

Conservation 20/20 Celebration

Celebrating 30,000 acres protected for wildlife, water quality and recreation

Conservation 20/20 is a land acquisition and stewardship program to protect natural areas in Lee County. Established more than 20 years ago, the Lee Board of County Commissioners recently voted to purchase more land through this program, reaching a milestone of more than 30,000 acres protected. Lee County residents and visitors are invited to celebrate this milestone with events planned in March to highlight Conservation 20/20.

Ribbon-cutting Ceremony

Tuesday, March 10, 10 AM
Prairie Pines Preserve
18400 N. Tamiami Trail, North Fort Myers

Members of the public are invited to join the Lee Board of County Commissioners to celebrate the Conservation 20/20 program at one of Lee County's largest Conservation 20/20 preserves. Free guided walks will also be offered following the ceremony. Reservations for the guided walks are requested in advance by calling (239) 204-1125.

Guided Nature Hikes

Saturday, March 21, 9-10:30 AM
Wild Turkey Strand Preserve
11901 Rod & Gun Club Rd., Fort Myers

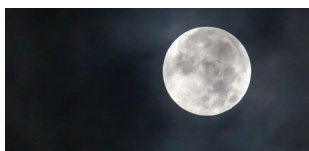


Wednesday, March 25, 9-10:30 AM
Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve
6351 Stringfellow Rd., St. James City

Join a Conservation 20/20 guide to explore these Lee County preserves. Guides will identify and discuss Florida native plants and wildlife. Suggested items to bring include water, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, binoculars and a camera. Please wear closed-toe shoes. Program is free. Reservations are requested in advance by calling (239) 204-1125.

Full Moon Walk

Monday, March 9, 7:30-9 PM
Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve
17751 Penzance Blvd., Fort Myers



Join a guide for a free boardwalk tour after sunset to experience the Slough in the light of the full moon. Listen for owls and other nocturnal creatures. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Flashlights and flash cameras are not permitted. For ages 6 and older. Reservations are required in advance by calling (239) 204-1125.

Prescribed Fire Hiking Tour

Monday, March 16, 9-11 AM
Hickey Creek Mitigation Park
17980 Palm Beach Blvd., Alva



Join a Conservation 20/20 guide for a free tour of a natural area following a prescribed burn. Learn about the benefits of prescribed fire for improving wildlife habitat and increasing plant diversity. Please wear closed-toe shoes. Reservations are required in advance by calling (239) 204-1125.

Library Presentations

"Conservation 20/20 in 2020: A Present and Future Vision for Land Conservation in Lee County"

Wednesday, March 4, 6:30-7:30 PM
Lakes Regional Library

Tuesday, March 10, 6:30-7:30 PM
South County Regional Library

Tuesday, March 17, 1-2 PM
North Fort Myers Public Library

Thursday, March 26, 1-2 PM
Fort Myers Regional Library

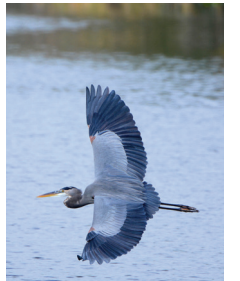


A Conservation 20/20 representative will discuss how the program has grown over the years with the acquisition of new land and what visitors can expect when they visit preserves.

"The Water Connection: Exploring the Partnership Between Lee County Natural Resources and Conservation 20/20"

Thursday, March 5, 2-3 PM
North Fort Myers Public Library

Tuesday, March 10, 2-3 PM
Bonita Springs Public Library



Learn how Lee County's Department of Natural Resources partners with Conservation 20/20 to enhance the health of natural lands and water bodies in Lee County.

For library addresses, visit www.leegov.com/library

Calusa Blueway Kayaking Tours

Friday, March 20, 9 AM-Noon
San Carlos Bay - Bunche Beach Preserve
18201 John Morris Rd., Fort Myers

Join a Conservation 20/20 guide for a tour through the mangroves of this beach preserve. Cost is \$40 for the kayak rental; free for participants who bring their own kayak. Reservations are required by calling (239) 204-1125.

Tuesday, March 24, 10 AM-3 PM
Caloosahatchee Regional Park
119130 North River Rd., Alva



Join a guide for a 7-mile paddling adventure along the Caloosahatchee River and Hickey Creek. Cost is \$40 for the kayak rental; free for participants who bring their own kayak. Reservations are required by calling (239) 204-1125.

Share photos of the fun on social media using [#conservation2020](https://www.instagram.com/conservation2020)

For complete details, call (239) 533-7400 or visit www.leegov.com/2020celebration

