

WELCOME TO *Deerfield Island Park*

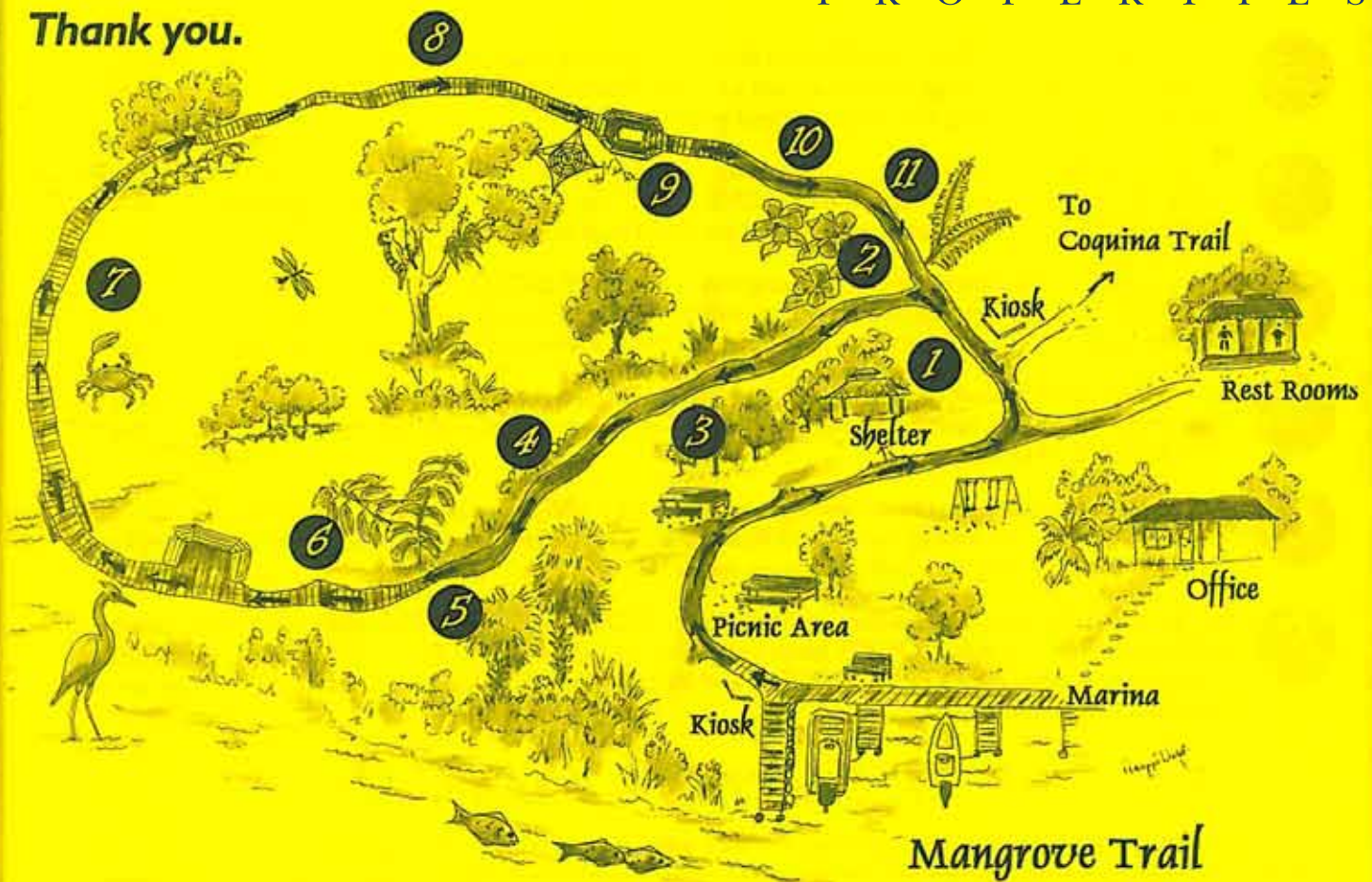
1720 Deerfield Island Park • Deerfield Beach, FL 33441 • 954-360-1320

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.

Mangrove Trail Guide

Royal Palm  *Palm*
P R O P E R T I E S

Thank you.



BROWARD
COUNTY
FLORIDA

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

We hope you will enjoy your walk!

Mangrove Trail

- 1 The WILD COFFEE, with its deeply veined leaves and bright red berries, grows under the hammock and is surrounded by the SWORD FERN, or what may be called BOSTON FERN.
- 2 The SIMPSON'S STOPPER has beautiful bark. Its name comes from its one time use in the treatment of dysentery. The AUSTRALIAN PINE (neither a true pine nor a Florida native) stands tall and litters the trail with its branches and seedpods.
- 3 The southern side of the trail gives you a view through some of Florida's native coastal hammock vegetation. Just around the bend, the nonnative BRAZILIAN PEPPER or FLORIDA HOLLY, with its scalloped leaf margin and red berries, has invaded the landscape and crowded out the native foliage with its dense, thicket-like growth.
- 4 The champion-sized SAW PALMETTO displays sharp projections from the stems of its fan-shaped fronds. BLACK RACER SNAKES and SKINKS may be hidden in the safety of its thickets.
- 5 Keep an eye out for the strong, golden threads of the GOLDEN-ORB WEAVER SPIDER, commonly known as the BANANA SPIDER. The female has long legs that are banded yellow-orange and black. The small CRABLIKE SPINY ORB WEAVER SPIDER is white with black spots and prominent reddish spines on the sides and rear.
- 6 FIDDLER and MANGROVE CRABS find their home in this area. The minute male fiddler stands guard at its burrow, waving his large claw to attract a female. You'll find the MANGROVE CRAB, which is the about size of a beetle, climbing the rough-barked trees.
- 7 The MANGROVE WETLAND, an important nursery for very young fish and shellfish, is the beginning of many marine food chains. RED MANGROVE TREES have prop roots and elongated seedpods. WHITE MANGROVE TREES are taller, with rough bark and oval leaves.
- 8 Many birds find different niches in the mangrove wetland. PILEATED WOODPECKERS have red crests, and they hollow out holes in dead trees for their nests. VULTURES roost in the high limbs. HERONS and IBIS can be seen stalking prey in the shallows. SCREECH OWLS live in cavities in trees and are active at night.
- 9 LEATHER FERNS need the moist soil found here. Their leaves can grow to more than 10 feet long. The small tubes that cover the mud and look like straws are part of the root systems of some of the MANGROVE TREES.
- 10 At your feet are numerous holes belonging to LAND CRABS, shy and seldom seen. On the huge branches of the POND APPLE TREES, you'll find RESURRECTION FERNS, sometimes shriveled and appearing to be dead, but returning to a lush greenness with rain.
- 11 In the soft sand you might notice animal tracks. GOPHER TORTOISES often drag their plastron, or bottom shell, while RACCOONS leave small, hand-shaped prints. Purple MORNING GLORIES, pink, white, and purple WILD PERIWINKLES, and WILD POINSETTIAS, with red-tinged leaves are mixed together in this open area.

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.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION
950 N.W. 38th Street • Oakland Park, FL 33309-5982
954-357-8100 or 954-537-2844 (TTY) • Fax 954-537-2849

BROWARD
COUNTY
FLORIDA

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Josephus Eggelation Jr. • Ben Graber • Sue Gunzburger
Kristin D. Jacobs • Ilene Lieberman • John E. Rodstrom, Jr.
Jim Scott • Diana Wasserman-Rubin • Lois Wexler

www.broward.org/parks

This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$42.26 or \$.084 per copy to provide information on parks' activities.
An equal opportunity employer and provider of services. 4/05