

MATHESON HAMMOCK PARK | IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WEST SIDE

Dear Park Patron,
The master plan for the west side of Matheson Hammock Park reflects and balances the desires and safety of parks users from an array of backgrounds, age groups and interests. Below please find frequently asked questions, for your information:

What are upcoming improvements to the west side of Matheson Hammock Park?

- 1. Repairs to Old Cutler Road parking lot with handicap parking, safety crosswalk and access to the east side parking lot. Estimated total number of parking spaces 110 (estimated construction start: Summer 2021, finish: Fall 2021).
- 2. Boardwalk nature trail (estimated construction start: Summer 2021, finish: Fall 2021).
- 3. Dog-friendly environment (on-leash) with an enclosed area, two acres large, the size of two football fields for dogs off leash, location to be identified (estimated construction start: Summer 2021, finish: Fall 2021).
- 4. Phased restoration of the native habitat as a botanical garden (start: Spring 2021).

The above mentioned improvements are being developed in close coordination with the Natural Forest Community (NFC) and Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) programs of the Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) within the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources.

Can the park, or a portion of, stay open during construction of the parking lot and boardwalk?

Unfortunately not, the County has the responsibility to ensure for the safety of the community and ensure that all its construction sites are safely secured. The County also has the responsibility to protect environmentally sensitive lands. The west side of Matheson Hammock Park is nearly 90% designated as a Natural Forrest Community and Environmentally Endangered Land, making fencing around the construction site not feasible without impacting the protected lands. Therefore, the west side of the park needs to be closed to visitors during the 90 day construction phase.

Will dogs continue to be allowed in the park once improvements are completed?

Yes, dogs will continue to be allowed on leash throughout the west side of Matheson Hammock Park and off leash in the designated two acre dog area.

Will there be parking and access for individuals with disabilities?

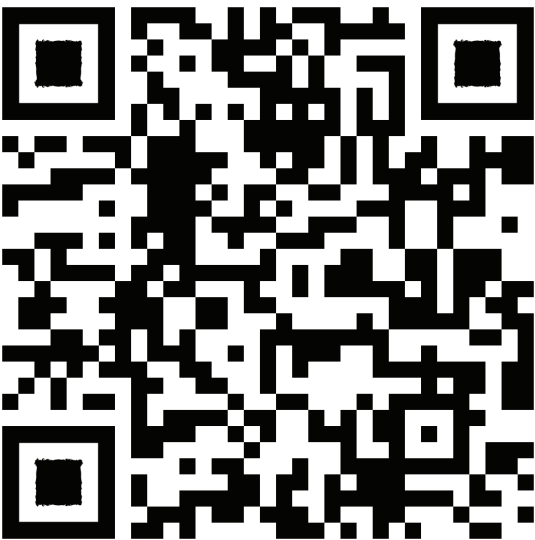
Yes, Old Cutler Road parking lot will have ADA spaces and the boardwalk that serves as the main entrance to the park will be ADA-compliant. Additionally, a park ranger on a golf cart will provide residents who need assistance with transportation into the park.

Why was the School House Road park gate closed?

Matheson Hammock Park is a metropolitan park that serves 2.8 million residents and visitors of the County. Access to metropolitan parks is provided along major roadways not small neighborhood roads. This access point was originally created for park service vehicles to access the maintenance yard and not intended to serve as vehicular access for the general public. Currently, this access point is open to pedestrians and cyclists. Vehicular access is limited to visitors with disabilities and authorized park service vehicles. Once improvements to the Old Cutler Road parking lot and entrance are completed, School House Road access will be closed to all vehicles.

Did the community have the opportunity to provide feedback on the masterplan and the improvements?

Yes, the park masterplan was presented to the community, it follows the goal of restoring the ecological habitat of the park, as presented and discussed in public community meetings in 2008 and 2015.



To stay up to date with the park improvements please visit:
miamidade.gov/parks/matheson-hammock.asp



- Legend**
- 1 Existing Oak Hammock
 - 2 Existing Trees Preserved
 - 3 Existing Trees
 - 4 Existing Native Tree/Shrub Buffer
 - 5 Existing Tropical Hardwood Hammock
 - 6 Existing Hydric Hammock
 - 7 Pedestrian and Bicycle Entrance/ ADA Accessible
 - 8 Park Sign
 - 9 Existing 6' Nature Trail
 - 10 Existing Trail
 - 11 Main Pedestrian and Bicycle Entrance/ ADA Accessible
 - 12 8' to 12' Wide Nature Trail Boardwalk/ ADA Accessible
 - 13 Nature Trail
 - 14 Existing Historic Coral Rock Nursery
 - 15 Pedestrian Crossing
 - 16 Existing Resident Security House
 - 17 Existing Parking Area Enhancements/ Additional Spaces
 - 18 Existing Underground and Overhead Electrical Service
 - 19 Existing Utilities Station
 - Dog Run (Off Leash) - Location to be identified