

Trail Information

Preserve trails begin on either side of the parking lot, near the southeast and northwest corners.

Trail posts are color-coded to identify trails located in the western (red), central (yellow), and eastern (orange) sections of the preserve.

Cautions:

Visitors to the preserve do so at your own risk! Trail conditions are rough and there are a variety of hazards throughout the site.

Alligators, snakes, ants, stinging insects, poison ivy, and other poisonous plants are present. Some soils on the property contain arsenic. Do not ingest soils.

Perimeter Hiking Route:

For those interested in a long hike around the preserve perimeter, numbered markers have been placed on selected trail markers to direct you on a longer walk. Total distance for this route is approximately 2.3 miles.



Special Interest Points:

On the preserve map, you'll notice a series of special interest points marked by a pentagon symbol with a letter inside. At each of these points, over time, we will be placing a sign with information about that site.



Video Series:

We are developing a series of short videos about the Preserve that are accessible to visitors who have a smart phone. Point your camera at the QR code on a special interest point sign and touch the link that appears on your screen to hear a short video about that site from one of our preserve volunteers.

Even if you don't have the necessary technology with you during your walk to watch the videos, you can watch them later from any computer with Internet access. The web link to access the preserve video series is:

youtube.com/user/lemonbayconservancy

About the Preserve

Lemon Creek Wildflower Preserve is an 80-acre former golf course. When it was purchased by Lemon Bay Conservancy in 2010, it was heavily overgrown with Brazilian Pepper and other invasive species.

LBC's primary purpose for the preserve is to protect and enhance the habitats within the preserve to provide a refuge for wildlife and opportunities for environmental education and scientific research.

Freshwater ponds are located in the eastern and central areas of the preserve. Many of them drain to the west and eventually feed into the brackish (meaning "somewhat salty") waters of Lemon Creek along the preserve's western boundary.

Lemon Creek receives saltwater tidal flow from Lemon Bay via culverts under Placida Road. To the south of the Preserve, the creek is connected to Lemon Lake in Charlotte County's Amberjack Preserve.

The Lemon Creek estuary is an important nursery area for many marine species, including Tarpon, Snook, and Blue Crab. LBC is working with Florida Fish & Wildlife to study the juvenile Tarpon populations in the creek.

LBC gratefully acknowledges the major funding support provided by the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Commission (NOAA) for the preserve habitat restoration project that was completed in January 2021.

As part of the restoration project, 10 acres of wetlands have been improved and 12 acres of new estuarine and freshwater wetlands have been added.

Invasive plants have been removed throughout the site and more than 10,000 native trees, grasses and shrubs have been planted in the uplands.

Extensive wetland plantings have also been completed to help filter stormwater flowing into the Preserve from surrounding communities to reduce excess nutrients before the water leaves the Preserve and enters Lemon Bay.



LEMON CREEK WILDFLOWER PRESERVE

Trail Map



Preserve Access:

Lemon Creek Wildflower Preserve is privately owned, managed and maintained by Lemon Bay Conservancy (LBC).

Visitors to the Preserve do so at your own risk.

All visitors must review and comply with all posted preserve rules. Pets are not permitted. Hunting and fishing are not permitted.

The Preserve is open to Lemon Bay Conservancy members daily from dawn to dusk. The public is invited to visit the preserve only during regularly scheduled walks and public events.

Please Join Us:

If you are not already an LBC member, it's easy to join. Point your smart phone camera at the QR code at right and touch the link, or use your web browser to go to:

LemonBayConservancy.org/member



LBC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization managed by volunteers and funded by donations, memberships and grants. For more information and a schedule of activities, visit the Lemon Bay Conservancy website.

LemonBayConservancy.org

941-830-8922

Lemon Creek Wildflower Preserve

January 2023

- Trails**
 - East
 - Center
 - West
- 00 Perimeter Trail Markers**
- X Special Interest Points**
- Estuarine Wetlands**
 - Open Water
 - Low Marsh
 - High Marsh
- Freshwater Wetlands**
 - Open Water
 - Marsh
- Mounds and Berms**

