



ARC at the Park

The Audubon Resource Center at Lettuce Lake Park, also known as the ARC at the PARK, holds programs that connect people to nature, foster a culture of conservation, and promote an environmental ethic in the Tampa Bay region.

The educational focus of the ARC at the PARK is the Hillsborough River ecosystem. The ARC contains a variety of fixed and rotating exhibits to help visitors better understand this vital resource.

Bird watching tours are held a couple of times per month. Times and dates are available at the visitors desk.

Audubon family programs are scheduled for the second Saturday of most months. Reservations are required, and programs and registration information are available at the visitor's center.

The ARC at the PARK is operated by the Tampa Audubon Society, and is made possible in partnership with the Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department.

For additional information on the Audubon Resource Center, visit www.tampaaudubon.org.



Great Egret

Hours: Spring 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Summer 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fall 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Winter 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas day

Fees:
Entry - \$2 per vehicle up to eight people/car and \$1 per each additional person
Annual Entrance Pass - \$50 individual, \$100 family
Canoe/Kayak Rental - \$25 up to four hours
Nature Educational Program - \$5
Shelter Rental - \$74.90 per day

Activities:
Bicycle Path, Boardwalk, Canoe/Kayak Rentals, Fishing, Hiking, Nature Study, Picnic Area, Playground

Free Guided Tours every Saturday and Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

Park Ranger Nature Educational Programs on Saturdays and Sundays at 10 a.m. and again at Noon

For more information on:
Lettuce Lake Park call 813-987-6204.
Shelter rental call 813-635-3500, Option 2.

*Cover image: Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
Pickerel Weed*



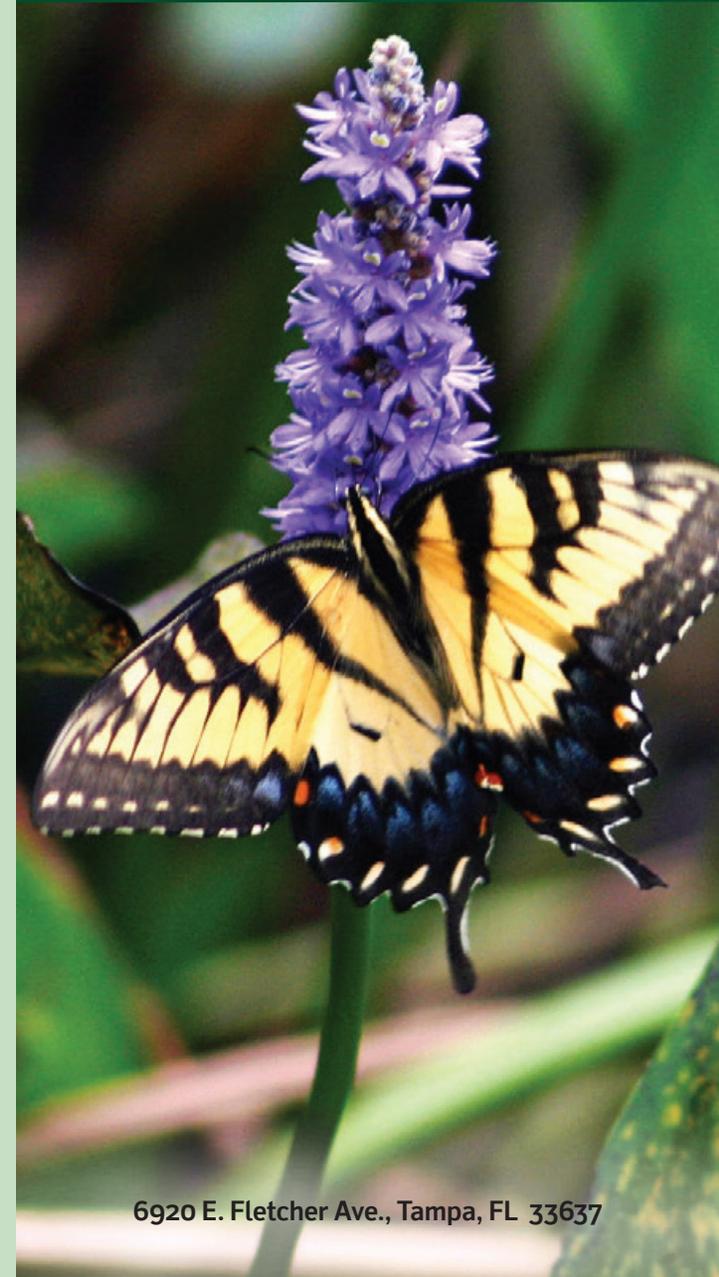
**Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department
Regional Parks Administration Office**

15502 Morris Bridge Road
Thonotosassa, FL 33592
813-987-6240
Fax: 813-987-6271
www.hillsboroughcounty.org/parks



Parks, Recreation and Conservation
Department

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PARKS LETTUCE LAKE PARK



2/2013

6920 E. Fletcher Ave., Tampa, FL 33637

Welcome to Lettuce Lake Park

Lettuce Lake Park opened in 1982 and quickly became a hub of activities. The 240-acre site offers something for everyone. Wooded picnic areas and a playground are family favorites. A 1.25 mile bicycle path/jogging trail, complete with a fitness course, meander through the park. Lettuce Lake is also a haven to study nature.

An interpretive center, featuring exhibits, leads to a 3,500-foot boardwalk and an observation tower where visitors can view an extensive variety of wildlife.

Canoes and kayaks are available for rent to visitors to experience a whole new side of the Park.



American Alligator

Natural History

The Hillsborough River originates in the Green Swamp about 25 miles to the northeast, and borders the Park on two sides. Lettuce Lake is not actually a lake but a shallow, finger-like body of water connected to the river at one end. During periods of high water, part of the river's flow "short cuts" across the swamp forest and through the Park.

More than half of the Park's property lies in the natural floodplain of the Hillsborough River and consists of a hardwood swamp forest. This feature provides a natural storage reservoir for floodwater and improves water quality,



Button Bush



Peninsula Cooter

acting as a biological filter to remove excess nutrients from the water. The remainder of the park consists of hardwood hammocks and pine flatwoods plant communities.

A major objective of the Park's development has been the preservation of the land's natural features so visitors may have an

opportunity to observe the native flora and fauna of this part of Florida. More than 300 species of plants have been identified in the park. An extensive variety of wildlife can also be observed from the trails and boardwalk.



Canoes and Kayaks



Words simply cannot describe the true beauty of Lettuce Lake Park. Bring the family and discover it for yourself.