

Bluegill Trail

Connecting *NENA* Places

What Is NENA?

- The Northeast Everglades Natural Area (NENA) is a collection of conservation lands (165,000 acres) as well as activity and education centers lying in northern Palm Beach County and southern Martin County.
- NENA provides residents and visitors with a wide range of nature-based outdoor recreational opportunities.

Bluegill Trail

- 9-mile multiuse trail.
- Located along the C-18 Canal between Riverbend Park in Jupiter and Grassy Waters Preserve in West Palm Beach.

Project Benefits

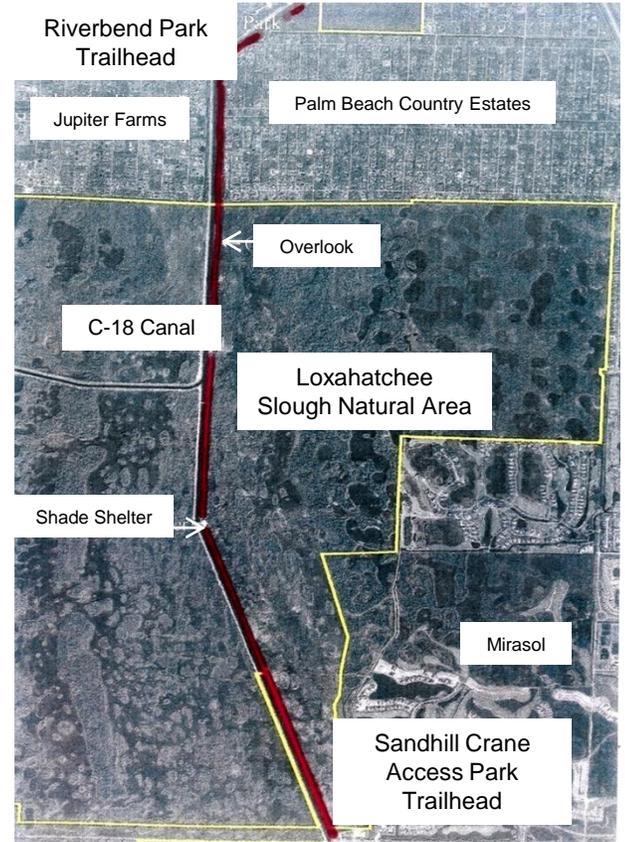
- Provides off road transportation route.
- Offers multi-user access to four conservation lands and visitor facilities: the Loxahatchee Slough Natural Area, Riverbend Park, Sandhill Crane Access Park, and Grassy Waters Preserve.
- Presents excellent views into the major marshes comprising the Loxahatchee Slough.



Chickee shade shelter constructed



Native trees planted for habitat and shade



Riverbend Park to Sandhill Crane Park Connector Trail Project Site (red line)

Project Overview-Phase I

- The trail project is being built in phases.
- Phase I of the Bluegill Trail is the first trail within the NENA footprint to be constructed in Palm Beach County.
- This phase of the project extends from Palm Beach County's Riverbend Park in Jupiter to the City of Palm Beach Gardens' Sandhill Crane Access Park on PGA Blvd., west of the Florida Turnpike.
- The initial 5.3 mile trail along the C-18 Canal and the Loxahatchee Slough Natural Area will accommodate hiking, bicycling, and equestrian activities.
- Phase I project amenities include:
 - ✓ 10-foot wide shell rock path for better bicycle and pedestrian access
 - ✓ A chickee shade shelter
 - ✓ Four informational kiosks
 - ✓ A well with hand water pump offering non-potable water for equestrian use
 - ✓ Native trees for habitat and shade
 - ✓ Bridge over the C-18 Canal
- The east levee of the C-18 Canal and the west levee that borders Riverbend Park will be closed to the public during construction.
- Phase I will be opened to the public February 2011.

Project Partners

Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management, Parks and Recreation Department, and Metropolitan Planning Organization; South Florida Water Management District; City of Palm Beach Gardens; Florida Department of Transportation through the Florida Stimulus Scenic Enhancement Fund



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