

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Media Advisory

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CONTACT:

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Celebrate Earth Day on Public Conservation Land

The DuPuis Management Area on the Martin/Palm Beach County line is a showcase of wildlife and outdoor recreation in a natural landscape



Click on the pictures to see a photo gallery of views from DuPuis.

WHAT:

Join the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and Florida Atlantic University's Center for Environmental Studies in celebrating Earth Day 2009 with wildlife presentations, hikes and a host of family activities surrounded by a natural landscape that helps capture the meaning of the day.

The theme for this year's free Earth Day event is, "DuPuis is for the Birds," and the Treasure Coast Wildlife Center is a featured presenter with an up close view of Florida's birds and wildlife. Many conservation and Everglades restoration lands managed by the District have become havens for birds and outdoor enthusiasts alike.

During Earth Day at DuPuis, visitors may also relax while strolling in the Habitat Trail and Butterfly Gardens. A host of nonprofit environmental groups will provide hands-on activities for kids. Food, snacks and drinks will be available for purchase.

The DuPuis Management Area is a 22,000-acre natural area open to public recreation throughout the year. The area was part of the historic Everglades and features an ecologically diverse and significant vegetative community. More than 1,800 outdoor enthusiasts toured the DuPuis visitor center in 2008, with many more enjoying time at the expansive property.

The District is committed to increasing recreational access to District lands, while continuing to manage them effectively to meet its environmental restoration, water supply, water quality and flood control missions. For more information on recreational opportunities, please visit www.sfwmd.gov/recreation. For more information on DuPuis, please visit the District's Web site about the property.

WHEN: Saturday, April 25, 2009

TIME: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

WHERE: DuPuis Management Area

23500 SW Kanner Hwy. Canal Point, Fl 33438

The DuPuis Visitors' Center is located 8 miles west of the junction of 710 on Hwy 76 (Kanner Hwy.) and 3 miles east of Port Mayaca.

CONTACT: For more information contact Kim Kanter: 800/432-2045 x3339 or kkanter@sfwmd.gov

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About the South Florida Water Management District — Celebrating 60 Years (1949-2009)

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.