

We only use cookies that are necessary for this site to function, and to provide you with the best experience. Learn more in our [Cookie Statement](#). By continuing to use this site, you consent to the use of cookies.

Receive Updates



DEP Grants Over \$6 Million to Hillsborough, Lake and Indian River Counties for Land Acquisition

Florida Department of Environmental Protection sent this bulletin at 08/24/2018 03:24 PM EDT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Aug. 24, 2018

CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850.245.2112, DEPNews@dep.state.fl.us

DEP Grants Over \$6 Million to Hillsborough, Lake and Indian River Counties for Land Acquisition

~Funds will be used for land acquisition to further conservation and outdoor recreation~



DEP's Florida Communities Trust presented Hillsborough, Lake and Indian River counties with ceremonial checks.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Communities Trust (FCT) awarded Hillsborough, Lake and Indian River counties with more than \$6 million in grant funding to help acquire 720 acres of land across the state for conservation and outdoor recreation.

"The collaborative efforts between FCT and our local stakeholders are represented through these projects," said David Clark, DEP Deputy Secretary for Land and Recreation. "I thank our partners for continued commitment to achieve land acquisitions that promote conservation and protection of Florida."

Hillsborough County:

- The acquisition of Phase II of Lake Dan Preserve, encompassing 1,100 acres, will protect and preserve natural resources that provide recreation such as hiking, wildlife viewing and equestrian trail riding.

Lake County:

- The acquisition of 136 acres at the Lake May Reserve will provide hiking trails, picnic areas, outdoor education facilities, an observation platform and floating canoe/kayak launch.

Indian River County:

- The acquisition of the 163-acre Sebastian Harbor Preserve protects key wildlife habitats, including those of nesting bald eagles, ospreys, Florida scrub-jays and

sandhill cranes, and provides economic benefits to the community as a readily accessible ecotourism destination.

Funded by the Florida Forever Program, [Florida Communities Trust](#) assists communities in protecting important natural resources, providing recreational opportunities, and preserving Florida's traditional working waterfronts. This preservation works through the competitive criteria in the Parks and Open Space Florida Forever Grant Program and the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Florida Forever Grant Program. These grant programs provide funding to local governments and eligible nonprofit organizations to acquire land for parks, open space, greenways, and projects supporting Florida's seafood harvesting and aquaculture industries.

[Florida Forever](#) is Florida's premier conservation and recreation lands acquisition program, a blueprint for conserving natural resources and renewing Florida's commitment to conserve the state's natural and cultural heritage.

About the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is the state's principal environmental agency, created to protect, conserve and manage Florida's environment and natural resources. The department enforces federal and state environmental laws, protects Florida's air and water quality, cleans up pollution, regulates solid waste management, promotes pollution prevention and acquires environmentally sensitive lands for preservation. The agency also maintains a statewide system of parks, trails and aquatic preserves.

Visit the department's website at FloridaDEP.gov

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Preferences](#) | [Delete Profile](#) | [Help](#)

Powered by



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Cookie Statement](#) | [Help](#)