Recreation on District Lands

**Trout Creek Bridge**
On December 3rd, a public dedication was held for the new Trout Creek Bridge. The new aluminum bridge was formally opened for all to enjoy. This bridge was built with the help of many Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation, Tampa Bay Water, Wilderness Trails Association, SWAMP and the District.

**Green Swamp West Bridge**
The River Road bridge is still under repair and will be out until January 30, 2001. Entry to the property will be at SR 471 and Compressco Grade until further notice.

**Wildlife at Flatwoods Park**
Wildlife viewing at the park is excellent now due to recent restoration efforts conducted by the District’s Land Management staff. The area known as Trout Creek Prairie on the west side of the South Loop was treated mechanically to reduce overgrown woody vegetation in this sawgrass marsh. Since that work was conducted this past summer, early morning and afternoon park visitors are seeing endangered wood storks, little blue herons, snowy egrets, tri-colored herons, small herds of deer and flocks of wild turkeys.

**Lake Panasoffkee Recreation**
During the past several months equestrian and hiking recreation has increased at Lake Panasoffkee due to the cool morning and brisk afternoon’s. Ground breaking for phase 1 of the Lake Panasoffkee project renovations have begun. Soon there will be restrooms with flush toilets, large barbeque cookers, a new roof on the horse stalls and a covered pavilion for the Campsite host. A recent donation of 16 picnic tables for the pavilion, from the Friends of Hanover, will be an added asset and very useful for large groups.

**Holiday Camping**
As most of you are aware camping during the holidays is a great time to be with family and friends. If you plan on camping during the holidays and anytime between now and the beginning of the hot summer months (December thru May). Plan ahead and get your requests for camping in early.

**Campfires**
Please use caution when building a campfire. This time of year is very dry and all campfires are to be contained within a campfire ring. **When your camping is complete please ensure that all fires are out**

**Green Swamp West Camping**
During the past several months there have been some modifications and renovations at Green Swamp West. The current equestrian site now has **non-potable water** at the campsites. This water should be an asset for all. Mr. Ken Sutton brought several crews out to the camp and laid the pipes and put the spickets in. Our many thanks to Mr. Sutton for his help. The equestrian camp is now called “Ashley Camp” and will be on the new permit applications. Due to a large number of requests during the cooler months and especially during the holidays, we continue to be booked up at the sites in Green Swamp West. This year we have opened a new camp ground for overflow camping for all users. The new site is called “Compressco Camp” and is located on the eastern edge of the open pasture east of the Withlacoochee Church on Compressco Road.
For more information, or to receive a campsite application by fax or mail please contact Dave Morgan at 800-423-1476 x4482 or Dave.Morgan@swfwmd.state.fl.us.
The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual’s disability status. This non-discrimination policy involves every aspect of the District’s functions, including one’s access to, participation, employment, or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact Cheryl Hill at 1-800-423-1476 extension 4452; TDD ONLY 1-800-231-6103; FAX 352-754-6877.

Lower Hillsborough Jefferson Gate
If you are planning a ride in Lower Hillsborough you may now request a quarterly or day use permit and park inside the gate at Jefferson Road. All equestrian riders are requested to stay on the main trail and south of Cow House Slough.

RV Griffin
On February 24, 2001 there will be a volunteer work day at RV Griffin. The property is located on Kings Highway exit 31, east of I-75 near Northport and is approximately 7 miles North on the west side of the road near the Peace River Water Authority plant. Driving time from Tampa is approximately 2 hours. This is an initial trail marking of approximately 20 miles of multi-use trails.

Volunteer Checklist
Suggested items to bring to the workdays:

Safety and Comfort
- ___ gloves
- ___ hat
- ___ sunscreen
- ___ bug spray
- ___ sunglasses

Tools and Supplies
- ___ steel-toed work boots
- ___ towel
- ___ personal water jug
- ___ snacks
- ___ picnic lunch

- ___ loppers
- ___ hand saw
- ___ chain saw
- ___ rake

- ___ hammer
- ___ screw driver
- ___ post hole digger
- ___ nails
- ___ shovel

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Upcoming Workdays
Don’t forget the work days schedule for 2001. Campers are welcome. R.S.V.P. if you plan to attend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 26</td>
<td>Potts Preserve</td>
<td>Linda Dawson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>RV Griffin</td>
<td>Dave Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 17</td>
<td>Oakridge (Lower Hills.)</td>
<td>Dave Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 31</td>
<td>Lake Panasoffkee</td>
<td>Chris Linhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 7</td>
<td>Lower Hillsborough FDA, Jefferson Road</td>
<td>Dave Morgan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 28</td>
<td>Green Swamp West (Dade City)</td>
<td>Dave Morgan</td>
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Southwest Florida Water Management District  
Land Use and Protection Section  
Land Resources Department 2379 Broad Street  
Brooksville, FL 34604-6899