

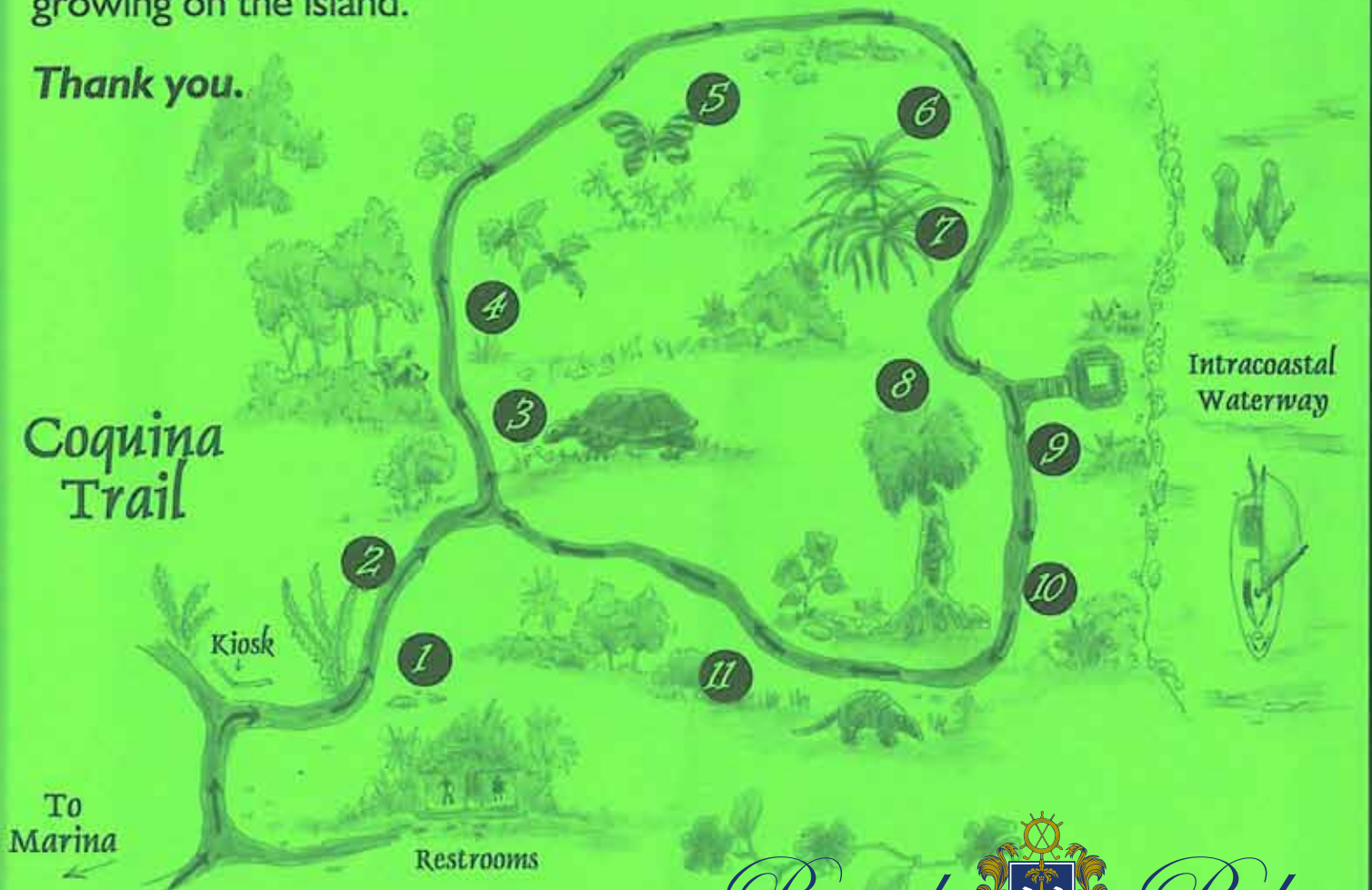
WELCOME TO *Deerfield Island Park*

1720 Deerfield Island Park • Deerfield Beach, FL 33441 • 954-360-1320

Deerfield Island Park is a 56-acre urban wilderness area. Our job is to protect the animals and plants that live here. Please help us by staying on the trails, leaving the plants undisturbed, and permitting our animals to eat only their natural food that they are able to find growing on the island.

Coquina Trail Guide

Thank you.



BROWARD
COUNTY
FLORIDA

Royal Palm  *Palm*

PROPERTIES
The numbers on the map correspond to the information on back.

We hope you will enjoy your walk!

Coquina Trail

- 1 The ROSARY PEA is a climbing legume whose brown seedpods open to show shiny red and black seeds. When it was discovered that the seeds contain a potent poison, they were no longer strung on rosaries. These nonnative plants, like other exotic pests, can replace native plants.
- 2 The CABBAGE or SABAL PALM, Florida's state tree, was an important source of food for the early inhabitants. Known as "swamp cabbage," the edible part comes from the tip of the bud that is removed. The removal of the bud kills the palm.
- 3 The tall shrubs with drip-tip leaves are known as WHITE STOPPERS or SKUNK TREES. "Stopper" comes from their medicinal use as a treatment for dysentery, while "skunk" is from their production of a scent like that of a certain notorious mammal. The island's SPOTTED SKUNKS are rarely seen because they are nocturnal creatures.
- 4 Partially buried in this depression lies a dredge pipe, a remnant of the construction of the Intracoastal Waterway between 1935 and 1945, when Deerfield Island Park was know simply as Spoil Areas Number 702. The CORAL LIMESTONE, marked with tiny stars, and COQUINA LIMESTONE strewn along the trail, were deposited here as spoils.
- 5 The TREE TRUST AREA is part of the park's long-term removal program that targets BRAZILIAN PEPPER and AUSTRALIAN PINE, two invasive exotic species that threaten this Urban Wilderness Preserve. Appropriate native species are being planted to provide a habitat for wildlife.
- 6 Beware of the sharp black-tipped blades of the SPANISH BAYONET. Look around for PRICKLY PEAR CACTI poking their spiny, rounded pads through the undergrowth. The cactus provides lovely yellow blooms in the spring, followed by reddish, pulpy fruits that are eaten by the gopher tortoise.
- 7 SEA GRAPE TREES have large, thick, rounded leaves that resist salt spray, enabling them to grow quite close to the ocean. The edible fruit hangs in clusters that resemble domestic grapes. GRAPEVINES are present on the island and produce food for wild animals.
- 8 The SATIN LEAF, a native tree with leaves that are copper-colored underside, stands near an underground burrow for the GOPHER TORTOISE, an animal of special concern because its habitat is rapidly disappearing. The island is a preserve for these powerful diggers whose shells can measure up to 12 inches in length.
- 9 Tropical GUMBO LIMBO TREES shade the "overlook." These trees, also known as "tourist trees," feature reddish peeling bark. Occasionally, MANATEES are spotted in the waterway, but often only their noses break the surface of the water. These "sea cows" are on the list of endangered species.
- 10 The WINGLEAF SOAPBERRY produces small yellow fruit that, when rubbed in water, can be used as a soap substitute. The black seeds are poisonous.
- 11 The spikes of yellow flowers and the pearl-like seeds of the NECKLACE POD, attract butterflies like the ZEBRA LONGWING, with its distinctive yellow-stripped wings. The magenta-colored berries clustered along the stem of the BEAUTYBERRY are a favorite food of the state bird, the MOCKINGBIRD.

IT STARTS IN PARKS!

Anyone requiring auxiliary aids for communication should call 954-357-8170 (voice) or 954-537-2844 (TTY) prior to the event so that advance arrangements can be made.

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