

Hammock Bay Nature Trails/Points of Interest

1 Bat House

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTS OF OUR ECO FRIENDLY PEST CONTROL PROGRAM WOULD BE THE BAT BOXES SUCH AS THIS ONE. OUR BOXES ARE DESIGNED TO HOLD SEVERAL HUNDRED BATS PER BOX WITH EACH BAT BEING ABLE TO EAT SEVERAL THOUSAND MOSQUITO SIZED INSECTS IN A NIGHT. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE MANY MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT BATS, THEY PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR ECOSYSTEM AND WE'RE WORKING TO PROMOTE THE CONSERVATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF THESE VITAL SPECIES.

2 Purple Martin

WHILE IT'S BEEN FOUND THAT PURPLE MARTINS DON'T EAT AS MANY MOSQUITOES AS THEY WERE ONCE THOUGHT TO, THEY DO EAT A VARIETY OF OTHER INSECT PESTS SUCH AS THE DOG AND DEER FLY. THESE HOUSES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR ECO FRIENDLY PEST CONTROL PROGRAM.

3 Florida Anise Area Blackwater Stream

THE FLORIDA ANISE IS A NATIVE SHRUB FOUND ALONG STREAM BANKS AND IN LOW AREAS THROUGHOUT HAMMOCK BAY. WHILE THIS SHRUB RETAINS ITS SHINY, AROMATIC FOLIAGE ALL YEAR ROUND, IT ONLY PRODUCES ITS CHARACTERISTIC SHOWY RED FLOWERS IN THE SPRING. BE SURE NOT TO MISS THE SHOW.

4 Bluebird Box

DURING THE 2007 BLUEBIRD NESTING SEASON HAMMOCK BAY FLEDGED OVER 200 BLUEBIRDS FROM BOXES JUST LIKE THIS ONE. THIS PARTICULAR BOX FLEDGED EIGHT YOUNG BLUEBIRDS IN TWO DIFFERENT NESTING SUCCESSSES. WE AT HAMMOCK BAY ARE PARTICULARLY PROUD AND HAPPY FOR OUR BLUEBIRDS AND WISH THEM AN EVEN BETTER NESTING SEASON IN 2008.



5 Blackwater Stream Large Snag Area

THIS BLACKWATER STREAM SYSTEM HAS SEVERAL LARGE CAVITY TREES NEAR THE CROSSING. THESE TREES SERVE AS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF FOOD FOR SOME WILDLIFE AND A SAFE HOME FOR OTHERS. THE "HOLES" THAT YOU CAN OBSERVE FROM THE TRAIL ARE REFERRED TO AS TREE CAVITIES DUE TO THE FACT THAT THEY'VE BEEN EXCAVATED BY ANIMALS FOR A HOME. IF YOU'RE REAL QUIET AT DAWN AND DUSK YOU MAY SEE ROSCOE EMERGE FOR HIS NIGHTLY FEEDING.

6 Beaver Pond Dragonfly Pond Wood Duck Pond/Box

WHILE THIS POND WAS ORIGINALLY CREATED BY BEAVERS IT SERVES AS A HOST TO A VARIETY OF FLORA AND FAUNA NATIVE TO HAMMOCK BAY. MORE THAN A DOZEN DIFFERENT TYPES OF MOSQUITO EATING DRAGONFLIES CAN BE FOUND HERE AT VARIOUS TIMES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. THIS POND ALSO SERVES AS A WATERFOWL FEEDING SITE THROUGHOUT THE WINTER WITH THE WOOD DUCK BEING ONE OF ITS MOST COLORFUL, YEAR ROUND RESIDENTS.

7 Butterfly House

THESE BUTTERFLY HOUSES PROVIDE A SAFE SHELTER FROM INCLEMENT WEATHER FOR A LARGE VARIETY OF NATIVE AND MIGRATORY BUTTERFLY SPECIES THROUGHOUT MOST OF THE YEAR AT HAMMOCK BAY.

8 Black Titi Area

THIS NATIVE FLORIDA SHRUB, PRONOUNCED (TYE-TYE), CAN BE FOUND IN MOST AREAS THROUGHOUT HAMMOCK BAY. THIS SHRUB FORMS DENSE THICKETS OR COLONIES THROUGH ROOT SPROUTING WHICH EXCLUDE MOST OTHER SPECIES OF PLANTS THUS REDUCING COMPETITION FOR LIMITED RESOURCES.