of the program is to provide classes and students with the opportunity to enhance their classroom experiences by assisting in field activities that are mutually beneficial to the students and the SFWMD. During 2001 and 2002, nearly 200 middle school through college age students participated in service learning projects, including planting a constructed wetland area and a butterfly garden.

Florida Atlantic University's Center for Environmental Studies (CES), with support from the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), coordinates the student service-learning and field studies programs.

Service-Learning Program - The objective of this program is to provide students with the opportunity to enhance their classroom experiences by assisting in field activities that are mutually beneficial to the students and the SFWMD. The goal is to instill an understanding, appreciation and environmental ethic in the students through volunteer projects in natural habitats. Since 2001 nearly 1,950 middle school through college age students have participated in service-learning, including planting a constructed wetland area and a butterfly garden. To date, CES has hosted student classes from Palm Beach, Martin, Okeechobee, Broward and Dade Counties.

[Field Studies for Students – Investigating the Pine Flatwoods](#) - In 2002, CES developed a lesson for middle school students, [Investigating the Pine Flatwoods](#) focusing on the Pine Flatwoods ecosystem. By 2003, this lesson was being piloted with schools in 5 different counties. Before students come to DuPuis, they must complete the lesson or previsit material pertaining to the lesson. At DuPuis, they participate in a variety of activities, including Measuring the Height of a Pine Tree and Assessing Plant Diversity along a Transect.

If you are interested in bringing a class or group to DuPuis for Field Studies or Service- Learning please call CES' Education Specialist, Kim Kanter, at (561) 686-8800, ext. 3339.



Students "dig in" to plant the DuPuis butterfly garden.



Participants in the Girls II Women program Pahokee Middle/Senior High School plant the butterfly garden.



Middle schoolers from Roosevelt magnet environmental academy working the constructed cypress swamp.



Teachers learn about fire in Florida's ecosystem at a teachers' workshop.