

Definitions

ALTERED NATURAL COMMUNITIES – Natural resources which have been substantially affected by development but continue to provide some environmental benefit.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVATION OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICT – A zoning district contained in the Pinellas County Zoning Code that will be used to designate archaeological sites.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES – See Historic Resources

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE – An individual historic resource recognized for its prehistoric or historic artifacts and features. This also includes archaeological sites recorded in the Florida Site File Records and identified in the Pinellas County Historic Resource Data Base.

BEACH – The zone of unconsolidated material that extends landward from the mean low water line to the place where there is marked change in material or physiographic form, or to the line of permanent vegetation, usually the effective limit of storm waves. “Beach,” as used in the Coastal Management Element requirements, is limited to oceanic and estuarine shorelines.

BICYCLE FACILITIES – A general term denoting improvements and provisions made by public agencies to accommodate or encourage bicycling, including parking facilities, and shared roadways not specifically designated for bicycle use.

COMMUNITY PARK – Provides community-based recreation needs, serving multiple neighborhoods. Also may preserve unique landscapes and open spaces.

CONSERVATION AND RECREATION LANDS PROGRAM – A program created by the Florida Legislature (Section 253.023, F.S.) To provide a means of acquiring and managing environmentally endangered lands and other lands for recreation, water management and preservation of significant archaeological and historical sites. The areas to be proposed projects according to criteria based on recommendations made by the Committee.

CONSERVATION USES – Activities within land areas designated for the purpose of conserving or protecting natural resources or environmental quality and include areas designated for such purposes as flood control, protection of quality or quantity of groundwater or surface water, floodplain management, fisheries management, or protection of vegetative communities or wildlife habitats.

CRITICAL HABITAT – Viable areas of habitation for Endangered and Threatened species as confirmed by appropriate jurisdictional agency documentation, or by reports which may be submitted by an applicant requesting a development order on a site containing an area of such habitation by Endangered or Threatened species. The extent of these areas shall have a

definitive boundary which may vary in extent based upon the individual species, e.g., bald eagle's nest or pond harboring a protected turtle.

CULTURAL RESOURCES – Areas, places, buildings, structures, visual, performing and literary artworks, events (e.g. festivals), institutions/organizations (e.g. the Florida Orchestra), individuals/people (e.g. artists, folk artists), natural features and other objects having a special historical, cultural, archaeological, architectural, community or aesthetic value.

DEVELOPED PARKLAND – Components within the Pinellas County park system – including regional parks, pocket parks, beach access parks, boat ramp facilities, multi-use trails, and special use lands – that are open and available for public use.

ENVIRONMENTAL LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT (ELM) – Encompasses the principles of Xeriscaping and also promotes energy and water conservation through appropriate landscaping around homes and businesses. ELM includes lawn and garden management practices such as recycling and proper use of pesticides and fertilizers.

ENVIRONMENTAL LANDS – Any preserve or management area (including its lands and waterways) that is determined to contain major ecological, hydrological, and physiographic components and whose interdependent biophysical or biocultural components can only be maintained through preservation or extreme limitations on development. These lands and waterways are set aside to protect significant natural and cultural resources, remnant landscapes, open spaces, and/or visual aesthetics and buffering characteristics. All such lands and waterways are managed by the Department of Environmental Management's Environmental Lands Division.

FACILITY-BASED RECREATION – Recreational activities that are of this orientation usually require a built facility such as a playfield, court, horse stable, swimming pool, etc. to accommodate them. Uses may include softball, baseball, football, tennis, basketball, soccer, playgrounds, fitness trails, pool swimming, etc. These activities are not natural resource dependent.

FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE – A compilation of archaeological and historic resources surveyed in Pinellas County and recorded with the State of Florida, Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources.

FOREVER FLORIDA PROGRAM – Based on the State's Preservation 2000 Program, this is a grant program directed at acquisition of lands for conservation, ecosystem restoration, recreation, water resource and water supply development, urban green space and recreational opportunities.

GREENWAY – A linear open space established along either a natural corridor, such as a riverfront, stream valley, or ridgeline, or over land along a railroad right-of-way converted to recreation use, a canal, a scenic road, or other route; any natural or landscaped course for pedestrian or bicycle passage; an open space connector linking parks, nature reserves, cultural features, or historic sites with each other and populated areas; or a local strip or linear park designated as a parkway or greenbelt.

HISTORIC DISTRICT – A geographically definable area designated pursuant to the Pinellas County Historic Preservation Code possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district may also be comprised of individual elements separated geographically but linked by association or history. To qualify as an historic district, an area must contain both contributing and noncontributing properties.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICT – A Zoning District contained in the Pinellas County Zoning Code that will be used to designate historic resources in unincorporated Pinellas County.

HISTORIC RESOURCES – Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, object, or other real or personal property of historical, architectural, or archaeological value, as determined through criteria for designation contained in this ordinance. Historic resources may include, but are not limited to, monuments, memorials, Indian habitations, ceremonial sites, abandoned settlements, sunken or abandoned ships, engineering works, or other objects with intrinsic historic or archaeological value, or any part thereof, relating to the history, government, or culture of Pinellas County, the State of Florida, or the United States.

HISTORIC TREE CANOPY – Native tree species endemic to a given habitat type.

MARINE HABITAT – Areas where living marine resources naturally occur, such as mangroves, seagrass beds, algae beds, salt marshes, transitional wetlands, marine wetlands, rocky shore communities, hard bottom communities, oyster beds or flats, mud flats, coral reefs, worm reefs, artificial reefs, offshore springs, nearshore mineral deposits and offshore sand deposits.

MARINE WETLAND – Areas with a water regime determined primarily by tides and where the dominant vegetation is salt tolerant plant species, including those species listed in Subsection 17-4.02(17), F.A.C., “Submerged Marine Species.”

MULTI-USE TRAILS – Paths or trails that serve a variety of purposes. These trails can provide children and commuting bicyclists with a convenient and safe route of travel to school or work. These trails can also be used by cyclists, pedestrians, joggers, and in-line skaters for recreation/exercise purposes. Prohibited uses include motorized vehicles, horse riding or any use of the trail or path as a bridle path.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAXING UNIT (MSTU) – A financial mechanism whereby ad valorem taxes may be levied by the local government, in accordance with an approved referendum, for providing specific services and improvements in a defined geographical area. In Pinellas County, the Board of County Commissioners has supported the creation of MSTUs in large contiguous unincorporated areas for the provision of community and neighborhood recreational opportunities.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES – A federal listing maintained by the U.S. Department of the Interior of buildings, sites, structures, and districts that have attained a quality of significance as determined by the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended, 16 U.S.C. 470, or as may be amended, renumbered or replaced, and its implementing regulation,

36 C.F.R. 60, "National Register of Historic Places", or as may be amended, renumbered or replaced. Areas listed on the national register are identified in the Pinellas County Historic Resource Database.

NATURAL RESERVATIONS – Areas designated for conservation purposed and operated by contractual agreement with or managed by a federal, state, regional or local government or nonprofit agency, such as: national parks; state parks, lands purchased under the Save Our Coast, Conservation and Recreation Lands, or Save Our Rivers programs; sanctuaries; preserves; monuments; archaeological sites; historic sites; wildlife management areas; national seashores; and Outstanding Florida Waters.

NATURE-BASED (ECO) TOURISM – An enlightening, participatory travel experience to environments, both natural and cultural, that ensures the sustainable use, at an appropriate level, of environmental and cultural resources and, while providing for viable economic opportunities for the tourism industry and host communities, makes the use of these resources through conservation beneficial to all tourism role players.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK – Park that provides close-to-home social and recreational opportunities within walking or bicycling distances of residents' homes. With a focus on informal recreation, neighborhood parks are typically provided by the local government or by private recreation facilities in planned communities.

OPEN SPACE – Undeveloped land suitable for low impact resource-based outdoor recreation and/or conservation purposes. This definition can include land with environmental value such as preserve/preservation lands, and can also include land required or desired to provide for visual relief, and aesthetic and scenic value.

OPEN VISTA – Unobstructed distant view, often provided along open roadways and between buildings and structures.

PARK – Means a neighborhood, community, pocket or regional park.

PLAYGROUND – Facility-based recreation area with play apparatus.

POCKET PARK – Small park that is generally intended for use by residents from the immediate vicinity, but is not tied to a specific neighborhood. Activities, amenities and ancillary facilities such as parking spaces and restrooms may be limited.

PRESERVATION 2000 PROGRAM – Created in 1990 to establish a mechanism for supplemental funding of existing land acquisition programs, the program made grants and loans to local governments to help them buy coastal, conservation, and recreation and open space land identified in their comprehensive plans. It was replaced by the Florida Forever Program in 2001.

PRESERVE – Pinellas County Preserves are designated wild areas that are managed for the conservation, protection and enhancement of natural and cultural resources, while providing for sustainable resource-based public recreational uses that are compatible with approved management plans and applicable ordinances and laws.

PRIVATE RECREATION SITE – Sites owned by private, commercial, or nonprofit entities available to the public for the purposes of recreational use.

PUBLIC RECREATION SITE – Sites owned or leased on a long-term basis by a federal, state, regional or local government agency for purposes of recreational use.

PUBLIC ACCESS – Ability of the public to reach, enter and/or use the County's parks, preserves and open spaces, including beaches and shores.

RECREATION FACILITY – Component of a recreation site used by the public such as a court, athletic field or swimming pool.

REGIONAL PARK SYSTEM – Selected for resource-based recreation value, aesthetic, cultural and/or scenic value, greenspace and environmental value, the County owns and manages a regional system of resource-based parks that provides opportunities for citizens and visitors to appreciate the intrinsic visual, cultural and natural qualities of the Pinellas County environment.

RESOURCE-BASED RECREATION – Recreational activities that are of this orientation are dependent on natural resources and a healthy outdoor environment. These activities have little adverse impact on a site and are compatible with natural and/or cultural resource protection. Depending on the site, uses may include picnicking, low-impact camping, educational nature studies, wildlife viewing, horseback riding on trails, fishing, hiking, saltwater beach activities, or freshwater swimming. Specific types of resource-based recreation for each County Park and Preserve will be identified in the respective management plans. Such uses may be further defined and, if appropriate, be listed in any land development regulations developed pursuant to s. 163.3202, Florida Statutes.

SPECIAL USE LANDS – Region-wide passive uses not typically found in a park or preserve. Examples include zoos, large gardens, and large arboretums.

STATE RECREATION AREA – Recreation area provided to meet the more active recreation demands of the general public. Normally, more intensive uses are allowed in a state recreation area than in a state park, although certain included areas of exceptional natural value may be set aside for special protective management.

SHORELINE – Interface of land and water in oceanic and estuarine conditions which follows the general configuration of the mean high water line (tidal water) and the ordinary high water mark (fresh water).

SUSTAINABILITY – A process by which governments, private and non-profit organizations, households and individuals make collaborative and individual efforts to achieve continuing economic prosperity while improving the state of the natural environment and providing a high quality of life for the entire community.