

Pasco County Parks & Recreation and Jay B. Starkey Wilderness Park

Natural History and Conservation of Florida Turtles

Saturday, 21 March 2009 (1:00-4:00 pm)

Florida is home to over 8% of the world's known turtle species and is a significant area for both turtle diversity and habitat. Turtles are ancient creatures that walked the earth with the dinosaurs and today are important and visible elements in many ecosystems. Many species that occur in Florida are now in decline and in need of conservation attention. Conservation efforts on their behalf are also beneficial to the ecosystems in which they are found.



Join turtle researcher and conservationist George L. Heinrich for a fascinating workshop on Florida's rich turtle diversity. Participants will learn about the ecology and conservation of non-marine species. Meet a diamondback terrapin, a little known species that lives in coastal ecosystems, and an alligator snapping turtle, a riverine species that has suffered from overcollection for human consumption. Other live animals, in addition to bioartifacts will be presented. Participants will also learn how to sort terrapin bones and reassemble shells. For more information, please visit: www.heinrichecologicalservices.com.

This workshop is being offered free of charge. However, you must sign up for the workshop in order to attend. Limited space is available, so please register early. To register or for more information, please call (727) 834-3474.

**Starkey Environmental Education Center,
10500 Wilderness Park Blvd., New Port Richey, FL 34655**