

Department of Environmental Management
Environmental Lands Division (ELD)
North-County ELD Maintenance Shop
Tarpon Springs, FL

1 August 2006

Purpose:

The purpose of this structure is to house the maintenance program for the North-County Operations Section in the Environmental Lands Division.

Project Justification:

Brooker Creek Preserve is the work center for the North-County Operations Section for the Environmental Lands Division. As such, the Operations Section is responsible for maintaining equipment and facilities for two preserves and six management areas. The total assets for which it is responsible to maintain in part or in whole is nearly \$10 million. No maintenance facility exists to-date except for a pole barn primarily designated for purposes of research and land management. Thus, the ability to maintain equipment and facilities for the Division in the northern tier of Pinellas County requires a maintenance work center. The closest in-house facility is located 25 miles to the south at the Weedon Island Preserve. Security is another issue in the North County since the present housing for maintenance equipment is isolated from the main road and vulnerable to loss in the wake of a tropical storm or hurricane of any size. Construction of this new facility will provide better security and protection to staff, equipment, and other pertinent resources. Lastly, a facility of this type is consistent with various points within the County's *Comprehensive Plan* (viz., the Recreation and Open Space Element). It supports and enhances the overall mission and goals of the Environmental Lands Division.

Timetable:

October 2005 to September 2006: Engineering and design

October 2006 to September 2007: Construction

Costs:

FY06: \$60,000

FY07: \$350,000

Building Dimensions:

Shop 32' x 96' (four bays, storage area, meeting room)

Pole Barn 30' x 50'

Chemical Storage 10' x 20'

Possible Environmental Issues:

- Runoff of rain water from shop footprint (porous 57-stone to allow for rain seepage)
- Stagnation of water supplied to the shop area
- Flood control
- Loss of trees (estimated gross loss = 8 trees)