

We create outstanding recreational,

natural and cultural experiences

to enrich you and to enhance

our community for this and

future generations.



LIVE A PARKLIFE ...



January/February 2008 marks the first issue of *Parklife*, a new venture for the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department. A magazine dedicated to nuturing green spaces, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of South Florida, and fostering an active, fun and healthy lifestyle for community members, *Parklife* is about parks and the role they play in your life. It is also about the life you bring to parks through your support and active participation in Parks programs and events.

For almost 80 years, Miami-Dade Parks has been instrumental in shaping the community. What began as a tree planting program in 1929 has grown to become the third largest parks system in the United States with over 250 parks that offer arts and entertainment events, naturalist programs, recreational and educational activities throughout the year. Miami-Dade Parks actively enriches the vast parks system with resources dedicated to planning and developing new sites as well as, updating amenities and facilities. Your neighborhood parks offer a place for reflection, a venue for concerts, a site for athletic activities, and a spot where families and friends can come together and enjoy a day in a beautiful natural setting.

Every two months, Parklife will address topics that tell the story of Miami-Dade Parks and inform you of a large variety of activities for you to enjoy and projects designed to enhance your quality of life as residents and visitors of Miami-Dade County, However, Parklife only scratches the surface. For more information, visit www.miamidade.gov/parks. The website can help you locate parks in your neighborhood, find programs and activities for children, adults and seniors, and give you updated information on upcoming events.

So, whether you are new to Miami-Dade Parks, or a regular participant in our programs and events, take the opportunity to enjoy all that we offer and...

Parklife

MIAMI DADE DADEC DUBLICATION









Contents

- 1 Mission
- 4 Looking Back: The History of Miami-Dade Parks
- 8 People in Parks: Jack Kardys
- **10** Sunrise to Sunset: a Photo Gallery
- **18** From Arts to Zoo: an Introduction to Parks
- 30 Parks at a Glance
- **32** Progress Report
- **36** Calendar of Events
- 48 In Closing



front cover:

Matheson Hammock Park Miami-Dade Parks Photo Archives: photo illustration

back cover:

Miami-Dade Parks Photo Archives: photo illustration

Publisher:

Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department

=aitor:

Doris Howe

Content Manager: Katherine MacDiarmid

Graphic Designer:

Ruben Perez

Photographer: Peter Dooling

Public Information Officer: Edith Torres

Contributors:

Kia Scott, Catherine Ferreira, Brian Cullen, Esther Reyes, Sally Timberlake, Angus Laney, Sandra Burns, Cindy Castelblanco, Paula Fernandez

Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department

Jack Kardys, Director

W. Howard Gregg, Assistant Director for Planning and Development

Frank Faragalli, Interim Assistant Director for Operations

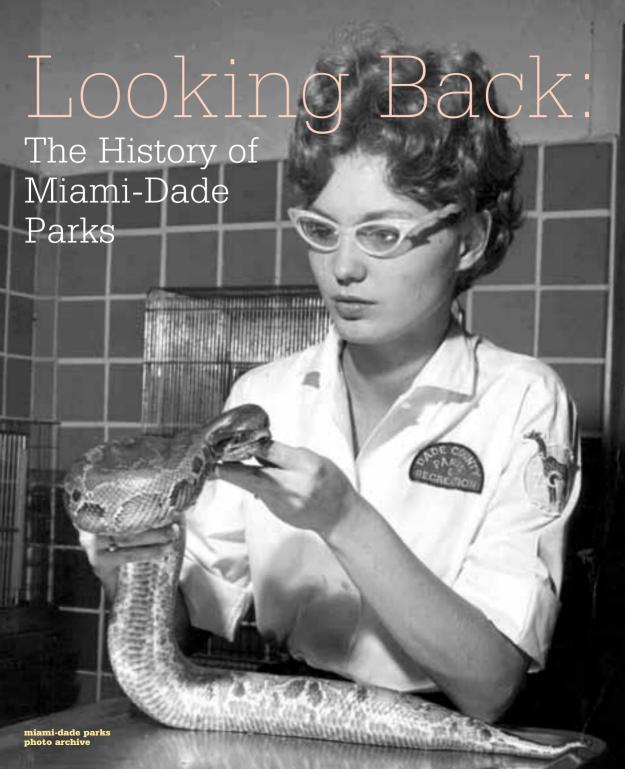
Allison Diego, Assistant Director for Administration

George Parrado, Assistant Director for Recreation

Parklife

T (305) 755-7800 F (305) 755-7857 www.miamidade.gov/parks

Reproduction in whole or in part of ParkHife without prior written permission is strictly prohibited. For questions or comments concerning this publication, write to ParkHife, Miami-Dade Parks, 275 NW 2nd Street, 3rd Floor, Miami, FL 33128, phone (305) 755-7800, or email at parks@miamidade.gov.



The Dade County Park system actually began as a Division of the County Road and Bridge Department. Other than the Courts, the County Government's main responsibility was the construction and maintenance of all roads and bridges in unincorporated areas. In early 1929 about \$10,000 of the budget was allocated to start a Roadside Beautification program. In March of that same year, a supervisor was hired to oversee its implementation. A.D. Barnes worked for the City of Miami at the time, but left that job to get this program underway. As with any new endeavor, there was much publicity surrounding the program. Some community members saw it as excessive and unnecessary. However, through community outreach and informative speaking engagements, opposition eventually turned to support.

On November 18-21, 1929, the American Institute of Park Executives held its 31st annual conference in Miami. The Institute, chartered in 1898 in Boston, was meeting for the first time in the southeast region of the United States. With the Roadside Beautification program progressing nicely, this event would prove to be crucial to the development of the Miami-Dade Parks system.

The Conference included a field trip to an undeveloped area that is now Matheson Hammock Park in South Miami. Arrangements were made with Commodore William J. Matheson, who then owned the property, to allow the conference attendees to inspect the hammock; a wholly new experience for the visitors. As part of the field trip, Herman Merkel, a park executive from Westchester County, New York, gave a talk from a platform constructed among the limbs of the large live oak trees at the hammock. Merkel made a case that the hammock should be preserved for present and future generations.

Although the City of Miami had been working to acquire the hammock property, it was located out of the jurisdiction of the City. Shortly after the conference, County officials including C.H. Crandon, a Dade County Commissioner, contacted Commodore Matheson who had been impressed by the discussions during the visit to his hammock. On January 14, 1930, a deed was executed transferring 84 acres of hammock land owned by Commodore Matheson to Dade County. Dade County had its first park.



Parklife Jan/Feb 2008 5



Timeline of Miami-Dade Parks...

1929 -

Funding received from Board to start a County "Roadside Beautification Program" using \$10,000 from District 1 Road Department Funds; and hired A.D. Barnes to implement program. The Dade County Park System began as a Division of the County Road and Bridge Department.

1930 -

The first County park is established at Matheson Hammock through a deed of 84 acres from Commodore W.J. Matheson to Dade County.

1936 -

Greynolds Park opens through assistance from the Civilian Conservation Corps.

1940 -

Deed from Florida State Internal Improvement Fund to Dade County for 64.3 acres of accreted land on Virginia Key.

1941 -

58 acre hammock on Bauer Drive purchased from Ernest Bitte. Current site of Camp Owaissa Bauer.

1943 -

Special master's deed from George Simpson to Dade County for 18 acres on NE corner of Coconut Palm Drive and Redland Road. Current site of Redland Fruit and Spice Park.

1946 -

Park Department organized into three Divisions: Plans & Design, Operations & Activities, and Maintenance & Construction.

1947 -

Dedication and opening of Rickenbacker Causeway, Crandon Park and Virginia Beach.

1948 -

Park Department took over boat livery operation at Matheson Hammock Marina. Traveling animal show breakdown at 40 mile bend Tamiami Trail. Crandon Zoo opens.

1951 -

January 28, Homestead Bayfront Park opens; and February 28, opening night at Dade County Auditorium

1952 -

Board of Commissioners and Everglades Drainage District deeded 160 acres of land to Dade County off Tamiami Trail east of Krome Avenue, and trustees of Internal Improvement Fund dedicated to Dade County Hiatus Lot 6 of 515 acres adjoining the 160 acres. Became site of the Trail Glades Gun Range. Later that year, Dade County accepted deed for the Miami Corporation for Property on which the main house





1960 -

Hurricane Donna created extensive damage in all parks and Vizcaya.

1962 -

501 acres purchased from Hugh Matheson. Current site of Castellow Hammock Park.

1964 -

Greynolds Park Golf Course dedicated and opened to the public.

1965 -

Rock Pit #57 in Goulds designated for park purposes.

1968 -

Park and Recreation Department received Good Community
Environmental Award for South
Florida Chapter of American
Institute of Architects for design adaptation in the restoration and remodeling of Vizcaya service buildings for Park and
Recreation use.

1969 -

Opening of Homestead Bayfront Park overnight camp.

and portions of the gardens were located at Vizcaya. Completed purchase of Vizcaya option property, service buildings and area in 1955.

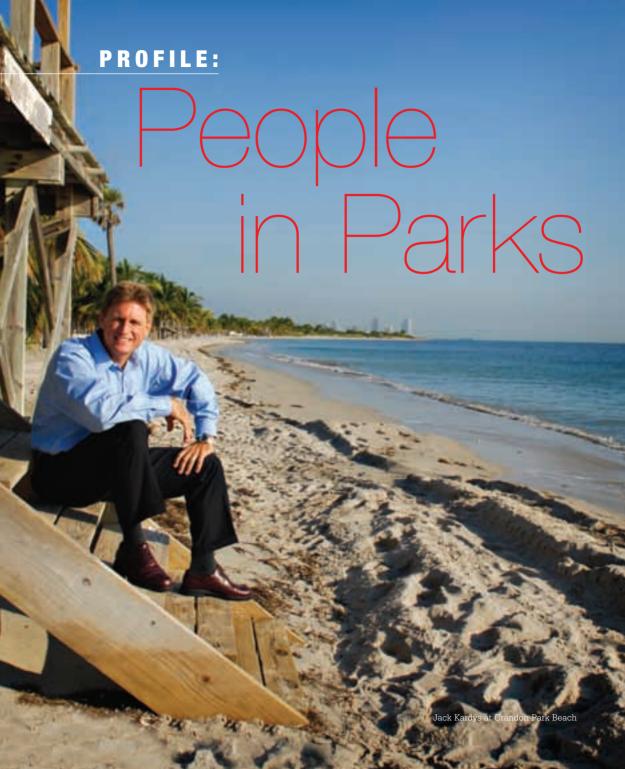
1957 –

O.W. (Hump) Campbell appointed first County Manager. Metropolitan Dade County comes into being. Also that year, first ordinance adopted by Metro Commission 57-1 created the Department of Parks and Recreation.

1958 -

Recreation Division activated, Department reorganized into five divisions: Administrative Division, Plans & Design Division, Museum Division, Park Division, and Zoological Division.

The preceding article is excerpted (with edits) from a larger manuscript, History of the Dade County Park System: The First Forty Years by A.D. Barnes published by Metropolitan Dade County in 1986. Currently, the second edition covering the subsequent forty years is in production with expected publication in 2008. Photographs used in the article are part of the archives of Miami-Dade Parks



Committed to public service and the enhancement of the community's quality of life through recreational services, Jack Kardys has dedicated his entire career to the Department of Parks and Recreation, having served in it for more than 25 years. "When I started in the County as an intern with the Parks Department, I never expected to make my career here," said Kardys. "However, once I got here, it was total magic. I worked for great, larger than life

each of whom has left their mark on the Department and the community," said Kardys. "All had great vision and determination."

"But, to be honest, while each Director brought great vision to the Department, it is the staff that implements that vision. I believe, without a doubt, that the Parks Department has some of the best people working in the County," stated Kardys. "They are committed professionals who

for overseeing multiple Divisions in the Department including Arts and Culture, Golf Enterprises, Leisure Access, Marina Enterprise, Natural Areas Management, Naturalist Services, Park Security, Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, and Special Tax District.

"I see Miami-Dade Parks as the morale officers of County government responsible for creating and maintaining the highest levels of our community's quality of life.

"We are the catalyst for people to enjoy themselves in their free time. It is our mission to educate the public on the options they have to lead a better, more fulfilled life through recreation, sports, fitness, arts, culture and natural areas..."

leaders in Dr. Chuck Petzoldt and Bill Bird and I loved the work I was doing. I felt that I was contributing to the betterment of the community in which I lived. And, it was incredibly fulfilling."

Over the years, Kardys has worked his way from intern through the ranks of the Department including positions as Assistant Administrator for the Operations Management Office, Public Facilities Manager III, Park and Recreation Manager IV, Executive Assistant to the Director, and Region Manager. "During my time at Parks, I have worked under several Directors.

strive for excellence every day.
Every day they give their all, never dropping the ball. They show great enthusiasm and teamwork to get the job done. I couldn't ask for more. It is one of the greatest strengths of the Department."

In December Mr. Kardys was appointed Director of the Park and Recreation Department by Mayor Carlos Alvarez after serving as Interim Director since August 2007. Prior to these positions, Mr. Kardys served as Assistant Director of Operations since January 2000. In his position as Assistant Director for Operations, he was responsible

We are the catalyst for people to enjoy themselves in their free time," said Kardys. "It is our mission to educate the public on the options they have to lead a better, more fulfilled life through recreation, sports, fitness, arts, culture and natural areas; and the public should demand that these opportunities be available in their community."

People in Parks is a recurring article that will highlight volunteers, staff and participants in our recreational, natural and cultural programs.

Photography by Peter Dooling Sunrise, Black Point Marina



EcoAdventures Canoe Trip, Biscayne Bay





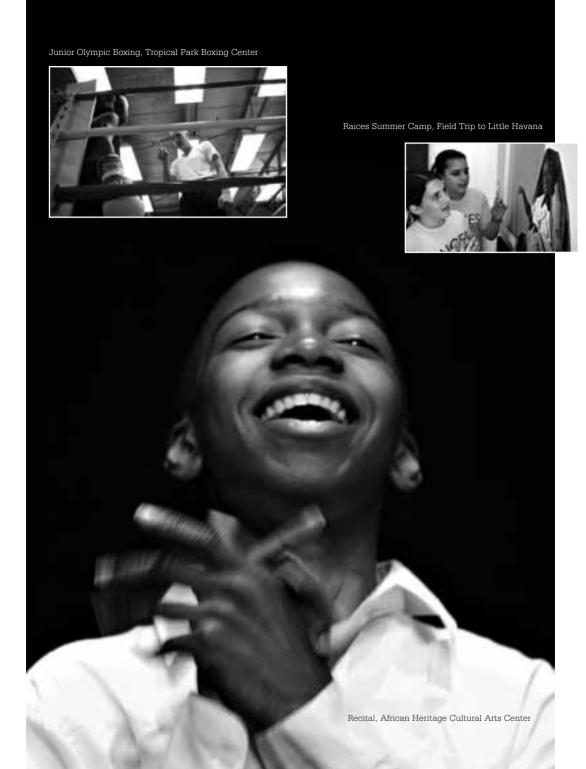
Noches Tropicales, Tropical Park

Hugh Masekela, Joseph Caleb Auditorium













Lotus, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

From to 15

Written by Kia Scott

AN INTRODUCTION TO MIAMI-DADE PARKS

Photography by Peter Dooling

A three-time winner of the National Gold Medal for excellence in park and recreation administration and the only municipal park system its size to be awarded National Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies, the Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department is one of the busiest and largest leisure service agencies in the United States.

Miami-Dade Park and Recreation is the third largest Parks system in the nation. Founded in 1929, the Department's primary goal and mission is to ensure that we are adequately servicing the public by creating outstanding recreational, natural, and cultural experiences to enrich and enhance our community for this and future generations.

In our initiative to "Deliver Excellence Every Day," Miami-Dade Parks has dedicated itself to providing clean and safe recreational spaces and quality programming for you and your family to enjoy. We take pride in knowing that our parks and facilities are equipped to meet the needs of the community and have done so successfully for 79 years.

Alongside our general recreational neighborhood parks, the department offers a wonderful assortment of other recreational, natural, and cultural experiences, activities and programming throughout the year whereby we reach approximately 25 million people per year. Miami-Dade Park and Recreation offers something for everyone.



Levert in concert at Caleb Auditorium

"In our initiative to
'Deliver Excellence Every
Day,' Miami-Dade Parks
has dedicated itself to
providing clean and safe
recreational spaces and
quality programming for
you and your family
to enjoy."

Arts

In keeping with the Department's mission, Miami-Dade Parks creates an environment for the presentation and development of the arts and leverages the arts to bring together people of diverse cultures, generations, and walks of life. For over fifty years, Miami-Dade Parks has presented some of the top visual and performing artists in the world, and provided quality arts experiences for the community through special events and arts programs.

Miami-Dade Parks manages two of the County's leading arts education facilities, African Heritage Cultural Arts Center and Raices Hispanic Heritage Cultural Arts Center. Located in Liberty City, African Heritage Cultural Arts Center was founded in 1975 to serve as the nesting ground for emerging talent in the performing and visual arts, providing inspiration and encouragement to young people within the community. The Center has fulfilled its mission to the community for over 30 years by providing a means for



youth, ages 6-16, to discover their creative potential and develop their artistic talents through its summer, spring, winter, and After School Arts Academies.

Launched in the summer of 1996, Raices Hispanic Heritage Cultural Arts Center is home to a phenomenal arts program that offers students, ages 6 to 14, an opportunity to explore a variety of arts disciplines, discover their own interests and talents, and obtain a richer appreciation of Hispanic culture and influences.

In addition to the arts education facilities, Miami-Dade Parks also manages the 990-seat Joseph Caleb Auditorium and the 2,429-seat Miami-Dade County Auditorium, two of Miami-Dade County's finest performing arts venues and The Women's Park and Roxcy O'Neal Bolton Women's History.

AFRICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

6161 NW 22nd Avenue (305) 638-6771

JOSEPH CALEB AUDITORIUM

5400 NW 22nd Avenue (305) 636-2350

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AUDITORIUM

2901 West Flagler Street (305) 547-5414

RAICES HISPANIC HERITAGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

5510 SW 94th Court (305) 271-0812

WOMEN'S PARK AND ROXCY O'NEAL BOLTON WOMEN'S HISTORY GALLERY

10251 West Flagler Street (305) 480-1717

Beaches

Miami-Dade Parks has among its many spectacular features, some of the best swimming-and-sunning beach areas in Miami-Dade County.

CRANDON PARK BEACH

Crandon Park's beautiful two-mile beach is consistently named among the top ten beaches in the nation. It is one of the most popular recreation destinations in all of Miami-Dade County, enjoyed by millions of residents and tourists each year.

The beach is celebrated for its pristine sand, calm water, winding promenade, concession stands, multiple picnic areas with tables and grills, and convenient parking for over 3,000 vehicles. Near the beach is Crandon's Family Amusement Center. Crandon's famous offshore sandbar protects swimmers from crashing surf. The sandbar changes constantly because of seasonal squalls, storms and currents. It is

enjoyed by many people who swim to it and walk or wade along its length.

The beach is what's called a lagoon style, or low surf impact beach, and the shoreline varies-sloping from wading depth to six-to-twelve feet, depending on the tide. Lifeguards patrol from thirteen elevated towers, set about 150 yards apart in the areas of heavy usage. They keep beach-goers informed as to surf, sand and weather conditions.



MATHESON HAMMOCK PARK BEACH

Matheson Hammock Park is an exquisite picturesque park with an unusual feature--a manmade atoll pool, which is flushed naturally with the tidal action of nearby Biscayne Bay. Its tranquil breeze-swept beach is a haven for families who enjoy its warm, safe waters and beautiful waterside views. This scenic park has a full-service marina, snack bar and restaurant built into a historic coral rock building, picnic pavilions and nature trails. Among the many wonderful amenities, Matheson also contains a sailing and power boat school.





HAULOVER PARK BEACH

With an Atlantic beachfront popular with surfers and families alike, Haulover Park Beach is one of South Florida's most beautiful beaches—a mile and a half stretch that draws people from all walks of life, both nationally and internationally. Nestled between the Intercoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean, Haulover has pristine white sand shores, open ocean surf, various shaded picnic facilities, beautifully landscaped sand dunes, and concession stands. The beach is ideal for surfing as well as swimming.

The entire beach is guarded by well-trained lifeguards, who ensure that beach-goers are well informed of existing weather and surf conditions.

For more information, call (305) 947-3525.

■ HOMESTEAD BAYFRONT PARK BEACH

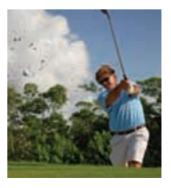
Get away from it all in the crystal clear waters of south Biscayne Bay, next to the beautiful coral reefs of Biscayne National Park and the Florida Keys Marine Sanctuary at Homestead Bayfront Park Beach. This beautiful tropical setting includes a natural atoll pool. It has a full-line snack bar at the beach, picnic pavilions, grills, fishing area and a large playground.

For more information, call (305) 230-3033.

Golf

Miami-Dade Parks offers quality golf experiences on five public courses designed for all levels of play, from the beginner to the professional. The courses are managed and operated by your Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department. Briar Bay Golf Course, a par-31, 9-hole precision course popular with top players and beginners alike; Palmetto Golf Course, a par-70, 18-hole championship course; Greynolds Golf Course, a par-36, 9-hole course and one of the County's most popular; Country Club of Miami, comprised of two beautifully manicured golf courses, one par-72 and the other par-70, with lush fairways, newly re-grassed greens and 36 championship holes; and Crandon Golf at Key Biscayne, enveloped by the tropics and one of the most beautiful and challenging par-72, 18-hole courses.

From the driving ranges to the putting greens, these competitive public golf courses feature friendly and professional staff to make your golfing experience a memorable one.



Miami-Dade Parks

After School







PROGRAMS

A variety of specialized and general after-school programs are offered at more than 40 parks throughout Miami-Dade County for youth, ages 6 – 14.

For Miami-Dade Parks After School

Call 305-755-7848 (v/tdd) to request materials in accessible format, for information on access for persons with disabilities and for a sign language interpreter (seven days notice required).



BRIAR BAY GOLF COURSE

9375 SW 134 Street (305) 235-6667

COUNTRY CLUB OF MIAMI GOLF COURSE

6801 NW 186 Street (Miami Gardens Drive) (305) 829-8456

CRANDON GOLF AT KEY BISCAYNE

6700 Crandon Boulevard (305) 361-9129

GREYNOLDS GOLF COURSE

17530 W. Dixie Highway (305) 945-1741

PALMETTO GOLF COURSE

9300 SW 152 Street (305) 235-1061

www.golfmiamidade.com



Scenic and historical parks are the cornerstone of the Department's foundation. Located along the edge of Biscayne Bay, the 450-acre Charles Deering Estate is an environmental, natural, archeological and historical preserve and serves as a cultural and educational facility with programs for children and adults to enjoy. From jazz concerts and canoe rides to butterfly hikes and guided tours, the Deering Estate has diverse activities for the whole family that make learning fun. The Estate is part of the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department, which manages the Estate on behalf of the State of Florida

DEERING ESTATE AT CUTLER

16701 SW 72nd Avenue Palmetto Bay, FL 33157 (305) 235-1668 www.deeringestate.org

Leisure Access

The Leisure Access Foundation was created to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate in quality leisure programs, both recreational and competitive. People with disabilities are a minority, who have historically been severely disadvantaged and overlooked in the area of recreation and leisure.

Many recreation activities require special instruction, wheelchairs or other equipment that can increase the cost of these programs to participants. The foundation was created to raise the funds to provide this extra funding. Miami-Dade Parks' Leisure Access Services has developed sports programs designed specifically for persons with disabilities. Collectively known as the Junior Wheelchair Sports Club, these programs include the Wheelchair Tennis Program, Fencing Program for Children with Disabilities, Goball and various Soccer Leagues for persons with disabilities.

The Leisure Access Services staff is dedicated to working with you to create a program that meets the recreation, leisure and social needs of individuals at your agency or facility. They have worked an assortment of agencies to include schools, psychiatric facilities, group and nursing homes, senior, community and rehab centers, and other organizations that serve people with disabilities.

A.D. BARNES PARK

3401 SW 72 Avenue (305) 665-5319

CAMP MATECUMBE

13841 SW 120 Street (305) 752-4966

CORAL ESTATES PARK

1405 SW 97th Avenue (305) 226-1622

GOULDS PARK

21805 SW 114 Avenue (305) 234-4948 or (305) 234-1673

GREYNOLDS CAMP

18601 NE 22nd Avenue (305) 755-7848

TAMIAMI PARK

11201 SW 24th St. (305) 222-2128

WESTWIND LAKES PARK

6805 SW 152 Avenue (305) 380-9106 or (305) 752-4966



Marinas

Miami-Dade Parks is responsible for six marinas throughout the county. These full-service marinas offer more than 979 wet slips to the boating public and include Matheson Hammock Marina, with its sandy beach, natural atoll pool and a first-class restaurant; Black Point Marina, ideally located close to Biscayne National Park, is a great starting point for fishing and diving expeditions; Haulover Beach Park Marina, home of the largest charter/drift fishing fleet in South Florida; Crandon Park Marina, a first class marina, near spectacular fishing and artificial

reefs; Homestead Bayfront Marina, located in a beautiful tropical setting with a natural atoll pool and beach; Pelican Harbor Marina.

From waterfront restaurants, picnic areas and sand beaches, to tennis, golf, fishing and diving, Miami-Dade Parks' Marinas have plenty of exciting resort-like amenities to please your every mood. Come enjoy everything we have to offer. Boaters and landlubbers alike will enjoy the picturesque sunsets and cool ocean breezes.

BLACK POINT MARINA

24775 SW 87 Avenue (305) 258-4092

CRANDON PARK MARINA

4000 Crandon Boulevard (305) 361-1281

HAULOVER PARK MARINA

10800 Collins Avenue (305) 947-3525

HOMESTEAD BAYFRONT PARK MARINA

9698 SW 328 Street (305) 230-3033

MATHESON HAMMOCK PARK MARINA

9610 Old Cutler Road (305) 665-5475

PELICAN HARBOR MARINA

1275 NE 79 Street (305) 754-9330



Natural

The Department manages more than 12,000 acres, roughly half of which are environmentally sensitive or threatened natural areas requiring protection and conservation. The Department maintains and programs more than 250 parks, recreation facilities and greenway areas; and it provides park and recreation services to a resident population of nearly two million. Miami-Dade Parks is renowned for its outstanding attractions.

FRUIT AND SPICE PARK

Fruit & Spice Park is a 35-acre subtropical botanical paradise nestled in the heart of the historic Redland community just 35 miles south of Miami. Maintained and operated by Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation, the Park is the only one of its kind in the United States. Home to more than 500 varieties of rare and exotic tropical fruits, vegetables, herbs, spices and nuts from around the world. Fruit and Spice



Parklife Jan/Feb 2008 25

Park is a jewel in South Florida's agricultural community attracting over 27,000 visitors a year to its gardens and festivals.

CAMPGROUNDS

AD BARNES PARK LEISURE ACCESS CENTER

3401 SW 72 Avenue (305) 666-5883

CAMP GREYNOLDS

18601 NE 22 Avenue (305) 692-3079 or (305) 945-3425

CAMP OWAISSA BAUER

17001 SW 264 Street (305) 247-6016

LARRY AND PENNY THOMPSON PARK AND CAMPGROUND

12451 SW 184 Street (305) 232-1049

ECOADVENTURES

EcoAdventures offer an exciting line-up of naturalist-guided nature adventures and activities to include kayaking and snorkeling in the clear, warm waters of Biscayne Bay, canoe trips through scenic mangrove creeks teeming with native wildlife and biking along paths in Key Biscayne while exploring the natural history of this remarkable barrier island.



Even wilder offerings include marine wading tours and hiking trips into some of the best wilderness areas of the Everglades, Big Cypress National Preserve, and coastal parks.

EcoAdventures highlight South Florida's remarkable sub-tropical beauty, pristine parks, unique wilderness areas and historic sites. Whatever activities you choose, you can count on Miami-Dade Parks with seventy-five years of parks excellence to provide you with the best in nature adventure excursions and programs.

For more information, call (305) 365-3018 or e-mail us at ECOAdventures@miamidade.gov.

NATURAL AREAS MANAGEMENT (NAM)

The Department manages more than 12,000 acres, roughly half of which are environmentally sensitive or threatened natural areas requiring protection and conservation. The Department maintains and programs more than 250 parks, recreation facilities and greenway areas; and it provides park and recreation services to a resident population of nearly two million.

The mission of Miami-Dade Parks' Natural Areas Management Division is to restore, protect and manage Miami-Dade County's naturally occurring plant and animal communities through resource management, inter-governmental environmental liaising, and community outreach including environmental education and volunteer programming to preserve these areas for present and future generations of South Floridians.

Approximately 5,447 acres of native forest and wetland exist in Miami-Dade's 12,000-acre park system, including 1,017 acres of globally-endangered pine rockland and 443 acres of upland hardwood forest including State-endangered

rockland hammock forest. Less than 2% of Miami-Dade County's original forests remain.

NAM is also involved in many public education programs. Through grant funding, NAM has assumed the responsibility of educating staff and the public about the benefits of prescribed burning of native pine rockland forests by facilitating fire education programs.

Planning, Research and Capital Projects

From gathering historic housing data, to projecting land use for the next 20 years, Miami-Dade Parks Planning is doing its part to preserve and procure lands that will eventually serve as the ultimate efficient and functional green spaces in the County's Open Space Master Plan.

The Research Division provides us with statistics, analysis and prepared reports about housing, population and geographic information. Estimates and projections of population and employment are done based on current Census data and other data sources. Current land uses and the future capacity for development are maintained in a Geographic Information system.

Miami-Dade County has a large unincorporated area, along with 36 municipalities. Requests from cities to annex adjacent areas and requests to create new municipalities are reviewed by planning staff.

Development demands on facility capacity, analyses of existing and forecast levels of service are monitored for service concurrency status.

How development or conservation of land and natural resources will occur during the next ten to twenty years is expressed in the Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP).



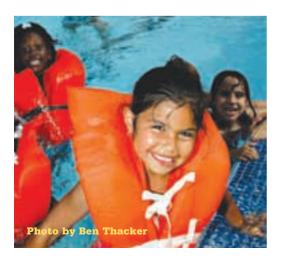
Community Planning prepares area planning reports for specific areas of unincorporated Miami-Dade County that address urban design and the implementation of future development strategies; conducts environmental assessments and reviews related to programs involving federal funding; studies all applications for changes to municipal boundaries; provides recommendations for the sale of surplus County lands; and administers support to the County's Planning Advisory Board.

Planning falls in line with the Department's mission to promote a high quality of life for current and future residents of Miami-Dade County through the exercise of sound planning and by administering and enforcing the Comprehensive Development Master Plan, the Zoning Code, and other development regulations.

For more information, call (305) 375-2800 or find us on the web at www.miamidade.gov/planzone/planning home

Recreation

South Florida's subtropical climate allows year-round outdoor recreation possibilities, and our parks provide a multitude of opportunities. From swimming at one of



the 15 County pools, to tennis at one of the more than 7 multi-court tennis centers, to playing sand volleyball on our beaches, Miami-Dade Parks offers a diversified selection of programs and facilities to match almost any taste.

Sports enthusiasts will have their appetites satisfied with more than 175 ball-fields that accommodate baseball, soccer, softball or football. Running clubs can be caught practicing for a meet at one of the running tracks. The lakes, rivers and ocean fronts that sculpt the landscape offer fishing, swimming, boating and other water sports. There is no end to the possibilities: camping, nature studies, arts and crafts classes, agricultural and archaeological excursions, outdoor concerts and horse shows.

International sporting events such as The Sony Ericsson Open at the state-of-the-art Crandon Park Tennis Center draws thousands of sport celebrities and fans to Miami each year and introduces Miami-Dade County Park facilities to international audiences.

From the Trail Glades Gun Range to the Equestrian Center at Tropical Park to landscape and aquatics, Miami-Dade Parks has equipped itself to meet your recreational needs.

For more information, call (305) 755-7905.

Special Tax District

The staff of Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Landscape Special Tax District Division currently employs 62 certified landscape supervisors and landscape specialists, trained to provide landscape maintenance to medians, right-of-ways, lakes, and entrance features within Miami-Dade County communities. This Division is dedicated to multipurpose maintenance and landscaping services to all Landscape Special Tax District residents. In these Districts, we are responsible for:



- TURF MAINTENANCE
- TREE-TRIMMING
- IRRIGATION
- HEDGE TRIMMING
- FERTILIZATION
- SPORT TURF MAINTENANCE
- LANDSCAPE LIGHTING
- SIGNAGE
- PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE
- ACCESS CONTROL
- STRUCTURAL AND ENTRANCE MAINTENANCE
- MULCHING
- RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS
- LAKE MAINTENANCE

The Division will continue to develop crews and innovative maintenance techniques that better serve our constituencies and improve property values and aesthetics throughout Miami-Dade County.

For more information, call (305) 669-4020.

Zoological

Miami Metrozoo is a 740-acre cageless zoo that showcases 1,306 specimens belonging to more than 250 species (at last count May 22, 2006). It has excelled in the successful breeding of rare and endangered animals. An accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and supported by the Zoological Society of Florida, Miami Metrozoo is outfitted with 81 exhibits and is the perfect location for family outings, school field trips and zoological education.

For more information, call (305) 251-0400



arks at a Glanc



Parks at a Glance



- Miami-Dade Parks Selected by KaBoom! and Kraft Foods to Receive New Playground
 - West Perrine Park was chosen as the site for a new playground by KaBOOM!, a non-profit that helps communities across the country build playgrounds. At the November 14 Design Day, children from the West Perrine Park and Colonial Drive Park Miami-Dade Parks After-School programs gathered to draw their ideal playground. These drawings were submitted to KaBOOM! and PlayWorld Systems, the manufacturers of the playground, who will take elements from the drawings submitted by the children into consideration in the manufacturing of the playground such as colors and play features, slides, swings, and climbing elements.
- 2 South Florida Dragonboat Festival at Haulover Park October 13-14, 2007
- Grand Funk Railroad performs during Ribfest at Homestead Air Reserve Park November 2-4, 2007

ance Parks at a C e Parks at a Glan Parks at a Glance eks at a Glance P

- 4 Fall in Love Concert at the Deering Estate at Cutler November 10, 2007
- Greynolds Love In at Greynolds Park May 20, 2007
 A celebration of the 1960s that featured performances by The Classic Rock All Stars and Joey Molland's Badfinger.
- 6 Miami-Dade Parks Makes Strides in the Fight Against Breast Cancer On October 6, 2007, the Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department participated in a 5K walk/run marathon in Downtown Miami to help support the American Cancer Society. Making Strides Against Breast Cancer is a non-competitive walk/run to help fight breast cancer and provide hope to people facing the disease. Participants gathered at Bayfront Park where the walk began and made its way through the streets of downtown Miami and Brickell Avenue. By the end of the race, the Department raised over \$6,000 for the walk.



Parklife Jan/Feb 2008 31

progress report...

Miami-Dade Parks Planning & Development is responsible for all steps in acquiring, developing and maintaining the 259 parks in the Department's inventory. Progress Report is a recurring article that will feature construction and capital projects occurring in the Miami-Dade Parks system.



FEATURED PROGRAM

The Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond

Approved by the voters in November of 2004, the General Obligations Bond (GOB) is a 15-year bond program that will fund more than \$400 million in capital improvements to Miami-Dade parks including:

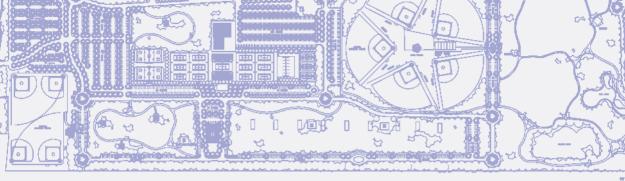
- \$238 million for area-wide parks
- \$87 million for Miami Metrozoo
- \$68 million for local and neighborhood parks
- \$15 million for cultural facilities
- \$11 million for greenways/bike trails

Currently, there are 73 projects in progress ranging from major projects, such as the Amazon & Beyond exhibition at Miami MetroZoo, a \$50 million endeavor funded in part with \$31 million from the GOB; and the Haulover Marina Phase II Expansion, a \$10 million project funded in part with \$3 million from the GOB; to playgrounds and recreation centers in your neighborhood parks.

FEATURED MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT

Kendall Soccer Park Phase 2 Development

Kendall Soccer Park is one of the Department's singlepurpose parks, developed as a major soccer facility for the Kendall community. Located in Commission District 10 at SW 127th Avenue and SW 80th Street, the park is 42-acres in size and currently has two lighted, artificialturf soccer fields. The artificial-turf fields are used in lieu

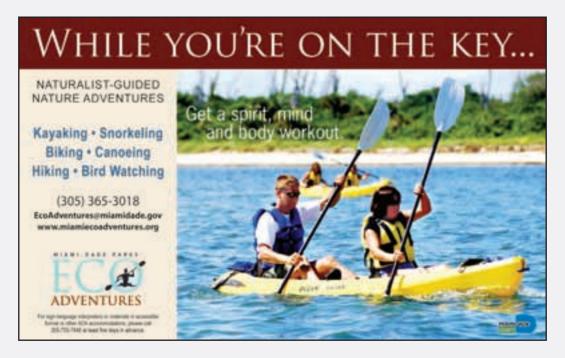


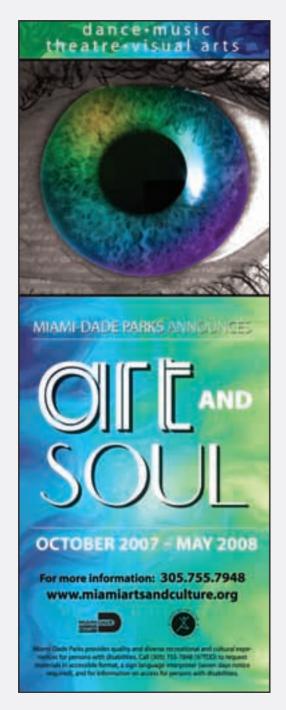
of natural turf so that fertilizing and pest management is not required since the park is located within a well field for the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department, and the use of such treatments is prohibited.

With a total budget of \$5.5 million funded through the Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond (\$3.15 million), the Quality Neighborhood Improvements Program Bond (\$2.2 million) and Parks Impact Fees (\$0.15 million), and with the support of Senator Javier D. Souto, the GOB allocation was increased by \$1.15 million

(accelerated from later GOB funding), the ongoing project substantially completes the build-out of the park, including all of the remaining three artificial-turf soccer fields. In total, the project will provide three lighted, artificial-turf soccer fields, a restroom building, lighted parking, and walking paths.

The project has been sent to bid and the contract award is expected in early 2008. The construction is scheduled to be completed in one year, and should be dedicated in winter/spring 2009.





FEATURED NEW PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Rock Ridge Park

Acquired in 1990, Rock Ridge Park is a neighborhood park located in Commission District 8 at 10810 SW 117th Avenue, and is 4.7-acres in size.

With a total budget of \$1,375,000 the Rock Ridge Development Project is funded through Parks Impact Fees (\$995,000) and Quality Neighborhood Improvements Program Bond (\$381,750) dedicated by Commissioner Katy Sorenson. The project fully develops the Park, including grading the site, constructing parking and walking paths, a playground with shade and a picnic shelter.

The project is substantially completed and is expected to be dedicated in January 2008. The picnic shelter, the remaining element of park development, is scheduled to be installed in early 2008.

FEATURED PARK ACQUISITION

Redland Fruit & Spice Park Expansion

Redland Fruit & Spice Park, a subtropical botanical garden, is one of the Department's special activity parks. Located in Commission District 8 at 24801 SW 187th Avenue, the park has been expanded from 36 to 42 acres through acquisition of two residential parcels on the northeast corner of the Park with funding from the Building Better Communities General Obligations Bond (\$1.02 million) and the Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond (\$200,000).

FEATURED PARK PLAN

Bailes Road Park

The 10-acre Bailes Road Park is a neighborhood park located in Commission District 9 at SW 228th Street and SW 119th Avenue.

The approved General Plan for the park focuses on the lake/rock pit at the center of the northern portion of the park, known locally as Blue. The lake will be circled by a walkway with an overlook at a rock escarpment, rain shelters, picnic tables and benches, and will be served by a small parking lot. The walkway will also connect with adjacent properties. Full programming proposes a fishing pier and nature center. The smaller southern portion of the Park will include a playground/tot lot served by a small parking area and walkways. The Park will include open play space and heavy buffer planting.

With a total budget of \$140,000, the General Plan effort was funded through Park Impact Fees. Funding for Park development totaling approximately \$825,000 has been secured, including Parks Impact Fees (\$450,000) and Quality Neighborhood Improvements Program Bond (\$375,000) allocated by Commissioner Dennis C. Moss.

PARKING NODES (10 CARS)

- ALION FOR PARKINDE PARKING

DISTRIBUTION INSUAL POCKETS

0

PAW PARK (5± ACRES)





JAN / FEB 2008

(NOTE: Dates and times are subject to change. Check the Parks website or call prior to attending)

→ JAN 1 – 6, 5 PM – MID SANTA'S ENCHANTED FOREST

Admission: \$ 23.50/Adult, \$ 15.50/Child 10 and under. Tropical Park Equestrian Center 7900 SW 40th St. (305) 559-9689

JAN 2 - JAN 4, 9 AM – 4:30 PM (EARLY DROP-OFF 7:30 AM – 9 AM & LATE PICK-UP 4:30 PM – 6 PM) WINTER KIDS CAMP

Ages 6-13; Camp fee is \$180 for six-day session or \$90 for three-day session. Early drop off and late pick up fee: \$8 per child, per day.
Registration is required. Please note there is a \$10 registration fee.
Children will learn about history, archeology and nature by taking part in a series of hands-on activities.
Deering Estate at Cutler
16701 SW 72nd Ave.
305-235-1668

JAN 3, 7 PM – 9 PM (& FEB 7) NITE HIKE

Free with admission: \$ 7/Adult, \$ 5/Child. Experience the woods and it's wildlife as it comes to life at night. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave. 305-235-1668

JAN 4, 7:30 PM - 9 PM (& FEB 1)

ECOADVENTURES: GREYNOLDS' CREATURES OF THE NIGHT HIKE.

\$5/Person. Meet at Greynolds Park Boathouse and enjoy a PowerPoint presentation and naturalist guided nature walk to learn about the noctural creatures active at Greynolds Park. Reservations are required. 17530 W. Dixie Hwy. (305) 948-2891

JAN 5, 13 & 26, 10 AM –
 12 PM (& FEB 3, 17 & 23)
 JAN 19, 4 PM – 6 PM
 (& FEB 9) JAN 27, 10 AM –
 4 PM (& FEB 24)
 ECOADVENTURES: MATHESON
 HAMMOCK CANOE TOUR

\$ 25/Adult, \$ 15/Child (Ages 7-14)
Join a park naturalist as you canoe
through winding creeks, over sea grass
beds, and through mangrove forests
rich in wildlife. Reservations required.
Castle Harbor Sailing School at
Matheson Hammock Park & Marina
9610 Old Cutler Rd.
(305) 365-3018

JAN 5, 12, 19 & 26, 1 AM - 1 PM ECOADVENTURES: GREYNOLDS' HISTORIC OLETA RIVER CANOE TRIP

\$ 25/Adult \$ 15/Child (Ages 7-14)
The beauty of the Oleta River has
drawn man to its shore for centuries.
Relive the river's historic past with
park naturalist guides as you explore
this natural haven for wading birds,
osprey, fish and the endangered West
Indian Manatee. Reservations are
required. Greynolds Park Boathouse.
17530 W. Dixie Highway
(305) 365-3018

DAN 5 - FEB 9, 10:30 - 12 PM (SAT) FEB 23 - MAR 29, 10:30 - 12 PM (SAT) TAI CHI

\$ 60/Session.

Deering Estate

16701 SW 72 Ave.

(305) 235-1668 ext. 233

>> JAN 5, 2 PM (& FEB 2) ARCHITECTURE TOUR

Free with admission: \$ 7/Adult, \$ 5/Child. Discover the architectural features of South Florida's earliest buildings! The Richmond Cottage, built between 1896 and 1916, is one of the finest remaining examples of South Florida Vernacular Architecture. The Stone House, built in 1922, is a unique example of Florida Mediterranean Revival style architecture.

Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave. (305) 235-1668

visit our website at
www.miamidade.gov/parks



⇒ JAN 6. 9 AM - 2 PM **ECOADVENTURES:**

EVERGLADES SWAMP TROMP

\$ 45/Adult. \$ 15/Child (Ages 7-14). Join our naturalist guides and explore a Cypress swamp. Once there, you will go slough slogging through knee deep waters and enter a Cypress dome habitat. This is your opportunity to truly learn about and immerse yourself in the Everglades and its beauty. Reservations required. AD Barnes Nature Center 3401 SW 72 Ave. (305) 365-3018

→ JAN 8 - FEB 12. 6 PM -7:30 PM (TUE) JAN 9 - FEB 13, 10 AM - 11:30 AM (WED) YOGA

\$ 60/Session. Learn how to relax. meditate and relieve stress. Deering Estate 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

⇒ JAN 10 – FEB 7 (THUR) **FEB 20 - MAR 27 (THUR) PILATES**

\$ 60/Session. Focus on improving flexibility and strength with movements that engage your body and mind. Deering Estate 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

→ JAN 11. 5:30 PM – 8 PM (& FEB 8)

ECOADVENTURES: CRANDON PARK'S SUNSET & MOONLIGHT KAYAK ADVENTURE

\$ 40/Adult. \$ 15/Child (Ages 9-14). Residents: \$ 35/Adult. \$ 15/Child (Ages 9-14). View a spectacular South Florida sunset from the seat of a kayak as we paddle through the waters of Bear Cut and explore the forgotten and secret part of Kev Biscayne by light of the rising full moon. Reservations are required. Crandon Park Visitors and Biscavne Nature Center. 6767 Crandon Blvd Parking Lot #1. North Beach Entrance (305) 365-3018

» JAN 11 & 25, 7:30 PM - 9 PM **ECOADVENTURES:** ARCH CREEK'S CAMPFIRE

\$ 5/Person. Enjoy an old-fashioned family campfire, complete with roasting marshmallows! Reservations are required. Arch Creek Museum 1855 NE 135th St. (305) 944-6111

» JAN 12, 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM (& FEB 9) **BIRD WALK**

Free with admission: \$ 7/Adult. \$ 5/Child. Join one of the naturalist guides in search of some of the Deering Estate's estimated 170 perennial and migratory bird species. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave. (305) 235-1668

→ JAN 12. 9 AM – 12 PM (& FEB 2)

ECOADVENTURES: NEW! MATHESON HAMMOCK SURF N' TURF TOUR

\$ 10/Person. Join a park naturalist as you hike and wade through a Hardwood Hammock and the shallows of Biscavne Bay. Learn about our native birds, including wading and migratory songbirds. Reservations required. Meet at the main park entrance parking lot at 9610 Old Cutler Road. (305) 662-4124

» JAN 12 & 26, 7 PM - 9:30 PM (& FEB 9 & 23) **ECOADVENTURES:**

CAMPFIRE AND NIGHT WALKS

\$ 5/Person. Join park naturalists to learn about scarv nighttime critters and then search for them on the nature trail after dark. Afterwards, enjoy a campfire with marshmallow roast and star viewing with Southern Cross Astronomical Society. Reservations are required. Bill Sadowski Park 17555 SW 79 Ave. (305) 255-4767

» JAN 12 & 13. 8 AM - 12 PM FLORIDA PASO FINO **HORSE SHOW**

FREE to spectators Tropical Park Equestrian Center 7900 SW 40th St. (786) 797-5784

JAN 12, 9 AM – 12 PM SATURDAY KID'S CAMP: "MANGROVE WETLANDS"

\$ 30/Child; \$ 10 one-time annual camp registration fee. This is a hands-on, site specific program that focuses on nature, archeology, arts and science for children ages 6-10. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

JAN 12 - FEB 25 SOLO EXHIBITION

FREE. Roxcy O'Neal Bolton Women's History Gallery at Women's Park 10251 W. Flagler St. (305) 480-1717

JAN 12 & 13, 10 AM - 5 PM REDLAND FESTIVAL

Admission: \$ 6 (children under 12 admitted free). A tradition at the Park since 1976, this annual festival features local arts and crafts, a large selection of tropical plants, great food, children's activities include a petting zoo, pony rides, an interactive puppet and magic show, and a wild and wonderful Everglades reptile show.
Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave. (305) 247-5727 or www.fruitandspicepark.org

⇒ JAN 13, 8 AM – 11 AM (& FEB 10)

ECOADVENTURES:
DEERING ESTATE AT CUTLER CHICKEN KEY CANOE TOUR
\$ 25/Adult, \$ 15/Child (ages 9-14).
Canoeists will experience the beauty
of Biscayne Bay as they make their
way to Chicken Key Island, a sevenacre bird rookery.
Deering Estate at Cutler
16701 SW 72 Ave.
(305) 235-1668 ext. 233

>> JAN 13, 20 & 27, 9 AM ECOADVENTURES: GREYNOLDS PARK GUIDED NATURE WALKS

\$ 3/Person. Meet at the Greynolds Park Boathouse and explore the park trails through different ecosystems and learn about plants and animals that inhabit the area. Reservations are required. 17530 West Dixie Hwy. (305) 948-2891

JAN 16 & 30, 7:30 PM – 9 PM ECOADVENTURES: ARCH CREEK'S GHOST TOURS

\$ 3/Person. Join our naturalists for an introduction to the history of Arch Creek Park that has contributed to its mystery and unexplained paranormal activities. Reservations are required. Arch Creek Museum 1855 NE 135th St. (305) 944-6111

>> JAN 17, 8 PM ONE NIGHT STAND

Tickets: \$ 5. Every 3rd Thursday poets and musicians gather at JCA for an open mic night. All are welcome. Joseph Caleb Auditorium 5400 NW 22nd Ave. (305) 636-2350

JAN 18, 7:30 PM - 9 PM (& FEB 15) ECOADVENTURES:

GREYNOLDS' OWL PROWL

\$ 5/Person. Meet at Greynolds Park Boathouse and learn about the fascinating life of owls and the importance of the park's natural areas as a habitat for several species of owls. Bring your observation skills presentation includes a nature walk through the park to listen for owls! Reservations are required. 17530 W. Dixie Hwy. (305) 948-2891

JAN 19, 8 AM – 9 PM WHAF HORSE SHOW

FREE to spectators. Tropical Park Equestrian Center 7900 SW 40th St. (786) 312-4872

JAN 19, 9 AM – 12 PM SATURDAY KID'S CAMP: "REPTILE ADVENTURE"

\$ 30/Child; \$ 10 one-time annual camp registration fee. This is a hands-on, site specific program that focuses on nature, archeology, arts and science for children, ages 6-10. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

JAN 19, 10 AM – 11 AM (& FEB 2 & 16) ECOADVENTURES: GUIDED FAMILY TRAIL WALKS

\$ 5/Person. Discover all about South Florida flora and fauna through a nature walk and short presentation. Themes will vary. Reservations are required. Bill Sadowski Park 17555 SW 79th Ave. (305) 255-4767

→ JAN 19, 10 AM – 12 PM (& FEB 16) BUTTERFLY WALK

Free with admission: \$ 7/Adults, \$ 5/Child. Explore various habitats of the Estate while finding and identifying numerous butterfly species. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

→ JAN 19, 1 PM – 3 PM (& FEB 16)

ECOADVENTURES:

ARCH CREEK'S FAMILY FUN DAYS \$ 5/Person. Fun for the whole family! Participate in a variety of nature and historic-based activities. Reservations

Arch Creek Museum 1855 NE 135th St. (305) 944-6111

are required.

JAN 19, 7 – 11 PM 4TH ANNUAL FINE WINES AT FAIRCHILD GARDEN HOUSE

Come join the Palms in their annual signature fundraiser where guests can taste over 100 wines from around the world. Proceeds benefit The Fairchild Challenge, an educational outreach program for middle and high school students.

Fairchild Tropical Gardens 10901 Old Cutler Rd. (305) 667-1651 or www.fairchildgarden.org

JAN 19, 8 PM ORCHESTRA MIAMI TANTI AUGURI, CASA RICORDI

Tickets: \$ 18 - \$ 58. An all-star opera gala to celebrate the bicenntenial of one of the world's greatest music publishing houses featuring Metropolitan opera stars and conducted by Music Director Elaine Rinaldi.

Miami-Dade County Auditorium 2901 W. Flagler St. (305) 547-5414 or

JAN 19, 8 PM BUTTERFLY'S TRIBUTE TO AALIYAH AND JANET: A NIGHT OF DANCING FROM THE HEART AND SOUL

www.ticketmaster.com

Tickets: \$ 26 in advance; \$ 31 day of show. Joseph Caleb Auditorium 5400 NW 22nd Ave. (305) 636-2350

JAN 20, 7:30 AM - 9 AM (& FEB 17)

ECOADVENTURES: ARCH CREEK'S BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS

\$ 5/Person. Get a fresh start on your Sunday morning with a dose of nature! This naturalist-led walk gives you and your family an opportunity to learn the basics of bird watching. Refreshments will be provided at the start of the program. Reservations are required. Arch Creek Museum 1855 NE 135th St. (305) 944-6111

JAN 20, 9 AM – 3 PM (& FEB 10) ECOADVENTURES: NEW!

CHEKIKA HERP TOUR
\$ 25/Adult, \$ 15/Child (Ages 7-14).
Join the naturalist guides of AD
Barnes Park on this exciting hike
through a Sawgrass Prairie. Learn
about our Everglades animals and
plants. Reservations required.
AD Barnes Nature Center
3401 SW 72 Ave.
(305) 365-3018

JAN 20, 2 PM – 4 PM (& FEB 17) (PLEASE ARRIVE AT 1:30 PM)

ECO ADVENTURES: DEERING ESTATE AT CUTLER SUNSET CRUISE ON THE PELICAN ISLAND SKIPPER

\$ 35/Person. Take a relaxing trip on the Pelican Island Skipper Pontoon Boat and discover South Florida's nature and history. Space is limited. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

⇒ JAN 21, 7 PM – 11 PM (& FEB 20)

ECO ADVENTURES:
DEERING ESTATE AT CUTLER MOONLIGHT CANOE TOUR

\$ 35/Person (ages 18 and older). Canoeists will enjoy the moonlit beauty of Biscayne Bay as they make their way to Chicken Key. 16701 SW 72nd Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

JAN 24 - 27, 7 AM - 5 PM MIAMI DOG OBEDIENCE SHOW

FREE to spectators. Tropical Park Equestrian Center 7900 SW 40th St. (305) 987-0306

JAN 26, 9 AM – 12 PM SATURDAY KID'S CAMP: "BUTTERFLIES EXPEDITION"

\$ 30/Child; \$ 10 one-time annual camp registration fee. This is a hands-on, site specific program that focuses on nature, archeology, arts and science for children ages 6-10. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

» JAN 26, 10 AM – 12 NOON (& FEB 23) (MEET AT THE VISITOR'S CENTER AT 9:45 AM)

ECO ADVENTURES: DEERING ESTATE AT CUTLER - BIKE TOUR

\$ 15; \$ 10 ride your own bike. Ride along the trails and explore the scenic landscapes while learning about the Estate's historic past. 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

→ JAN 26, 8 PM LOS ANGELES IN CONCERT

Tickets: \$ 45 - \$ 65. Famous 70s rock and roll band from Spain.

Miami-Dade County Auditorium
2901 W. Flagler St.
(305) 547-5414 or

www.ticketmaster.com

>> JAN 26 & 27 2ND ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL

Admission: \$ 20/Adults, \$ 10/Child ages 6 – 17. Learn how to make chocolate, sample savory chocolate delights, listen to lectures on the rich history of chocolate, visit the chocolate spa and explore the rainforest to learn how chocolate grows.

Fairchild Tropical Garden 10901 Old Cutler Rd. (305) 677-1651 ext. 3344

JAN 27, 8 AM – 11 AM (& FEB 24)

ECO ADVENTURES:
DEERING ESTATE AT CUTLER CHICKEN KEY CANOE TOUR

\$ 25/Adult, \$ 15/Child (ages 9-14).
Canoeists will experience the beauty of Biscayne Bay as they make their way to Chicken Key Island, a sevenacre bird rookery.
16701 SW 72 Ave.
(305) 235-1668 ext. 233

>> FEB TBD, 7:30 PM SEX AND THE ANIMALSHOSTED BY RON MAGILL (TENTATIVE)

Prices: \$ 30/Person or \$ 50/Couple. Back by popular demand! Miami Metrozoo's Goodwill Ambassador Ron Magill will once again present his critically acclaimed "Sex and the Animals" presentation at the Miami Metrozoo's Amphitheater. This informative, yet highly amusing slide show incorporates a multitude of images of graphic sexual nature. describing the unique, fascinating and often entertaining mating behavior of a wide range of wildlife. This subject matter, for adults only, is presented in a fun, light-hearted manner with sound affects as only Ron can exemplify. Call the Zoological Society of Florida at (305) 255-5551 for reservations with a credit card (limited to 450 guests), as this event will sell out!

⇒ FEB 2, 9 AM – 12 PM

SATURDAY KID'S CAMP:
"PLANET EARTH AND OUR SUN"

\$ 30/Child; \$ 10 one-time annual camp registration fee. This is a hands-on, site specific program that focuses on nature, archeology, arts and science for children ages 6-10.

Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave.

(305) 235-1668 ext. 233

>> FEB 2, 9, & 16, 10 AM – 1 PM ECOADVENTURES: GREYNOLDS' HISTORIC OLETA RIVER CANOE TRIP

\$ 25/Adult; \$ 15/Child (Ages 7-14). The beauty of the Oleta River has drawn man to its shore for centuries. Relive the river's historic past with park naturalist guides as you explore this natural haven for wading birds, osprey, fish and the endangered West Indian Manatee. Reservations are required. Greynolds Park Boathouse 17530 W. Dixie Hwy. (305) 365-3018

▶ FEB 2, 3 – 6 PM NEIGHBORHOOD PARK CONCERT SERIES

FREE. This free concert is part of a series of concerts that include live music, entertainment and activities for children.

North Glade Park

North Glade Park 17355 NW 52nd Ave. (305) 693-6236

FEB 8 & 22, 7:30 PM − 9 PM ECOADVENTURES:

ARCH CREEK'S CAMPFIRE

\$ 5/Person. Enjoy an old-fashioned family campfire, complete with roasting marshmallows!
Reservations are required.
Arch Creek Museum
1855 NE 135th St.
(305) 944-6111

SOBAY FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS: SCREEN ON THE GREEN

A film presentation on the lawn of the Deering Estate at Cutler. Guests are invited to bring along blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy the evening atmosphere and bay breezes. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233.

D FEB 9

2008 US OLYMPIC TEAM TRIALS **50KM RACE WALK**

Crandon Park 4000 Crandon Blvd

⇒ FEB 9. 9 AM – 12 PM SATURDAY KID'S CAMP: "MOONS AND STARS"

\$ 30/Child: \$ 10 one-time annual camp registration fee. This is a hands-on, site specific program that focuses on nature, archeology, arts and science for children, ages 6-10. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

⇒ FEB 9. 10 AM – 1 PM KID'S HERB PIZZA GARDEN

\$ 10. Instructor: Karen Estv. Kids will have a blast making the best pizza in the world from your very own herb garden. Learn to plant and care for the various herbs that are used in cooking. Kids will go straight from the garden to the kitchen to create their very own masterpieces. Delizioso! Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave. (305) 247-5727 or www.fruitandspicepark.org

D FER 9

SOBAY FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS: SEMINART WITH LEGAL ART

LegalArt, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing artists with affordable legal services, unique events and educational opportunities, presents a half day series of lectures and workshops for the collector, aficionado, or interested citizen on a variety of topics. Lunch will also be provided on the Estate for the attendees. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

» FEB 10. 17 & 24. 9 AM **ECOADVENTURES: GREYNOLDS**

PARK GUIDED NATURE WALKS \$ 3/Person. Meet at the Grevnolds Park Boathouse and explore the park trails through different ecosystems and learn about plants and animals that inhabit the area Reservations are required.

17530 West Dixie Hwv. (305) 948-2891

₩ FER 10

SOBAY FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS: FLORIDA CLASSICAL ORCHESTRA

Spend this Sunday afternoon with the Florida Classical Orchestra as they present. "Celebration of the Arts." chamber music for clarinet, viola and piano featuring works by Living Composer, McLean (Florida) and music from France, Spain and Germany. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

→ FEB 12

SOBAY FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS: AN EVENING OF POETRY

South Florida Writer's Association presents an evening of poetry and music. Notable poets such as Jonathan Rose, Amy Baez, Shamele Jenkins and Howard Camner will delight you with their words. The public is also encouraged to bring their original writings to share. There will also be book signings and a raffle for fabulous prizes. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave.

(305) 235-1668 ext. 233

→ FEB 13 & 27, 7:30 PM – 9 PM **FCOADVENTURES:**

ARCH CREEK'S GHOST TOURS

\$ 3/Person. Join our naturalists for an introduction to the history of Arch Creek Park that has contributed to its mystery and unexplained paranormal activities. Reservations are required. Arch Creek Museum 1855 NF 135th St. (305) 944-6111

⇒ FEB 14, 7 PM (GATES OPEN AT 5:30 PM) VALENTINE'S DAY - A ROMANCE OF JAZZ AND MODERN ART

Outside on the Garden House Lawn \$ 45/Member. \$ 60/Non-member. \$ 15/Child (6 - 17). VIP reserved seating at candlelit table \$125. Group discounts available for 20 or more. Bring a blanket or small lawn chair. a picnic basket and your special someone at Fairchild's annual Valentine's Day Concert. This year, it's even more romantic as you listen to jazz favorites and relax among Fairchild's stunning landscapes and the sculpture of Roy Lichtenstein. Fairchild Tropical Garden 10901 Old Cutler Rd. (305) 667-1651, ext. 3358

⇒ FEB 14, 8 PM (GATES OPEN AT 7 PM) MOONLIGHT AND MUSIC

The Moonlight and Music Concert offer couples the opportunity to celebrate love at a romantic outdoor concert under the stars. Guests are welcome to bring blankets and picnic baskets. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave. (305) 235-1668, ext 233 or www.deeringestate.org

FEB 16, 9 AM − 12 PM SATURDAY KID'S CAMP:

"ARCHEOLOGIST FOR A MORNING"

\$ 30/Child; \$ 10 one-time annual camp registration fee. This is a hands-on, site specific program that focuses on nature, archeology, arts and science for children ages 6-10. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

FEB 16, 9 AM − 2 PM ECOADVENTURES:

EVERGLADES SWAMP TROMP \$ 45/Adult, \$ 15/Child (Ages 7-14). Join our naturalist guides and explore a Cypress Swamp. Go slough slogging through knee deep waters and enter a Cypress dome habitat. This is your opportunity to truly learn about the Everglades and its beauty. Reservations required.

AD Barnes Nature Center

⇒ FEB 17, 2 – 4 PM (PLEASE ARRIVE AT 1:30 PM) SUNSET CRUISE

3401 SW 72 Ave.

(305) 365-3018

Cost: \$ 35. Take a relaxing trip on the Pelican Island Skipper Pontoon Boat and discover South Florida's nature and history. The boat will depart from the Deering Estate and explore Biscayne Bay.

Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave.

(305) 235-1668 ext. 233 or www.deeringestate.org

▶ FEB 21, 8 PM ONE NIGHT STAND

Tickets: \$ 5. Every 3rd Thursday poets and musicians gather at JCA for an open mic night. All are welcome. Joseph Caleb Auditorium 5400 NW 22nd Ave. (305) 636-2350

FEB 23, 8 AM (ALL DAY TRIP)

FLORIDA KEYS SAFARI

Fee: \$ 40. Enjoy a scenic tour through the botanical, private and historical, gardens of the Florida Keys. Highlight of the tour includes a visit to see the unique Florida Keys Deer in their native habitat. Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave. (305) 247-5727 or www.fruitandspicepark.org

FEB 24, 11 AM – 4 PM 3RD ANNUAL CLASSICS AT THE BAY

Admission: \$ 5/Car. Enjoy a fun day for the entire family featuring live music, classic cars, food, activities for children, motorcycle rally and arts and crafts by local artists.

Homestead Bayfront Park/
Herbert Hoover Marina
9698 SW 328th St.
(305) 230-3033

FEB 26 - APR 1, 6 PM -7:30 PM (TUE) FEB 27 -APR 2, 10 AM - 11:30 AM (WED) YOGA

\$ 60/Session. Learn how to relax, meditate and relieve stress. Deering Estate 16701 SW 72 Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233

Ongoing Activities

DAILY, 9 AM – 4 PM (YEAR-ROUND)

ECOADVENTURES: CRANDON PARK VISITORS AND BISCAYNE NATURE CENTER

\$ 5/Vehicle, \$ 10/Bus. The Crandon Park Visitors and Biscavne Nature Center is your gateway to the Bear Cut Preserve, a 264-acre natural barrier island habitat located on the northern tip of Key Biscayne. Guided tours and educational programs are offered year round for all ages - from low tide marine beach and wading tours, to bird watching, canoeing, kayaking, snorkeling and bicycling. Visit the center's exhibit room and aquariums with different recreated underwater habitats. Self-quided nature trails are available. Trail Guides are available in the Nature Center 6767 Crandon Blvd.

Parking Lot #1, North Beach Entrance (305) 361-6767

→ DAILY, 9:30 AM - 12 PM

ECOADVENTURES: CRANDON PARK'S KAYAK ADVENTURE

\$ 40/Adult, \$ 15/Child (Ages 9-14). Residents: \$ 35/Person, \$ 15/Child (Ages 9-14) Includes snorkeling gear rental. Kayak along the beautiful shallow waters of Key Biscayne and explore the protected areas of Bear Cut Preserve where land meets the sea. This trip is a great introduction to kayaking and we are certain it will be the highlight of your visit to Crandon Park. Reservations are required. 6767 Crandon Blvd.

Parking Lot #1, North Beach Entrance (305) 365-3018



→ DAILY. 10:30 AM & 3 PM

DEFRING HISTORIC TOURS

Free with admission: \$ 7/Adult: \$ 5/Child. This tour highlights the history surrounding the Deering Estate at Cutler and the story of Charles Deering. Guests will visit the 1st and 2nd Floors of the Stone House and Richmond Cottage, as well as the basement/wine cellar of the Stone House

Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave. (305) 235-1668

▶ DAILY. 12:30 PM

NATURAL AREAS TOURS

Free with admission: \$ 7/Adult: \$ 5/Child. Join a Naturalist Guide as they walk in the footsteps of Florida's first peoples. Hike through a lush forest of tropical hardwood trees and clinging vines down the Native American footpath that, near the end of the nineteenth century, would become the first Cutler Road/Ingram Highway. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave. (305) 235-1668

▶ DAILY, 10 AM - 5 PM

FREE FLIGHT AVIARY

Encounter rare and exotic Asian birds close-up and in free flight. Watch them build their nests and care for their vouna

American Bankers Family Aviary Wings of Asia Miami MetroZoo 12400 SW 152 St. (305) 251-0400 or www.miamimetrozoo.com

DAILY, 10:30 AM & 2:30 PM

BIRD FFFDINGS

Follow the bird keepers for fun and information while they go throughout the aviary feeding the birds. American Bankers Family Aviary Wings of Asia Miami MetroZoo 12400 SW 152 St (305) 251-0400 or www.miamimetrozoo.com

⇒ DAILY, 9:30 AM – 5 PM INDOOR ACTIVITIES

Observe ducks swimming on top of and under the water with fish and turtles through the viewing glass of the indoor, air-conditioned Observation Center. Step out behind two waterfalls to see the aviary from a duck's eve view, and learn how you can participate in local conservation efforts. Potamkin Conservation Center Miami MetroZoo 12400 SW 152 St. (305) 251-0400 or www.miamimetrozoo.com

→ DAILY. 9:30 AM – 5 PM **DINOSAUR ENCOUNTERS**

View a film showing the link between dinosaurs and birds at the Field Research Center, then search for the skeleton of a 40-foot-long carnivorous dinosaur in a mock fossil excavation dig pit. Miami MetroZoo

12400 SW 152 St. (305) 251-0400 or www.miamimetrozoo.com

10 AM - 5 PM

TOADSTOOL!

ToadStool features close encounters with small animals that live in naturalistic habitats. ToadStool is a place for fun. observation, learning. and is sure to delight the entire family. You can observe poison dart frogs in ferocious battles, watch blind cave fish as they swim without bumping into each other, see Emperor scorpions and meet a large Burmese python! You can ask questions and share your experiences with animals with your ToadStool guide. Come visit us: we are certain you will eniov it! Commercebank Children's Zoo Miami MetroZoo 12400 SW 152 St (305) 251-0400 or www.miamimetrozoo.com

OPEN DAILY FROM 11 AM TO 4 PM

THE SAMBURU GIRAFFE FEEDING STATION

\$ 2. You will get to feed our giraffes delicious veggie treats like romaine or iceberg lettuce, kale or collard greens. Visitors have the opportunity to walk up a custom built ramp that leads to an elevated platform overlooking the giraffe exhibit. For the first time at Miami Metrozoo, visitors can view a giraffe's 14-inch long tongue as it extends out to gently take food out of their hands while getting a close look at what many consider the most beautiful evelashes in nature! Miami MetroZoo 12400 SW 152 St. (305) 251-0400 or www.miamimetrozoo.com

PINE ROCKI AND GUIDED TOUR

Walk through this fire-dependent habitat that the gopher tortoise, great horned owl and the Florida panther call home. Learn about the county's largest remnant of the rare native pinelands that exists nowhere else on earth. Walking tours are scheduled through the Education Department at (305) 255-5551.

Miami MetroZoo 12400 SW 152 St. (305) 251-0400 or

EVERYDAY AT 1:30 PM WITH AN EXTRA SHOW AT 2:30 PM ON WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS

DIEGO'S DISCOVERY DEN

www.miamimetrozoo.com

At the Commercebank Children's Zoo, see Diego in his Discovery Den!
The star of Nick Jr.'s Go, Diego, Go!, one of the top pre-school shows on commercial television, has started his featured performances. You can catch him. Diego's 20-minute shows feature a vibrant host, various animals with handlers and of course, a lively and life-sized costumed character Diego! www.miamimetrozoo.com

>> EVERY FRI & SAT DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR, 6 PM - 9 AM

ZOO INN

Bring your youth group, scout troop, biology class or adult group to spend the night! In this sleepover program you will have a behind-the-scenes walking tour of the Zoo after dark and a special morning activity. Zoo Inns include a pizza dinner, continental breakfast and souvenir. Minimum group size: 15, maximum group size: 30. Pre-registration is required. Miami MetroZoo 12400 SW 152 St. (305) 251-0400 or www.miamimetrozoo.com

⇒ SAT, 10 AM - 11 AM

ECOADVENTURES: ARCH CREEK TRAIL TOURS

\$ 3/Person. Join a naturalist guided tour through a Tropical Hardwood Hammock where you will find an assortment of interesting plants native to South Florida. Reservations are required.

Arch Creek Museum 1855 NE 135th St. (305) 944-6111

SAT & SUN, 9 AM, 12 PM & 2 PM

ECOADVENTURES: BEAR CUT PRESERVE NATURE WALKS

\$ 3/Person. Enjoy a leisurely walk along one of the many trails of Bear Cut Preserve. Learn about butterflies, birds and the many plant and animal species that inhabit the coastal environments of South Florida. Bring your binoculars along and your water shoes in tow!

Crandon Park Visitors and Biscayne Nature Center 6767 Crandon Blvd.

Parking Lot #1, North Beach Entrance (305) 361-6767 Ext 112

>> SAT, SUN & HOLIDAYS, 10 AM - 4 PM

ECOADVENTURES: KAYAK RENTALS

Fully equipped "sit on top" ocean kayak rentals and snorkeling equipment available.
Single or 2 Person Kayak:
\$ 15/Hour or \$ 30/3 Hours
Snorkeling Gear Rental: \$ 7 Daily
6767 Crandon Blvd.
Parking Lot #1, North Beach Entrance or Kayak Aquatic Concession located on the beach southeast of the
Crandon Park Visitors and
Biscayne Nature Center.
(305) 361-6767 Ext. 112
or (305) 365-3067

→ EVERY SUN, 9:30 AM – 1 PM

ECOADVENTURES: CRANDON PARK'S BAYSIDE CANOE ADVENTURE

\$ 40/Adult, \$ 15/Child (Ages 7-14).
Residents: \$ 25/Person, \$ 15/Child (Ages 7-14). This naturalist-led canoe trip explores the forgotten and secret part of Key Biscayne. Explore this peaceful water wilderness where great blue herons, spotted eagle rays, upside down jellyfish, and green iguanas live among the mangrove fringes. Reservations are required. Crandon Park Visitors and Biscayne Nature Center 6767 Crandon Blvd.
Parking Lot #1, North Beach Entrance (305) 365-3018

⇒ EVERY SUN, 1 PM – 4 PM

ECOADVENTURES: CRANDON PARK'S KEY BISCAYNE BIKE ADVENTURE

\$ 25/Adult, \$ 15/Child (Ages 9-14). \$ 20 (Ride your own bike). Come and explore beautiful Key Biscavne as you bike along the streets and scenic paths of this historic barrier island. Tour Crandon Park's Bear Cut Preserve as well as the Crandon Gardens - the site of the original Miami Zoo. We'll also explore the nature trails of Bill Baggs State Park and enjoy breathtaking views of the Cape Florida Lighthouse built in 1825 - the oldest building in South Florida. Reservations are required. Crandon Park Visitors and Biscavne Nature Center 6767 Crandon Blvd Parking Lot #1, North Beach Entrance (305) 365-3018

>> AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

ECOADVENTURES: CRANDON PARK HERITAGE TRAM TOURS

\$ 2/Adult, \$ 1/Child, minimum
10 people. Reservation required.
Enjoy a tram ride through the Bear
Cut Preserve. Learn about the island
of Key Biscayne and its fascinating
history. From the Tequesta Indians to
the pirates and pioneers, it's been an
amazing journey. Tram rides also
available upon request for birthday
parties, corporate events and other
special events.

6767 Crandon Blvd.
Parking Lot #1, North Beach Entrance (305) 361-6767 Ext 112

LAST WED OF EACH MONTH AT 7:30 PM

TROPICAL FRUIT & VEGETABLE SOCIETY OF THE REDLAND

Free tasting table, plant exchange and horticultural library and monthly guest speaker lecturing on tropical fruits & vegetables.
Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187 Ave. (305) 247-5727 or

>> 2ND THURS OF THE MONTH AT 7 PM

www.fruitandspicepark.org

SOUTH DADE GARDEN CLUB

In existence for 70 years, 55 years at the Park, the South Dade Garden Club is an opportunity to learn about gardening, and make new friends.

Fruit and Spice Park

24801 SW 187 Ave. (305) 247-5727 or www.fruitandspicepark.org

ST WED OF THE MONTH AT 7:30 PM

REDLAND EVENING HERB SOCIETY

Enjoy learning about herbs and their uses.
Fruit and Spice Park
24801 SW 187 Ave.
(305) 247-5727 or
www.fruitandspicepark.org

Upcoming Events

>> MAR 1 & 2, 10 AM – 6 PM 19TH ANNUAL ASIAN CULTURE FESTIVAL

Admission: \$ 7 (children under 12 admitted free). In it's 19th year, this annual festival features Asian crafts, arts, music and dance, highlighted by a tasty selection of Far Eastern cuisine. Children can participate in the Asian passport activity and receive a special gift upon completion. Sponsors for this event include the Thai-American Association and Fruit and Spice Park. Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave. (305) 247-5727 or www.fruitandspicepark.org

MAR 1, 6 PM − 8:30 AM METROZOO'S BIG CAT-NAP CAMPOUT

Come be a part of the 4th annual Big CatNap Campout! Pack your camping gear and head on over to experience a night of wilderness, complete with sound effects (provided by Zoo animals)! Pre-registration is required by March 10 and space is limited, so register early. Children must be at least 6 years old and in the first grade to participate.

Education Department at (305) 255-5551 ext. 125

→ MAR 5, 6:30 PM - 9 PM

IN THE COMPANY OF WOMEN

\$ 50/Person. 20 years of honoring the work and accomplishments of the women of Miami-Dade County. Vizcaya Museum and Gardens 3251 South Miami Ave. (305) 480-1717

MAR 7, 7 PM FEAST WITH THE BEASTS

Stroll the Zoo grounds while enjoying tastes from more than 35 of Miami's finest restaurants, full open bars, animal encounters and live entertainment. \$175 for Feaster tickets, \$500 for Beastkeeper tickets. For more information contact Joseph Castro at (305) 255-5551 x117 or jcastro@zsf.org

MAR 15, 10 AM – 2 PM BAMBOO DAY

Instructor: Daniel Holmes
\$ 45. Learn to grow and cultivate
different varieties of Bamboo and their
uses. Includes a tour of the Park's 70
varieties of bamboo, which is the
largest public collection of tropical
bamboo in the United States.
Demonstrations by Bamboo craftsman,
Bamboo handicraft exhibit, plants,
products, and books will be available.
Rice cooked in bamboo will be served.
Fruit and Spice Park
24801 SW 187th Ave.
(305) 247-5727 or
www.fruitandspicepark.org

MAR 22 & 23, 11 AM - 4 PM THE GREAT MIAMI METROZOO EGG SAFARI

It's a magical day at Miami Metrozoo with continuous egg safaris for kids 12 and under at the Picnic and Special Events fields. Other activities include: face painting, arts & crafts, a bounce house, rock climbing, water tag, Radio Disney AM 990, the Easter Bunny and more! Starlight Star bright Foundation kids will also have a special egg hunt just for them at 10 am on Saturday, April 7 (Tentative). www.miamimetrozoo.com

→ MAR 30

SEAFOOD FESTIVAL (PRESENTED BY THE DEERING ESTATE FOUNDATION)

Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext 233 or www.deeringestate.org

APR 5, 12, & 19, 10 AM – 2 PM ESSENTIALS OF BACKYARD HORTICULTURAL

Instructor: Chris Rollins
Fee: \$ 25/Session. Part 1: climate soil & irrigation; Part 2: Pruning, fertilizing, and mulching; Part 3: disease, weed control, insects and chemicals.
Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave. (305) 247-5727 or

APR 19 & 20, 10 AM - 5 PM HELICONIA PALM AND FLOWER SHOW

www.fruitandspicepark.org

\$ 6 (children under 12 admitted free). Large exhibit of Heliconia blossoms on display and a multitude of plants for sale including Heliconia, palm trees, shrubs and orchids. Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave. (305) 247-5727 or www.fruitandspicepark.org

→ MAY 3, 10 AM – 5 PM HEALTH AND WELLNESS DAY

\$ 6. Learn new methods to improve your health and well being. Services include aromatherapy, Reiki, chair massage, and meditation. Come and participate in the Tai Chi classes, yoga, and health food demonstrations. Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave. (305) 247-5727 or www.fruitandspicepark.org

₩ MAY 11

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Guests can taste appetizing dishes and desserts, tour the grounds and take in the lush natural beauty and grandeur of the Estate. Deering Estate at Cutler 16701 SW 72nd Ave. (305) 235-1668 ext. 233 or www.deeringestate.org

MAY 15 - 18, 10 AM - 5 PM MIAMI INTERNATIONAL

AGRICULTURE & CATTLE SHOW
Join us as we bring together
cattle breeders and agricultural
professionals from North America,
South America and throughout the
world in this first annual event.
Tropical Park Equestrian Center
7900 SW 40th St.
(305) 755-7800
www.miamicattleshow.com

MAY 16, 17 & 18, 9 AM – 5 PM REDLAND INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW

\$ 6. The largest annual orchid show in the U.S. featuring exhibits and orchid vendors. An American Orchid Society judged event showcasing various types of orchids, plants, and supplies for sale, lectures by experts, raffles and food. Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave. (305) 247-5727 or www.fruitandspicepark.org

MAY 18, 11 AM - 6 PM GREYNOLDS PARK LOVE-IN \$ 6/Car. Take a journey back to the 1960s with folk music, beat poetry.

and classic cars.
Greynolds Park
17530 W. Dixie Hwy.
(305) 945-3425
www.greynoldslovein.org

→ JUN 7

5TH ANNUAL BLUE WATER FISHING CLASSIC

All six Miami-Dade Parks Marinas. A fishing tournament for amateur, professional and junior fishermen, this annual event attracts anglers from throughout Miami-Dade County and offers cash awards and prizes for largest fish within the species of dolphin, wahoo, black-fin tuna and kingfish.

(305) 755-7939

JUN 21 & 22, 10 AM – 5 PM REDLAND SUMMER FRUIT FESTIVAL

\$6 (children under 12 admitted free). This annual event showcases local agriculture and tropical fruits. Vendor booths featuring local wines, yummy foods, and rare fruit samplings will be available.

47

Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave. (305) 247-5727 or www.fruitandspicepark.org



The purpose of recreation is not to kill time, but to make life; not to keep a person occupied, but to keep them refreshed; not to offer an escape from life, but to provide a discovery of life.

– Author unknown

Parklife

GET CONNECTED.

GET INFORMED.

GET PARKLIFE.

Stay updated on all the events and programs happening in your Miami-Dade Parks by visiting the website...

WWW.MIAMIDADE.GOV/PARKS

