

Florida Native Plant Society  
2008 Conference Field Trip

# FIELD TRIP R

## Sunday, May 18, 2008

**Place:** Oscar Scherer State Park

**Start Time:** Meet in Convention Center parking lot #2. Carpool caravan will leave at 7:45am **SHARP** or arrive on your own –Start time at field trip location: 8:30am.

**End Time:** 10:30 am at park

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy

**Guide:** Jon Thaxton, Scrub-jay expert and Sarasota County Commissioner, [jthaxton@scgov.net](mailto:jthaxton@scgov.net)

**Plant Expert :** Tim/ Ann Feidenkranz, Serenoa Chapter

**Description of Field Trip:** Uplands in central Sarasota County. This state park offers sandy trails in scrub and scrubby flatwoods surrounded by urban growth. It's Sarasota County's crown jewel for Florida Scrub-jays. An active land management program was initiated in the 1980s by the Florida Park Service when there were few scrub-jays. Today sixteen active scrub-jay territories reward the observant with a glimpse of this bird's social interactions and the success of prescribed burning within the urban interface.

**Notes:**

**DON'T FORGET:** Water, sun screen, hat, binoculars & camera; **show this field trip sheet at park entrance to be admitted free**

Nearest Restrooms: on-site at nature center

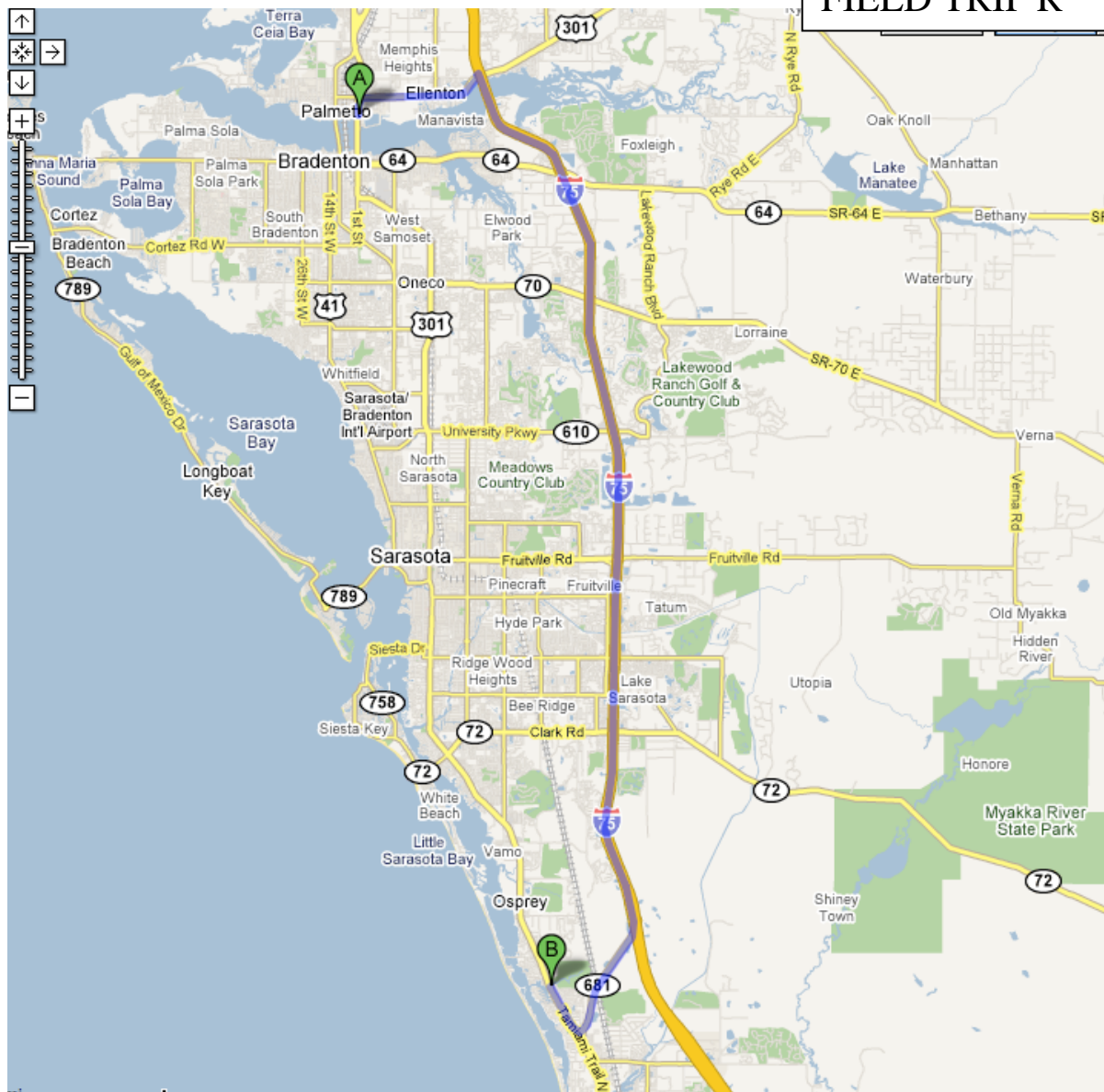
Nearest gas station: 1 mile north on Tamiami Trail (aka US 41) at Shell Station

Cell phone reception: good

Contact number for the day of the event: 941- 483-5956 (ranger station)

**Directions from the Manatee Convention Center:**

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

**Drive:** 33.8 mi – about 34 mins

1. Head **north** on **US-301 N/US-41 N** toward **7th St W** 0.3 mi
2. Exit onto **US-301 N** toward **Ellenton** 3.6 mi
3. Turn **left** to merge onto **I-75 S** 24.9 mi
4. Take exit **200** to merge onto **SR-681 S** toward **Osprey/Venice** 3.2 mi
5. Take the ramp onto **Tamiami Trail N/US-41 N** 1.8 mi

**B To:** 1843 S Tamiami Trail  
Osprey, FL 34229

**FIELD TRIP R**  
**OSCAR SCHERER STATE PARK**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 18**  
Carpool 7:45am SHARP at  
Convention Center parking lot #2  
Meet at park at 10:30am