

**ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS (EEL) PROGRAM  
RECREATION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
February 18, 2006**

**REAC Committee Field Trip to Enchanted Forest, Dicerandra Scrub  
Sanctuary and Pine Island Conservation Area.  
Attendance List**

***RECREATION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS***

Bob Champaigne  
Murray Hann  
Mark Nathan  
Eve Owens  
Dorn Whitmore

***SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS***

Kim Zarillo, Selection and Management Committee

***EEL PROGRAM STAFF***

Laura Clark  
Brad Manley

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Minutes**

The Recreation and Education Advisory Committee met at the Enchanted Forest in Titusville at 9:00 AM on Saturday, February 18, 2006. Brad introduced Kim Zarillo, from the Selection and Management Committee. This trip was scheduled so that Committee members could learn about some of the EEL sites first hand and no business was discussed.

The group toured the Enchanted Forest Management and Education Center. Kim explained that the planning for the building was a long process which involved public input and consideration of ADA (American with Disabilities Act) standards. Brad explained that the area used for the road and building had already been disturbed. The group viewed the second phase of exhibits which includes a display on prescribed fire; the library, which includes many books donated by members of the Friends of the Enchanted Forest; the gift shop, art work which is on loan to the Center from citizens, and the screened porch. They also took a walk through the Butterfly Garden and followed a few of the paths in the Forest. During the walk, the group toured several of the different habitats and noticed the changes in elevation, soil and vegetation types, and temperature changes that occurred in each. They saw a variety of native plant species including: sand and slash pine, myrtle oak, live oak, laurel oak, red maple, hickory, hackberry, saw palmetto, Hercules club, bromeliads, potato tree, wild violet, blanket flower, jack-in-the-pulpit, lupine and more.

The next stop on the trip was the Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary. The group met at the trail head where staff has removed a large amount of trash and invasive exotic plants, and created a welcoming entrance for the Sanctuary, which is located adjacent to a Titusville subdivision. They saw an area where prescribed fire has been applied, as well as areas in need of fire management. Scrub jays have been seen on this site. This Sanctuary is named for Dicerandra Thinicola, a rare mint plant found only in the northern portion of Brevard County, which the group saw during their walk.

The group then traveled to the Pine Island Conservation Area on Merritt Island. Scott Taylor, EEL Central Region Land Manager led a tour of the historic Sams house, which is undergoing restoration. Archeologist, Tom Penders, explained the archeological dig at the property, and EEL Program Manager, Mike Knight, showed the committee the Indian Mound, which is partially located on EEL Property.

Plans for another tour will be made in the near future.