



Alachua County

Alachua County Forever's Austin Cary - Newnan's Lake Addition



Portion of Hatchet Creek that flows through the Property.

Date: June 1, 2005 **Purchase Price: \$2,184/acre**
Sellers: Rayonier Timberlands **Size: 1,708 acres**
Score: 7.69 out of 10.00

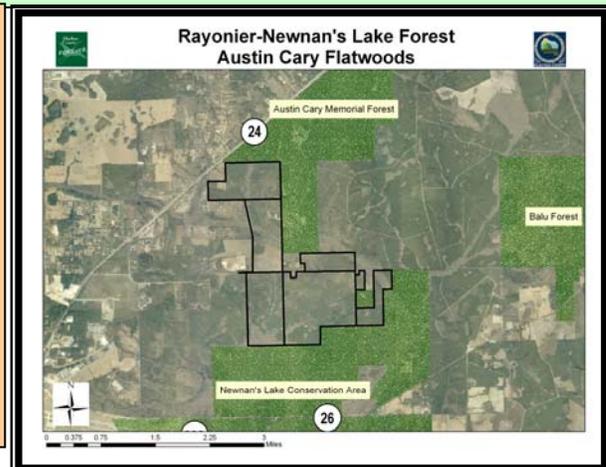
- This is one of the linchpin tracts in the Austin Cary Flatwoods Project.
- It connects Austin Cary Memorial Forest to Newnan's Lake Conservation Area and Gum Root Swamp Preserve creating over 8,000 contiguous acres of conservation land.
- Community types include pine plantation, sandhill, basin swamp and stream habitats. Hatchet Creek flows through the central portion of the property.
- Provides habitat for osprey, bald eagles and gopher tortoise and a variety of amphibians and reptiles.
- Partners:
 - Alachua County Forever (43%)
 - SJRWMD (43%)
 - USDA Federal Forest Legacy Program (14%)
- The Forest Legacy Grant was the first awarded in the State.
- The St. Johns River WMD will manage this site to enhance its natural resource values and provide a nature-based passive recreation for residents and visitors. ACF will provide technical assistance and cooperation.
- Recreation opportunities may include primitive hiking trails, interpretive exhibits and wildlife observation.

ALACHUA COUNTY FOREVER REFERENDUM

Approved in November 2000 by the voters, to acquire, improve and manage the county's environmentally sensitive lands to protect water resources, wildlife habitats and natural areas suitable for resource-based recreation.

Program Notes

- ✓ Alachua County Forever responds to public nominations.
- ✓ Property owners must be willing. Condemnation of property is not permitted under Alachua County Forever.
- ✓ Projects evaluated by staff and the Land Conservation Board.
- ✓ Criteria include protection of water resources, habitats, species, social value, manageability, and the economics of the acquisition.
- ✓ The County Commission approves acquisition projects.
- ✓ County can acquire property outright or certain rights through less-than-fee mechanisms such as conservation easements.
- ✓ Offers are made based on independent, private appraisals.
- ✓ Program funded through a \$29 million in voter-approved bonds.
- ✓ Program actively seeks state, federal and private grants.
- ✓ Properties are managed as preserves.
- ✓ Resource-compatible, passive recreation is encouraged on sites where appropriate.



2001 Aerial Photo

For more information:
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