

Florida Native Plant Society
2008 Conference Field Trip

FIELD TRIP O

Sunday, May 18, 2008

Place: Egmont Key State Park and National Wildlife Refuge

Start Time: Meet in Convention Center parking lot #2. Carpool caravan will leave at 9:15 am **SHARP** or arrive on your own - Start time at field trip location (i.e., Bay Pier boat dock inside Fort DeSoto County Park, 3500 Pinellas Bayway S., Tierra Verde): 10:00 am **SHARP**. The ferry will not wait for you.

End Time: Return ferry departs 2:00 pm

Degree of Difficulty: Moderate

Guide: State Parks Staff

Plant Expert: State Parks Staff

Lunch Coordinator:

Max. # Participants: 25

Description of Field Trip: Egmont Key is a 328-acre island at the mouth of Tampa Bay. A fertile seagrass community on its east side attracts shrimp, mollusks and the wading birds that feed on them. The beach and upland habitats support 117 bird species. Gopher tortoises, box turtles and mole skinks inhabit the island, and 30 to 60 loggerhead sea turtles nest there each year. Also of interest are the 87' lighthouse at one end of the island and the remains of Fort Dade, completed in 1906.

Notes:

1. Wear shorts and sandals or water shoes. Ferry anchors in shallow water; participants will have to wade ashore.
2. Field trip participants may choose to swim and snorkel. Snorkel equipment is available from the ferry operator at additional charge.
3. There is a \$1.00 toll for the Sunshine Skyway, and a \$0.85 toll for Pinellas Bayway.
4. Water, sun screen, hat, binoculars & camera recommended.

Nearest Restrooms: At Bay Pier in Fort Desoto County Park; composting toilets at Egmont Key State Park.

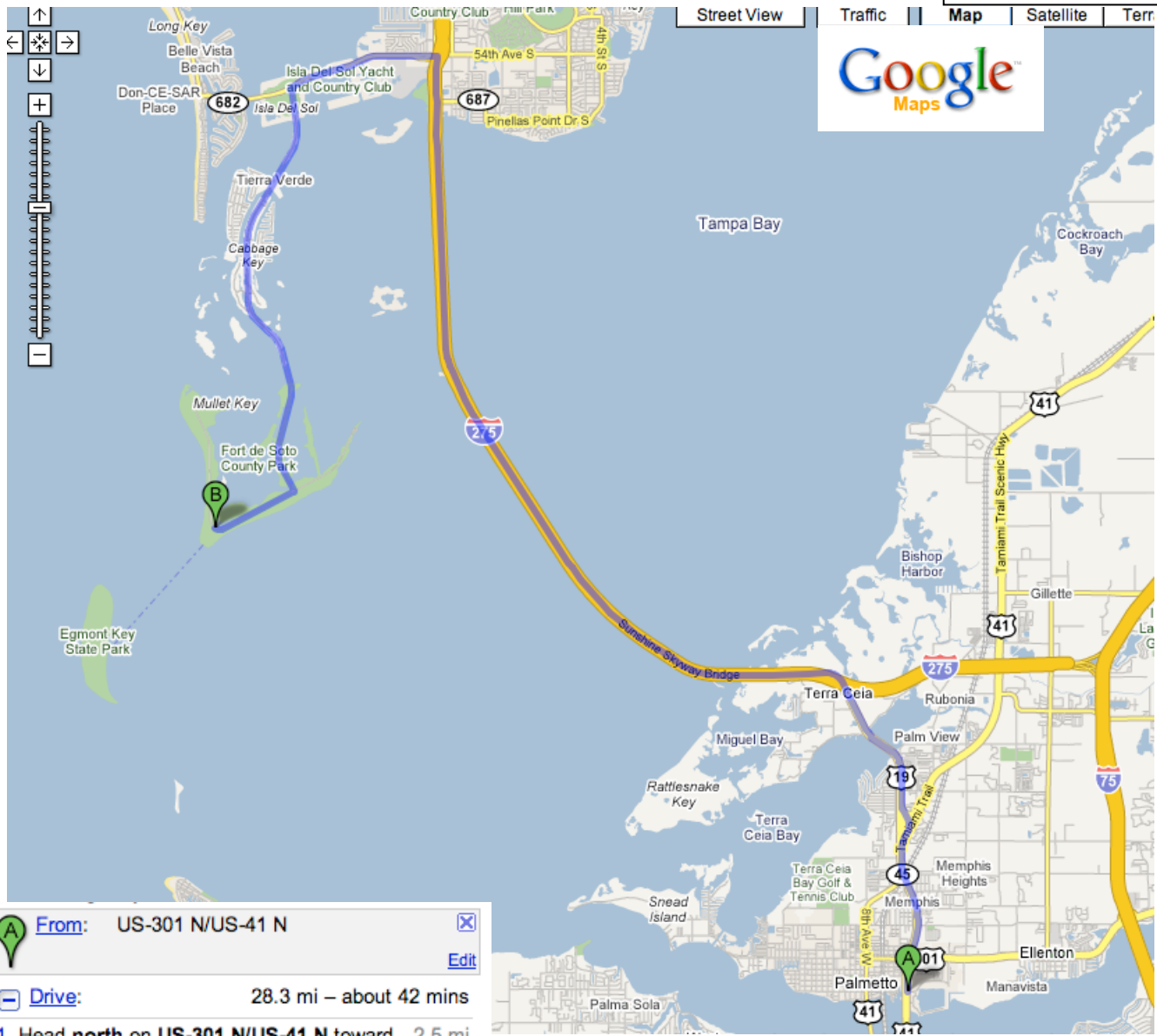
Nearest gas station: On Pinellas Bayway in Tierra Verde.

Cell phone reception: Spotty

Handicap access: None

Contact number for the day of the event: 941-737-3169

FIELD TRIP O



From: US-301 N/US-41 N Edit

Drive: 28.3 mi – about 42 mins

- Head north on **US-301 N/US-41 N** toward **7th St W**
Continue to follow US-41 N
- Slight left at **US-19 N** (signs for **US-19 N/ St Petersburg**) 2.4 mi
- Take the ramp onto **I-275 N/SR-55/US-19 N** 12.8 mi
Partial toll road
- Take exit **17** on the left for **SR-682 W/ US-19 N** toward **Pinellas Bayway/St Pete Beach** 0.4 mi
- Turn left at **54th Ave S** 1.2 mi
Partial toll road
- Continue on **Pinellas Bayway S** 1.1 mi
- Turn left to stay on **Pinellas Bayway S** 6.6 mi
Partial toll road
- Turn right at **Anderson Blvd** 1.3 mi

To: Anderson Blvd Edit

FIELD TRIP O
 EGMONT KEY STATE PARK
 SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2008
 Carpool 9:15 Convention Center
 Meet at Bay Pier Boat Dock
 10am SHARP