

Preserve Rules

"Take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints, kill nothing but time."

- ◆ Trails are open from sunrise to sunset, 365 days a year.
- ◆ Pack out what you pack in.
- ◆ Trails are for pedestrians & 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.
- ◆ Leave what you find. Collecting 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 to your health. 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 Alachua County Forever and Florida Communities Trust

The 125 acre Sweetwater Preserve was bought in 2006 by Alachua County with funding from the Alachua County Forever Bond and a Florida Communities Trust Grant. 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 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.

Florida Communities Trust is a state land acquisition grant program that provides funding to local governments and eligible non-profit environmental organizations for acquisition of community-based parks, open space and greenways that further outdoor recreation and natural resource protection needs identified in local government comprehensive plans.



Alachua County

Environmental Protection Department
Office of Land Conservation
408 W. University Ave., Suite 106
Gainesville, FL 32601

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E-mail: landconservation@alachuacounty.us
Web: <http://www.alachuacountyforever.us>



Sweetwater Preserve










Trail Map

309 SE 16th Avenue,
Gainesville, Florida 32667



Honeycombhead, *Balduina angustifolia*

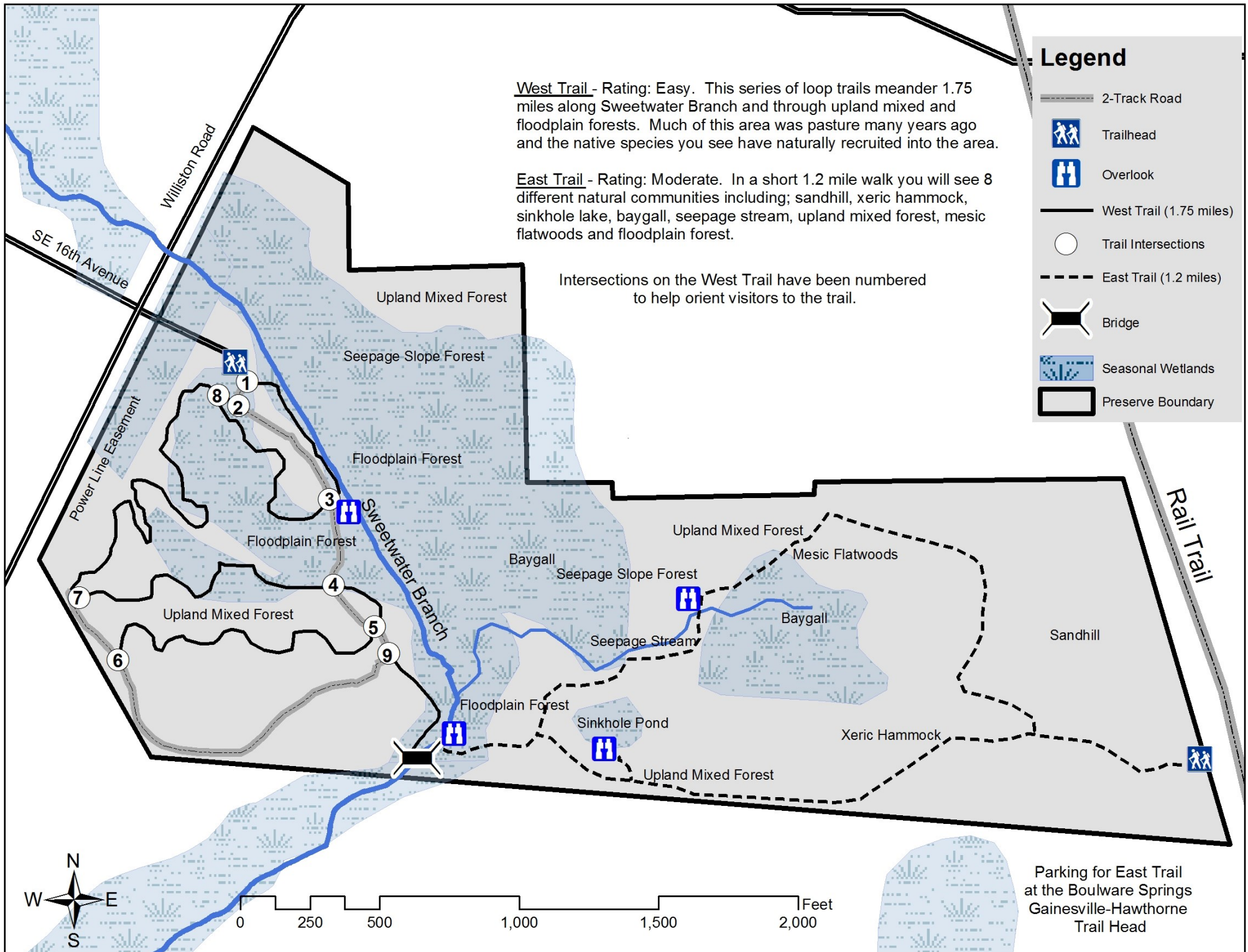
Legend

-  2-Track Road
-  Trailhead
-  Overlook
-  West Trail (1.75 miles)
-  Trail Intersections
-  East Trail (1.2 miles)
-  Bridge
-  Seasonal Wetlands
-  Preserve Boundary

West Trail - Rating: Easy. This series of loop trails meander 1.75 miles along Sweetwater Branch and through upland mixed and floodplain forests. Much of this area was pasture many years ago and the native species you see have naturally recruited into the area.

East Trail - Rating: Moderate. In a short 1.2 mile walk you will see 8 different natural communities including; sandhill, xeric hammock, sinkhole lake, baygall, seepage stream, upland mixed forest, mesic flatwoods and floodplain forest.

Intersections on the West Trail have been numbered to help orient visitors to the trail.



Parking for East Trail at the Boulware Springs Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail Head