



# POND APPLE SLOUGH

## A Chain of Lakes Restoration Project

### Chain of Lakes

- Five interconnected freshwater lakes covering a linear distance of 30 miles.
- Begins with Pine Lake in West Palm Beach, progressing south to Lake Clarke, Lake Osborne, Lake Eden, and Lake Ida in Delray Beach.
- Serve, directly or indirectly, as drinking water sources, surface water storage, and wildlife habitat.

### Project Location

- South of Lake Worth Road, east Congress Avenue adjacent to Palm Beach Community College Central Campus.

### The Problem

- Wetland habitat in the lakes has been lost due to development and drainage.

### The Solution

- Create wetland habitat with native plants.

### Benefits

- Improved freshwater wetland habitat, food source and shelter for fish, birds and invertebrates.
- Improved water quality by removing muck sediments and installing native wetland vegetation to help filter water pollutants

### Before Restoration



### Restoration Completed



### Restoration Plantings



### Project Overview

- 2.5 acres of freshwater wetlands were restored in April 1999.
- Restored both sides of a finger canal that connects to Lake Osborne.
- The historic wetland contains a rare 0.3 acre stand of mature pond apple trees (*Annona glabra*) that was restored.
- Over 300 mature exotic invasive trees were removed from site.
- 10,000 cubic yards of muck was removed to create shallow water and deepen open water zones.
- The littoral wetland areas were planted with over 16,000 herbaceous plants.
- Hardwood wetland area was expanded by planting 240 hardwood trees.
- Received first place in 2000 for Ecosystem Restoration by the Florida Native Plant Society.
- Received first place in 2000 for Habitat Restoration by the Treasure Coast Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals
- Palm Beach Community College maintains the property and uses it as a living classroom.

**Project Partners** Palm Beach County, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Palm Beach Community College



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