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Gadsden Glades - Thursday, May 20, 2009

Meet at 7:45 a.m. in Civic Center parking lot. Carpool caravan will depart for the Gholson Park in Chattahoochee promptly at **8:00 a.m.**

Or arrive on your own--

Start time at field trip location: 9:15 a.m.. Meet at **Angus Gholson Jr. Nature Park of Chattahoochee**, 400 Park Street, Chattahoochee, FL 32324. The Nature is located on Park Street, just west Morgan Ave. in Chattahoochee (**see map below**).

End Time: 3 p.m.

Degree of Difficulty: Moderate **Handicap access:** no

Guide:, Wilson Baker, naturalist. Contact info: 850/222-6874

Co-leader: Tom Patrick, ecologist, Georgia Heritage Program

Description: We will drive on a graded dirt road and hike a short way to Chalky glade, one of the Gadsden Glades, a set of limestone outcrops in the vicinity of Chattahoochee, Florida that have a unique flora, including species disjunct from the western prairies, such as *Carex microdonta* and *Aster pratense*. The predominant cover in these natural openings is the black sedge (*Schoenus nigricans*), along with muhly grass and small annual grasses and beaksedges. Diamond flowers (*Hedyotis nigricans*) and moss (*Weissia jamaicense*) predominate on the rockiest portions. Calcium-loving shrubs and small trees that border the openings include red cedar, winged elm, redbud, and hawthorn (*Crataegus spathulata*). After lunch we will tour Angus Gholson Nature Park before departing for Tallahassee at 3 pm.

Park entrance is free

DON'T FORGET: Water, sun screen, hat. Light, long-sleeved shirt and pants are recommended to protect against biting insects. You may get shoes muddy, depending on recent rainfall – wear closed toe shoes.

Nearest Restrooms: There are restrooms at the Gholson Nature Park.

Nearest gas station: Chattahoochee

Cell phone reception: yes

Contact number for the day of the event: 850/212-1106.

Park Entrance: Take I-10 west to Chattahoochee exit (CR 270A) and continue north to a T junction with CR269. Turn right on CR 269 to junction with W. Brent Street in Chattahoochee. Turn west (left) on W. Brent St. and left on Park St. to Nature Park. **GPS:** -84.849309 30.697728.

See attached map

Map:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&q=400+Park+Street,+Chattahoochee,+FL+323&ie=UTF8&hq=&hnear=Park+St,+Chattahoochee,+Gadsden,+Florida+32324&ll=30.700018,-84.84885&spn=0.013377,0.019248&t=h&z=16>