

Tiger Creek Preserve

The 5,000-acre Tiger Creek Preserve is located on the edge of peninsular Florida's oldest and highest landmass, the Lake Wales Ridge. The Ridge shelters one of the highest concentrations of threatened and endangered plants and animals in the United States. Only 10 percent of the native habitat that once covered the Ridge remains. Tiger Creek is a high-quality blackwater seepage stream, so called because it drains wetlands, and the vegetation that falls into the creek colors the water. There are only two other high-quality streams like it left on the Lake Wales Ridge.

TRAIL ENTRANCE

674 Pfundstein Road
Babson Park, FL

PARKING COORDINATES:

N 27° 48.478 W 081° 29.543

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From Bartow follow SR60 West to Lake Wales. Turn south on US27. Stay on US27 about 5 miles to Alturas Babson Park Cutoff/Co Road 640/Pine Crest Road and turn left (east). At the intersection of SR17 (Scenic Hwy) turn south and follow SR17 for about 4.3 miles. Turn left on N. Lake Moody Road, then turn left on Murray Road. Follow Murray Road about 2.1 miles to Pfundstein Road and turn left. Trailhead parking is about .7 on the left.

THINGS TO SEE

Several trails provide access to the oak scrub, sandhill, pine flatwoods, longleaf pine/wiregrass and hardwood swamp habitats associated with Tiger Creek's watershed. Watch for gopher tortoises, sand skinks, woodpeckers and otters.



TREK TEN CACHE COORDINATES:

N27° 48.945 W 81° 29.012

FIND THE CACHE WITHOUT GPS:

Pick up a trail map from the kiosk. From the parking area, enter through the walk-thru gate and look for the "Trail Starts Here" sign on you left. Follow the trail past trail marker 2 and trail marker 3. At trail marker 4 turn right. Walk about 50 feet and you will see a pine tree on your right which is about 20 feet from the trail. The cache is at the base of that pine tree. Return the way you came. Difficulty: Easy.

(HIKE: 2.0 miles round trip)



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