

Welcome to:

Big Slough Preserve

21075 State Road 72, Sarasota

While exploring the preserve's 4,744 acres and network of primitive trails, visitors will experience diverse natural communities including oak hammocks, pine flatwoods and seasonal wetlands. Visitors may find white-tailed deer, feral hogs and red-shouldered hawks, an assortment of wading birds and wildflowers, such as blue flag iris and bachelor buttons. While some trails may be cool as they meander through canopied hammocks, others are open and sunny as they traverse pine flatwoods.

The preserve is named for the slough system that runs through it. A footbridge at the south end of the preserve connects it with Myakkahatchee Creek Environmental Park in North Port.

- Big Slough Preserve has equestrian trailer parking at the SR72 entrance.
- Primitive trails have numbered trail markers at intersections throughout the preserve.
- Additional recreational activities include: birding, bicycling, hiking and wildlife viewing.
- Live Long and Prosper are single-track, off road bike trails that follow the creek banks.

If you enjoy back country hiking, the preserve trails connect with the Carlton Reserve as well as Myakka River State Park for more than 120 miles of trails. Bring your map! For information on other outdoor options, please check our website: scgov.net/parks.

Hours

6:00 a.m. – Sunset

Please remember:

- All plants, animals, rocks and other artifacts are protected. Take only photos.
- There is no drinking water available on this preserve, so please plan accordingly.
- All trails are available for hikers and horseback riders. One exception being the Live Long and Prosper Trails along the creek. They are only open to hikers and bicyclists.
- Seasonally, there may be water on many trails.
- If you pack it in, please pack it out.
- GPS coordinates on the map are from trail marker, entrance kiosk or entrance gate.

In case of an emergency, please dial 911.

Learn more about Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources at scgov.net/parks.
Other inquiries? Call Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000.

Sarasota County prohibits discrimination in all services, programs and activities. View the complete policy at scgov.net/ADA

BIG SLOUGH PRESERVE

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles



Address: 21075 State Road 72, Sarasota
Entrance GPS Coordinates: -82.18972, 27.193603

- Main Entrance
- Trail Marker
- Bridge
- Unpaved Trail
- Big Slough Preserve
- Other Public Lands
- Private Property



The power line trail between TM 122 and TM 168 is on private property and is not open to the public

Myakka River State Park

Mabry Carlton Ranch (Private Property)

T. Mabry Carlton Jr. Memorial Reserve

Walton Ranch

Estates Dr

Myakkahatchee Creek Environmental Park