

## Welcome to Hillsborough County Nature Preserves

Hillsborough County Conservation & Environmental Lands Management oversees 63,000 acres of preserved land that protects wildlife habitat and offers nature-based recreation. Additionally, these lands provide flood protection, improve air quality, and naturally filter water.

Nature preserves are open daily from sunrise to sunset, unless posted otherwise.

### The Nature Preserve Experience Be Prepared. Be Safe.

Hillsborough County Nature Preserves provide a primitive wilderness experience. On a preserve, development is kept to a minimum to protect natural areas and wildlife. Most nature preserve access points have small, unpaved parking lots for a trailhead and no amenities other than a small kiosk to provide trail information. In most cases they do not have restrooms or running water available. Trails are unpaved, may be underwater and/or muddy, contain limited trail markers, may consist of rough terrain, and may expose trail users to extreme environmental conditions. When visiting a nature preserve always bring:

1. The correct trail map for your destination
2. A compass or GPS
3. Plenty of drinking water
4. Appropriate shoes
5. Sun protection

### Using Blazes to Guide Your Way

A trail blaze is colored paint--usually red, blue, or yellow--marked on posts or trees that help to guide you in the proper direction while hiking or horseback riding. Whenever you come to an intersection, look ahead in each direction for the colored blaze of the trail you are on and continue in that direction. Even though a trail may be marked with blazes, you should still always carry a map.



**Hillsborough  
County Florida**

Conservation &  
Environmental Lands  
Management

Administrative Office

10940 McMullen Road, Riverview, FL 33569

(813) 672-7876

Visit our webpage to download trail maps

[HCFLGov.net/Conservation](http://HCFLGov.net/Conservation)

WELCOME TO

**Hillsborough County  
Nature Preserves**

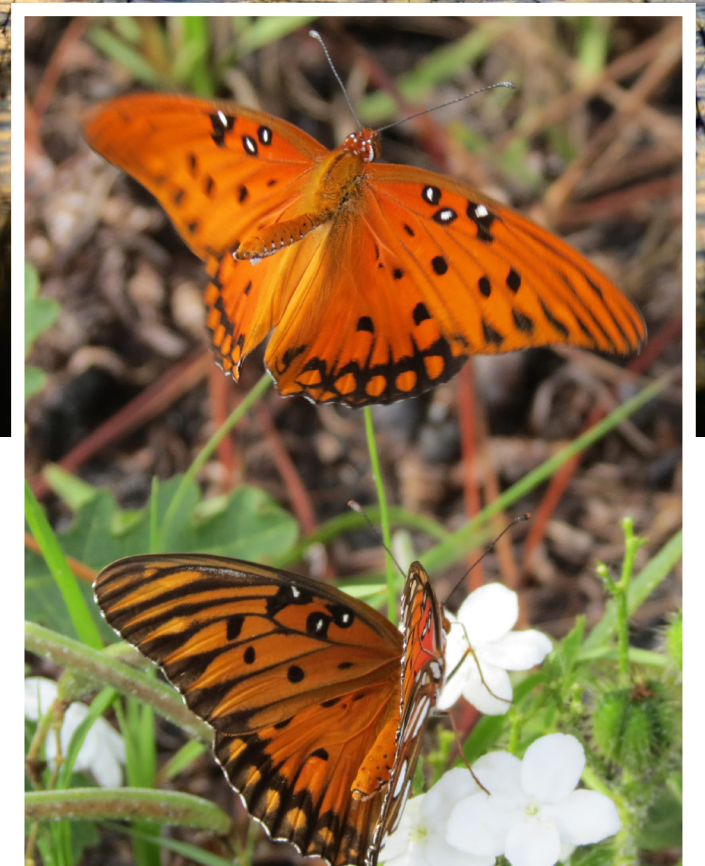
[HCFLGov.net/Conservation](http://HCFLGov.net/Conservation)

## Explore Hillsborough County's Wild Side

### ELAPP Nature Preserves

The Jan K. Platt Environmental Lands Acquisition and Protection Program (ELAPP) is a voluntary program established for the purpose of identifying, acquiring, preserving and protecting environmentally-sensitive lands within Hillsborough County. It is a citizen-based program with volunteer committees involved in every key

aspect of the process. Through 2019, the program had acquired more than 63,000 acres of conservation land. Hillsborough County residents and visitors can access much of this protected land for passive recreation, such as hiking, wildlife viewing, birdwatching, fishing, paddling, and horseback riding.



## NATURE PRESERVES

### 1a. Alafia River Corridor Nature Preserve–North Entrance

9256 South County Road 39, Plant City  
Acreage: 4,986, Miles of trail: 8



### 1b. Alafia River Corridor Nature Preserve–South Entrance

931 Old Welcome Road, Lithia  
Miles of trail: 9



### 2. Alafia Scrub Nature Preserve

10243 Elbow Bend Road, Riverview  
Acreage: 80, Miles of trail: 2



### 3. Alderman's Ford Nature Preserve

8911 Turkey Creek Road, Plant City  
Acreage: 983, Miles of trail: 2.5



### 4. Apollo Beach Nature Preserve

6767 Surfside Blvd., Apollo Beach  
Acreage: 58, Miles of trail: .02



### 5. Bahia Beach Nature Preserve

2513 W. Shell Point Road, Ruskin  
Acreage: 224, Miles of trail: 1



### 6. Balm Boyette Scrub Nature Preserve

15102 County Road 672, Wimauma  
Acreage: 4,871, Miles of trail: 31



### 7. Bell Creek Nature Preserve

10940 McMullen Road, Riverview  
Acreage: 477, Miles of trail: 5



### 8. Blackwater Creek Nature Preserve

2469 Patrinoastro Road, Plant City  
Acreage: 2,161, Miles of trail: 6



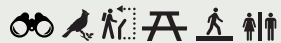
### 9a. Brooker Creek Headwaters Nature Preserve\*

18102 Ramblewood Road, Odessa  
Acreage: 1,120, Miles of trail: 5



### 9b. Brooker Creek Headwaters Nature Preserve\*

7020 Lutz Lake Fern Road, Odessa  
Miles of trail: 5



### 10. Camp Bayou Nature Preserve

4140 24th St. S.E., Ruskin  
Acreage: 160, Miles of trail: 2



### 11. Cockroach Bay Nature Preserve

3839 Gulf City Road, Ruskin  
Acreage: 995, Miles of trail: 7



### 12. Cockroach Creek Nature Preserve

4110 Valroy Road, Ruskin  
Acreage: 550, Miles of trail: 3



### 13. Cypress Creek Nature Preserve

18000 Lizard's Tail Road, Tampa  
Acreage: 2,685, Miles of trail: 3



### 14. Diamondback Nature Preserve

5602 W. Gray St., Tampa  
Acreage: 9, Miles of trail: 0.12



### 15. Ekker Nature Preserve

11002 Ekker Road, Gibsonton  
Acreage: 87, Miles of trail: 1



### 16a. Fish Hawk Creek Nature Preserve- North Entrance\*\*

3931 Lithia Springs Road, Lithia  
Acreage: 2,549, Miles of trail: 2



### 16b. Fish Hawk Creek Nature Preserve- South Entrance

16640 Boyette Road, Riverview  
Miles of trail: 2



### 17. Fred & Idah Schultz Nature Preserve

5906 Kracker Ave., Gibsonton  
Acreage: 134, Miles of trail: 2



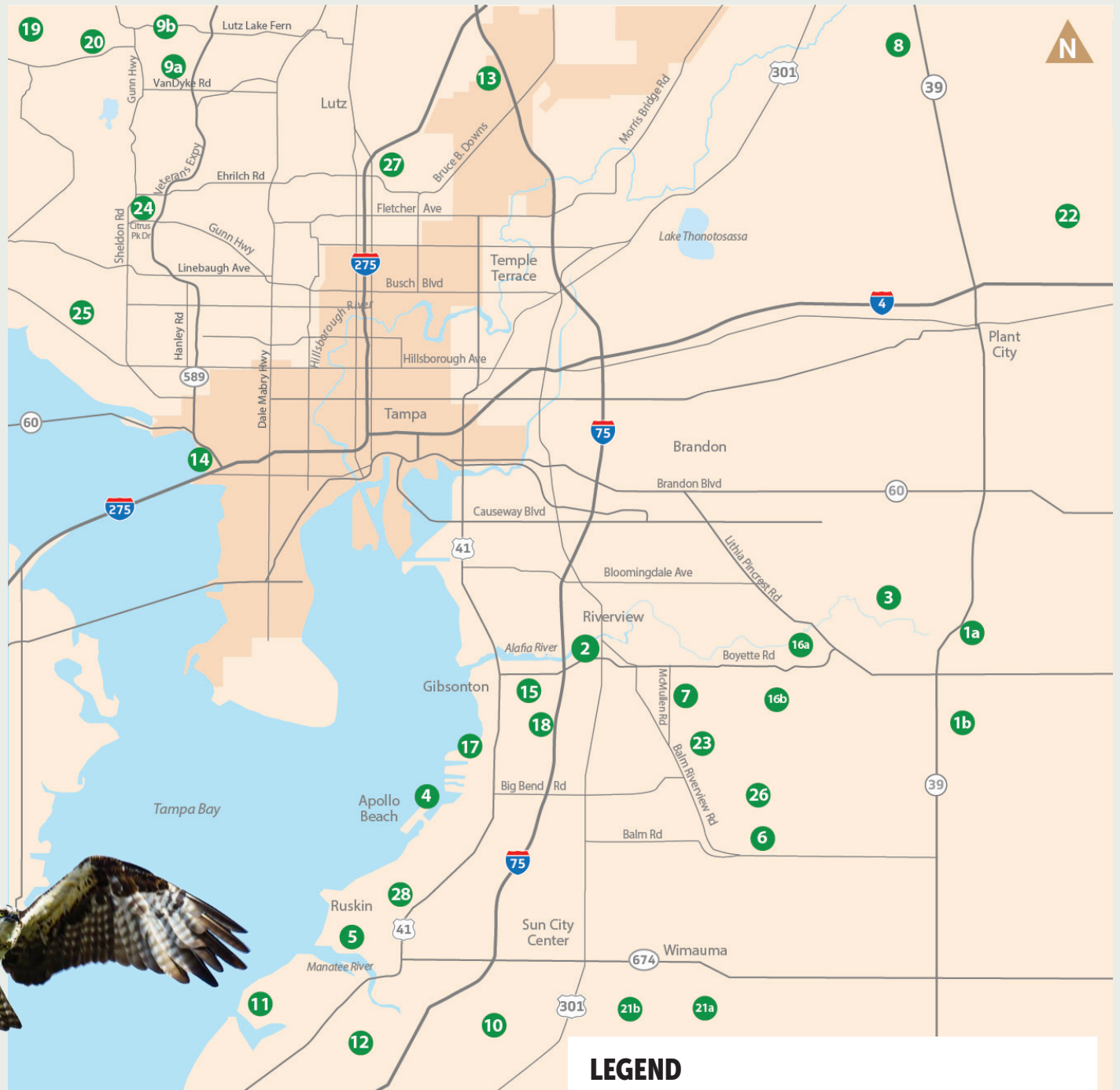
### 18. Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve

12181 East Bay Road, Gibsonton  
Acreage: 1,181, Miles of trail: 5



### 19. Lake Dan Nature Preserve\*\*\*

19116 Huckavalle Road, Odessa  
Acreage: 1,170, Miles of trail: 6



## LEGEND

	Wildlife Viewing		Mountain Biking
	Hiking		Canoe/Kayak Launch
	Picnicking		Equestrian Trail
	Playground		Birdwatching
	Fishing		Boardwalk
	Paved Trail		Restroom
	Basketball		Nature Center

### 20. Lake Frances Nature Preserve\*\*\*

11009 Tarpon Springs Road, Odessa  
Acreage: 1,664, Miles of trail: 6



### 21a. Little Manatee River Corridor Nature Preserve-

West Entrance  
2510 Leonard Lee Road, Wimauma  
Acreage: 8,164, Miles of trail: 4



### 21b. Little Manatee River Corridor Nature Preserve-

East Entrance  
2608 S. County Road 579, Wimauma  
Miles of trail: 3



### 22. Lower Green Swamp Nature Preserve

3540 East Knights Griffin Road, Plant City  
Acreage: 12,837, Miles of trail: 20



### 23. Rhodine Scrub Nature Preserve\*\*\*\*\*

12108 Rhodine Road, Riverview  
Acreage: 500, Miles of trail: 3



### 24. Rocky Creek Trails Nature Preserve\*\*\*\*

7415 Manhattan Drive, Tampa  
Acreage: 16, Miles of trail: 0.45



### 25. Town 'N Country Nature Preserve\*\*\*\*\*

8304 Montague St., Tampa  
Acreage: 126, Miles of trail: 1



### 26. Triple Creek Nature Preserve

13305 Balm Boyette Road, Riverview  
Acreage: 904, Miles of trail: 5



### 27. Violet Cury Nature Preserve

1802 Sinclair Hills Road, Lutz  
Acreage: 161, Miles of trail: 2



### 28. Wolf Branch Nature Preserve

481 Villemaire Road, Apollo Beach  
Acreage: 1,417, Miles of trail: 2



\* The Brooker Creek Headwaters Nature Preserve Lutz Lake Fern access point shares a parking lot with the Upper Tampa Bay Trail. There is a \$2 per vehicle parking fee.

\*\* The parking lot for the FishHawk Creek Nature Preserve North is located inside Lithia Springs Conservation Park. There is a \$2 per vehicle entry fee.

\*\*\* Horse trailer parking to access the Lake Dan and Lake Frances trail system is located at the Lake Frances entrance, 11009 Tarpon Springs Road. Hours for Lake Dan and Lake Frances vary by season. Please check the website for current preserve hours.

\*\*\*\* A \$2 per vehicle parking fee applies.

\*\*\*\*\* Parking lot is located in Steven J. Wortham Park.

\*\*\*\*\* Parking lot is located along the Upper Tampa Bay Trail at 7499 Montague Street.

Trail distances are estimates. Please review the trail map to determine the distance of your planned trip.

