

## Preserve Rules

***“Take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints, kill nothing but time.”***

- ◆ Trails are open from 7 am to 6 pm October-March, 7 am to 8 pm April-September, 365 days a year. Visitors on the preserve outside these hours are trespassing.
- ◆ Pack out what you pack in.
- ◆ Trails are for pedestrians and bicyclists only. Bikers must yield to hikers.
- ◆ Preserve patrons may not establish new trails without permission from the County.
- ◆ Help prevent erosion by staying on the trails.
- ◆ Collecting or disturbing plants, animals, artifacts, or fossils is prohibited.
- ◆ No taking, harassing, or killing of wildlife without written permission from Alachua County.
- ◆ Leashed dogs are allowed on trails provided owners pick up after them.

## Advice for the Trails

- ◆ Natural areas & wildlife may be hazardous. Stay alert, stay on the established trails, and stay safe.
- ◆ During wet weather trails may be under water.
- ◆ Be prepared for rough or soft trails – some roadways are utilized for fire breaks and are periodically harrowed.
- ◆ For your comfort and safety, wear sunscreen or a hat, use insect repellent and carry water.

If you have a disability and need an accommodation in order to participate in a County program, service or public meeting, please contact the Equal Opportunity Office at 352-374-5275 at least 2 business days prior to the event. TDD users, please call 711 (Florida Relay Service).

## About the Preserve

The original 464 acre Buck Bay Flatwoods Preserve tract was purchased in 2013 by Alachua County through the Alachua County Forever Program using Wild Spaces Public Places surtax funds. The Preserve was expanded in 2019 with the purchase of an additional 173 acres, also using Wild Spaces Public Places funds. In total, the Preserve now protects 637 acres, nine distinct natural communities, and 4,000 ft of Hatchet Creek. The entire footprint of the Preserve is within the Primary and Secondary Protection Zones of the Murphree Wellfield, GRU’s source of drinking water for local residents. This Preserve was purchased to protect, preserve and enhance the unique natural and cultural resources found on the property; protect water resources; and to provide an enjoyable and educational passive recreational experience.

## Alachua County Forever

is the County’s Land Conservation Program that acquires, improves & manages environmentally significant lands that protect water resources, wildlife habitats, and natural areas suitable for resource based recreation.



**Alachua County**  
**Environmental Protection Department**  
**Office of Land Conservation & Management**  
**408 W. University Ave, Suite 106**  
**Gainesville, FL 32601**

**Phone: 352-264-6868**

**E-mail: [landconservation@alachuacounty.us](mailto:landconservation@alachuacounty.us)**  
**Web: [www.AlachuaCountyForever.us](http://www.AlachuaCountyForever.us)**



# Buck Bay Flatwoods Preserve

---

## Trail Map

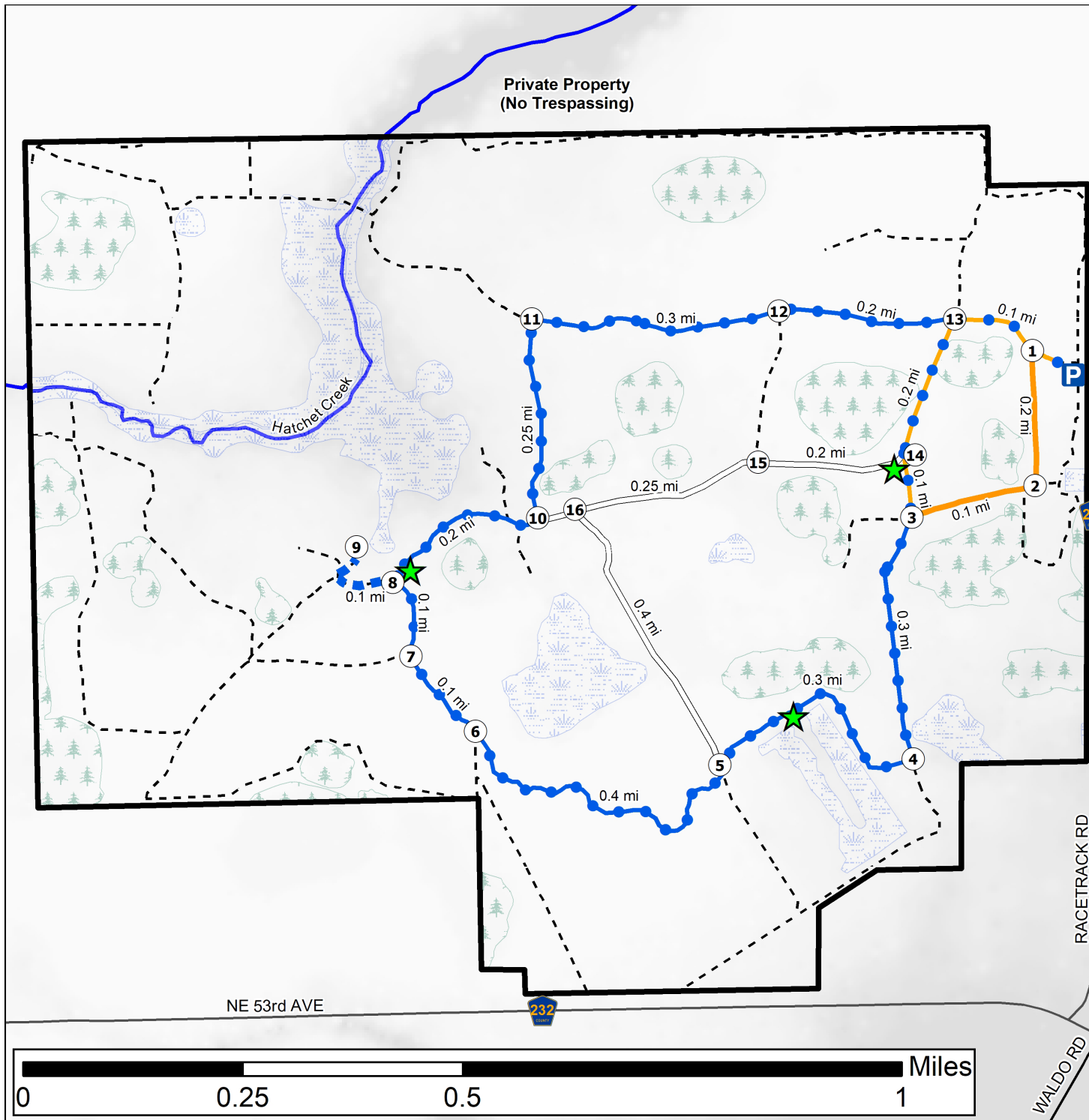
**6502 N County Rd 225,  
Gainesville, FL**



Pinxter azalea,  
*Rhododendron canescens*

## Preserve Hours:

**Oct. - March 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.**  
**April - Sept. 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.**



### Legend

- 
- Preserve Boundary
- Trailhead Parking
- Bench
- Hatchet Creek
- Dome Swamps
- Other Wetlands

### Trail Names

- Dome Swamp Loop (0.7 mi)
- Lakeview Loop (2.5 mi)
- Short-cut Trail (0.85 mi)
- Lakeview & Dome Swamp Loops Overlap
- Wildlife Clearing Trail
- Service Roads

**All trails may be seasonally flooded**

The Dome Swamp Loop is a short 0.7 mile trail close to the trailhead, blazed orange. Over this short distance visitors will travel past three dome swamps embedded within mesic flatwoods.

The Lakeview Loop is a moderate 2.5 mile trail blazed blue. It takes visitors through the heart of the wet and mesic flatwoods within the Preserve, past a human-made lake, and along other wetland ecotones.

The Short-cut Trails, blazed white, offer shorter loop options than the full Lakeview Loop. Look for signs at intersections to help you navigate.

Service roads are not marked and are not part of the designated trail system. Please stay out of areas marked as closed.