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Brooker Creek Nature Preserve, Thursday, May 15, 2008

Start Time: 11:45 at Convention Center. Meet in Convention Center parking lot #2. Carpool caravan will leave at 11:45am SHARP.

– or arrive on your own – Start time **at field trip location: 1:00pm.** At the field trip site, meet in the foyer of the Classroom Building. It is the first building to the left off of the Boardwalk from the Main Parking Lot. We will hike parts of the Wilderness, Blackwater Cutoff and Flatwoods Trails.

End Time: 4:00pm

Degree of Difficulty: Easy

Guide: Don Stillwaugh, Sr. Environmental Specialist, Pinellas County, focused on plants, shorebirds & invertebrates. Field researcher, land manager and educator for over twenty years. Initially studied wide variety of insects and reptiles and amphibians on the prairies and savannas of the Chicago region. After moving to central Florida some ten years ago, began studying Lake Wales Ridge rare plants. Also worked with FL Fish & Wildlife Cons. Commission on Gopher Tortoise Mitigation Parks.

Plant Expert: Annie Schmidt, Sr. Env. Spec., Ecological Services Program, Pinellas County. Member, Pinellas County Wildland Fire Team. Florida Division of Forestry Certified Prescribed Burn Manager. M.S. Conservation Biology from USF.

Description: Approx. 8000 acres, largest natural area in highly developed Pinellas county. Managed by Pinellas County Dept. of Environmental Management's Environmental Lands Division. Majority of land is located in Brooker Creek Watershed (outfalls into Lake Tarpon). Creek system includes numerous meandering channels and expansive forested wetlands (scattered pockets of water during dry season). Mosaic of flatwoods, cypress domes & strands, sandhills, xeric hammocks, marshes, basin swamps, and bottomland forests. State-of-the-art education center. 3-mile hike through flatwoods, oak hammocks and forested wetlands. Diverse array of plants ranging from xeric to hydric species will be encountered; over 620 species documented. Wildlife routinely encountered include white-tailed deer, gopher tortoise, wild turkey, and numerous other birds, butterflies and dragonflies. Management practices, species' life histories, and field ID techniques discussed.

Notes: Sunshine Skyway Bridge is a toll road (\$1.00)

DON'T FORGET: Water, sun screen, hat, closed-toed shoes, binoculars & camera

Nearest Restrooms: At education center

Cell phone reception: Good

Contact for the day of the event: Annie Schmidt, 813-334-7379

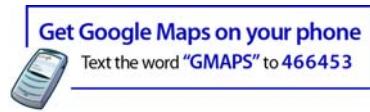
Map

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&hl=en&geocode=&time=&date=&ttype=&saddr=1+haben+blvd,+palmetto,+fl+&daddr=3940+keystone+road,+tarpon+springs,+fl&sll=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=31.977057,59.238281&ie=UTF8&z=9&om=0>

GPS – 3940 Keystone Rd, Tarpon Springs, FL



Start **1 Haben Blvd**
Palmetto, FL 34221
 End **3940 Keystone Rd**
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688
 Travel **58.7 mi – about 1 hour 6 mins**

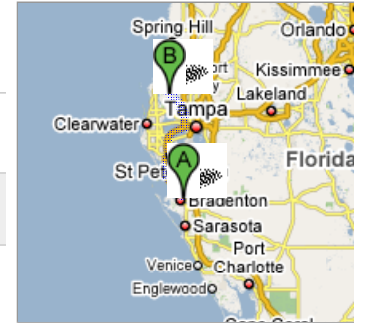


A **1 Haben Blvd**
Palmetto, FL 34221

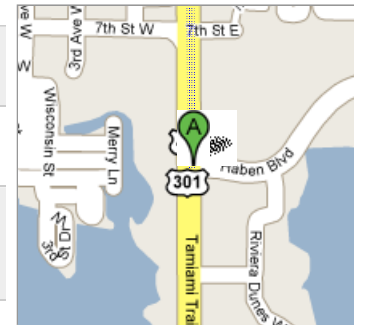
Drive: 58.7 mi – about 1 hour 6 mins

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Head north on US-301 N/US-41 N toward 7th St W
Continue to follow US-41 N | 2.5 mi
4 mins |
| ← 2. Slight left at US-19 N (signs for US-19 N/St Petersburg) | 2.4 mi
3 mins |
| 3. Take the ramp onto I-275 N/SR-55/Sunshine Skyway Bridge/US-19 N
Continue to follow I-275 N
Partial toll road | 34.0 mi
33 mins |
| 4. Take exit 39B for SR-60 W/Cypress St toward Veterans Exwy/Tampa Int'l/SR-589-TOLL N | 0.5 mi |
| → 5. Keep right at the fork, follow signs for SR-60 W/Tampa Airport and merge onto N Memorial Hwy/SR-60 W | 1.5 mi
2 mins |
| 6. Continue on Veterans Expy (signs for Air Cargo/Veterans Exwy/SR-589-TOLL N)
Toll road | 8.5 mi
9 mins |
| 7. Take exit 10 for Ehrlich Rd | 0.3 mi |
| ← 8. Keep left at the fork, follow signs for Gunn Hwy | 295 ft |
| ← 9. Turn left at Ehrlich Rd | 0.6 mi
2 mins |
| 10. Continue on Gunn Hwy | 0.4 mi |
| → 11. Turn right to stay on Gunn Hwy | 1.7 mi
3 mins |
| ← 12. Turn left at Race Track Rd | 0.7 mi
2 mins |
| → 13. Slight right at Boy Scout Rd | 3.8 mi
5 mins |
| ← 14. Turn left at Tarpon Springs Rd | 1.2 mi
2 mins |
| 15. Continue on Keystone Rd | 0.5 mi |

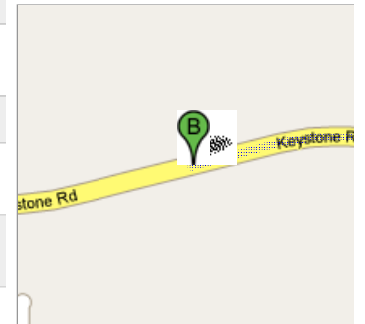
Overview



Start



End



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B **3940 Keystone Rd**
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, or other events may cause road conditions to differ from the map results.

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