

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 bicycle use only. Cyclist must yield to hikers. Motorized vehicles are prohibited.
- ♦ Preserve visitors may not establish new trails without permission from Alachua County EPD.
- ♦ 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 EPD.
- ♦ 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

Black Lake Preserve was purchased in 2020 by Alachua County through the Alachua County Forever Program using Wild Spaces Public Places surtax funds. The preserve is approximately 287 acres and includes 9 distinct natural communities. About 32 acres are included in the Santa Fe River system Outstanding Florida Waters designation, and the preserve borders approximately 9,500 feet of wetland along the south end of Lake Santa Fe. The preserve was purchased to protect, preserve, and enhance the unique natural and cultural resources found on the property and to provide an enjoyable and educational recreational experience for citizens and visitors.

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
Land Conservation and Management Program
915 SE 5th St., Gainesville, FL 32601**

Phone: 352-264-6868

E-mail: landconservation@alachuacounty.us

Web: www.AlachuaCountyForever.us



Black Lake Preserve

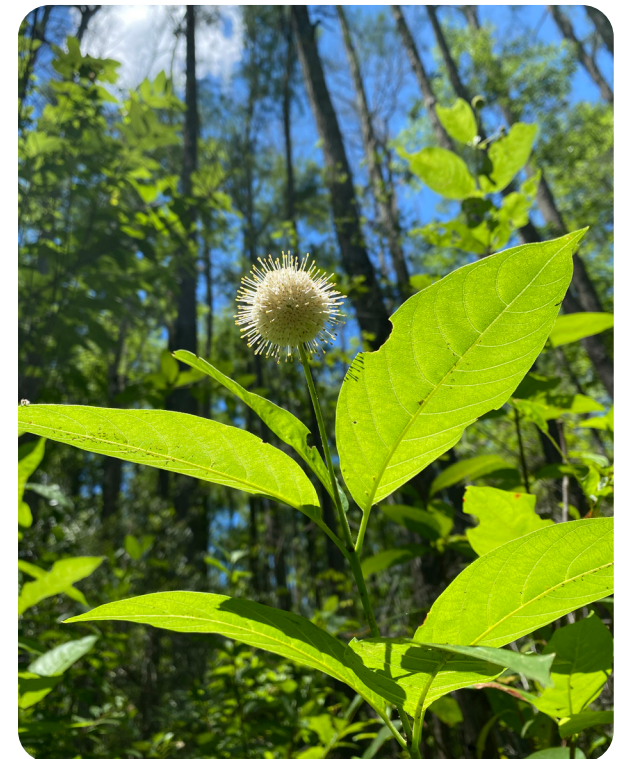
Trail Map

Main Trailhead

6197 NE 225th St., Melrose, FL

Pedestrian Trailhead

6551 NE 221st St., Melrose, FL



Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

Preserve Hours:

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

