

# Myakkahatchee Creek

## North Port's Conservation Restricted Zone


April, 2018  
Photos provided by Debbie McDowell

April 2018 - Commissioner McDowell

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I received this message and picture from a citizen, and it sparked my curiosity so I set off on a fact finding mission ....

This is South of Oaks Park an North of WCS 113 in a Conservation Restrictive Zone. Why! Check ULDC , Comp Plan



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These next few pictures do not convey what your eyes will see. If you'd like to check it out for yourself here's the entrance ....

From City Hall, take Sumter Blvd north to Sylvania. Turn left at Sylvania. When it dead ends, turn left. Go approximately 100 yards and you will see the clearing pictured above. Take this trail about 100' and you'll be able to follow the clearing of the creek. I hiked about 30 minutes towards the north and the clearing project was still evident. I also walked for about 15 minutes southwards and the clearing project was still evident.

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Along the eastern bank of the Myakkahatchee Creek near Sylvania Avenue. The clearing project is about 40' to 80' wide (from the bank outwards) and about 1.2 miles long.

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A tale of the two banks!



←Western Bank

Eastern Bank -->


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This slide features a title 'A tale of the two banks!' at the top. Below the title is a photograph of a stream. The stream flows from the background towards the foreground. The left bank (labeled 'Eastern Bank -->') is composed of light-colored, sandy soil and is heavily littered with dry twigs and branches. The right bank (labeled '←Western Bank') is more vegetated with green grass and shrubs. A red arrow on the left side of the slide points towards the title. At the bottom left of the slide, there is a small text credit: 'April 2018 - Commission'.

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This is along the very edge at the top of the bank.



**Erosion is inevitable.**



This slide contains two close-up photographs. The left photograph shows a pile of light-colored sand and soil at the top of a bank, with some dry twigs and debris scattered around. The right photograph shows a stream flowing through a narrow channel, with a steep, eroded bank on the right side. The bank is composed of light-colored soil and is covered with a dense layer of dry twigs and branches. A red arrow on the left side of the slide points towards the text. The text 'Erosion is inevitable.' is written in bold black font.

6




Limbs ripped off, not cut. Some trees still standing have gashes and scrape marks from the heavy equipment



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A few examples of the many piles of debris.

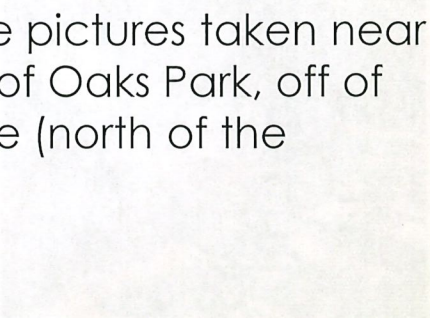



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In case you're curious what the area may have looked like before the clearing project ....


Here are some pictures taken near the entrance of Oaks Park, off of Mandrake Ave (north of the project area).



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Notice the beautiful canopy on both sides of the creek.



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