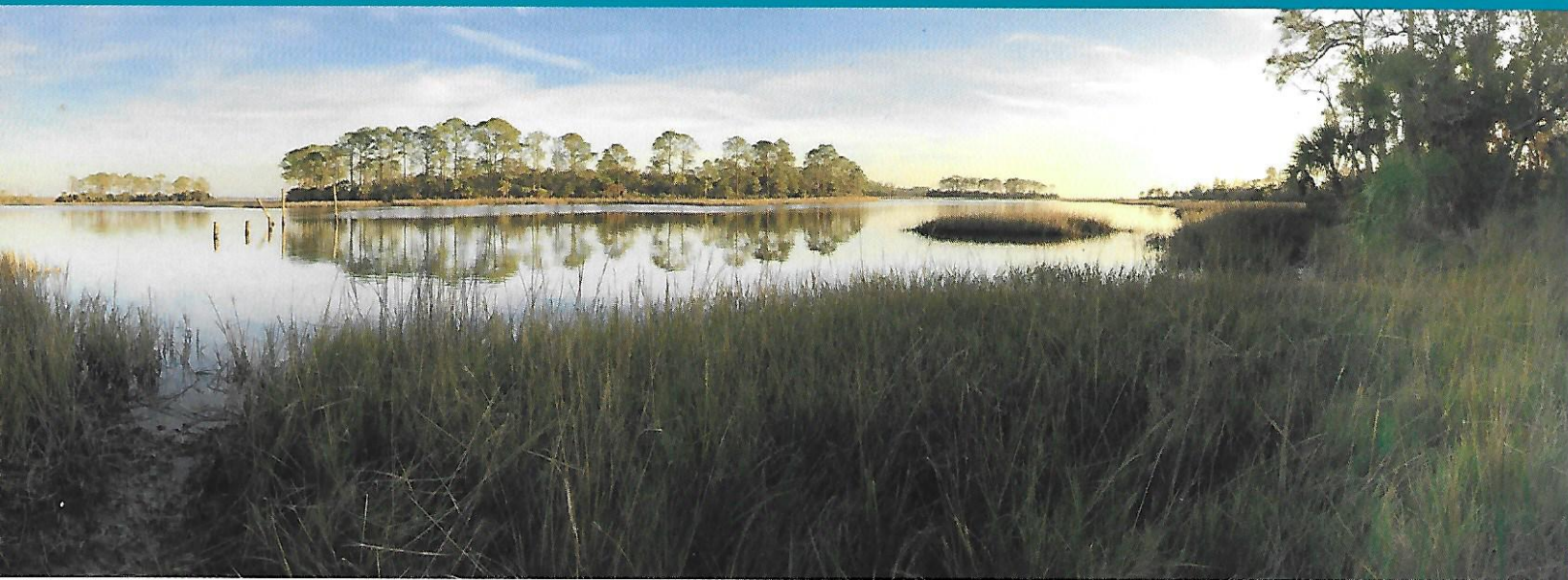


Welcome to Florida

Florida has an abundance of amazing natural resources. The 1,350 miles of Florida's coastline include beaches, mangrove forests, salt marshes, estuaries, and bays. Further inland, there are various types of forests, scrubs, grasslands, wetlands, and 700 springs – the largest collection on the planet. Parks and preserves provide access to many natural areas where we can hike, bike, or paddle. You can enjoy these natural treasures and help preserve them by following the tips listed in this brochure.



Florida's natural treasures depend on you

Educate yourself about the environment around you. Visit environmental centers, attend lectures and public events, surf the web to learn about Florida's natural history, and explore volunteer opportunities. Then work in your community to spread the word about the value of Florida's environment.

Take responsibility. Reduce, reuse, repurpose, recycle, and don't litter. Too many birds, manatees, sea turtles and other wildlife are injured by plastic, fishing line and other items that could have been safely recycled. Many of these wildlife hazards, like balloons, end up as litter, including on beaches and in waterways. If you see litter in a natural area pick it up.

Contact your elected officials. Let local, state, and federal officials know you care about conserving

natural areas for future generations and that you expect them to support conservation and environmental issues. Vote accordingly. We all need to become better stewards of our only planet.

Compost organic matter such as yard waste and kitchen scraps to build enriched soil to use for gardening and to reduce the volume of waste in our landfills.

Get outside and enjoy Florida's wonderful natural features. Take only pictures and leave only footprints. These experiences are good for our well-being. Your family adventures in natural areas helps to form a lasting connection with the Florida environment.