



Facility Master Plan

A New Facility to Expand and Enhance the Recreational Opportunities at the Brooker Creek Preserve, Offering Hiking, Fishing, Canoeing, and a Limited Access Primitive Camping Site

... a balanced
countywide system of
resource & activity-
based recreational &
open space
opportunities.
Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan:
Recreation & Open Space Element

Master Plan



Symbol Legend

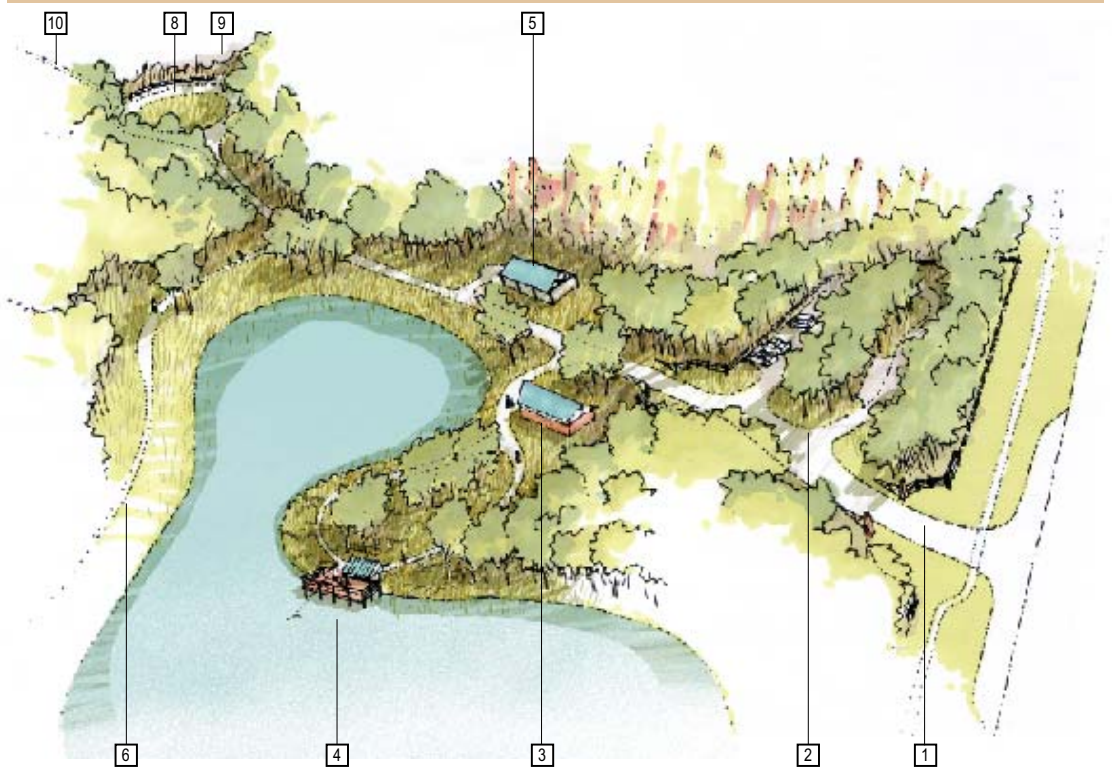
Symbol Legend	Features Included in Each Area
1 Entrance	Turn Lanes on East Lake Road; Masonry Entry Posts with Gates; Wood Fence with Raised Letter Facility Name Sign; Split Rail Fence in Front of Parking Area
2 Arrival / Parking Area	Sign / Rules Board and Gate for Pedestrians and Vehicles, Wood Perimeter Fence, Paved Parking Aisle and Accessible Parking Space, Reinforced Turf Parking Spaces between Preserved Existing Trees
3 Restrooms	M&F Restrooms and Outdoor Shower Area, Outdoor Sinks and Clean-up Area, Drinking Fountain
4 Fishing Dock	Dock with Angled Arm Support Top Rail, Bench and Shade Structure
5 Covered Pavilion	Picnic Tables, Wash up Area
6 Fitness Trail	Accessible Cleared Path with Walking Distance Markers / Signage
7 Vehicular Drive	Asphalt Paved Drive
8 Drop-off	Water Spigot, Backless Benches in Waiting Area at Trail entrances, Signage for Camping, Fishing and Trail, Informational Signage Regarding Environment or Site / Regional History
9 Group Camp Site	Fire Pit, Water Spigot, Cleared Trail
10 Hiking Trail	Cleared Path Following Existing Trail with Low Areas Filled as Needed for Soil Stability
11 Canoe / Kayak Launch	Grass Paver Ramp into Lake
12 Planting	Native Plantings
13 Boardwalk	At-Grade and Elevated Wood Boardwalks Depending on Water Level
14 Trail Connection	Pavement, Signage Crosswalk and Pedestrian Operated Signal

Facility Overview

The Mills Property at Brooker Creek Preserve is roughly 275 acres of Cypress Swamp and Oak Hammock, with most of the land evidencing regenerative growth after years of dredging, tree farming and other damaging uses. An existing path bisects the property --a remnant of the site's history-- offering varied and attractive views of the different habitats, and a convenient hiking linkage between the Brooker Creek Preserve to the south, and the Anclote / Brooker Trail to the west. To preserve as much of the forested areas as possible, the existing path serves as the main hiking trail for the proposed facility. Minimal improvements are proposed for the path and in the immediate vicinity of the path, for the purpose of improving visitor access to the facility.

This facility serves as a hiking, canoeing/kayaking, and freshwater fishing area accessible to north county residents. A portion of the Oak Hammock is reserved for a primitive group camping site, restricted to small organized groups of less than twenty campers, and available by reservation only.

Overall View of Major Features



View of Fishing Dock from Trail



November 2, 2004

Figure 39. Brooker Creek Preserve Four Lakes Hammock Conceptual Plan