

Going Green at Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve



Roger Clark, Manager
Lee County Parks and Recreation
Land Stewardship Program
December 2008
PLAM Conference

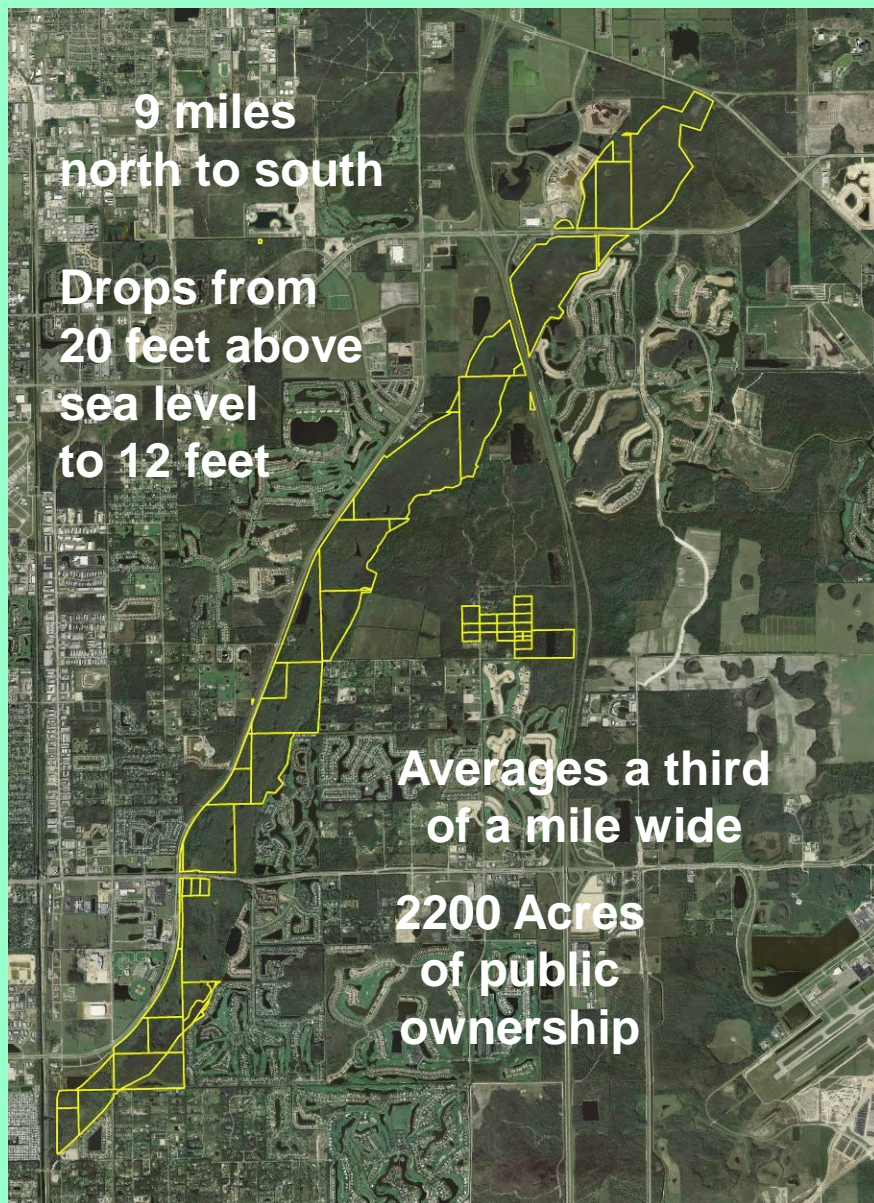


Supporters

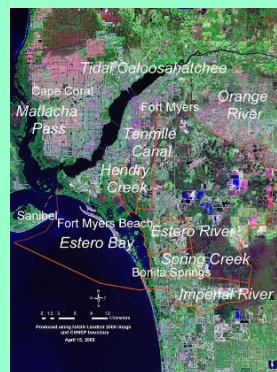
- Friends of the Slough
- South Florida Water Management District
- Volunteers of the Slough
- Lee County School District
- And Many Other Donors



Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve



Depth in
middle 2-3 feet
deeper than the sides



Flows into
Estero Bay
Via 10 Mile Canal

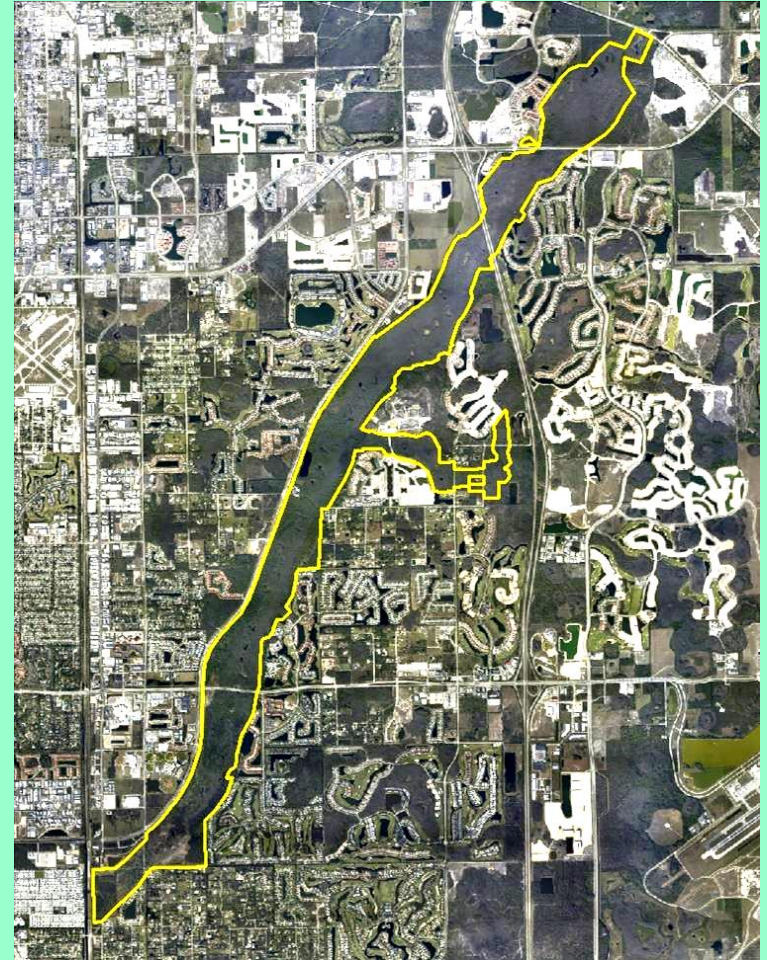
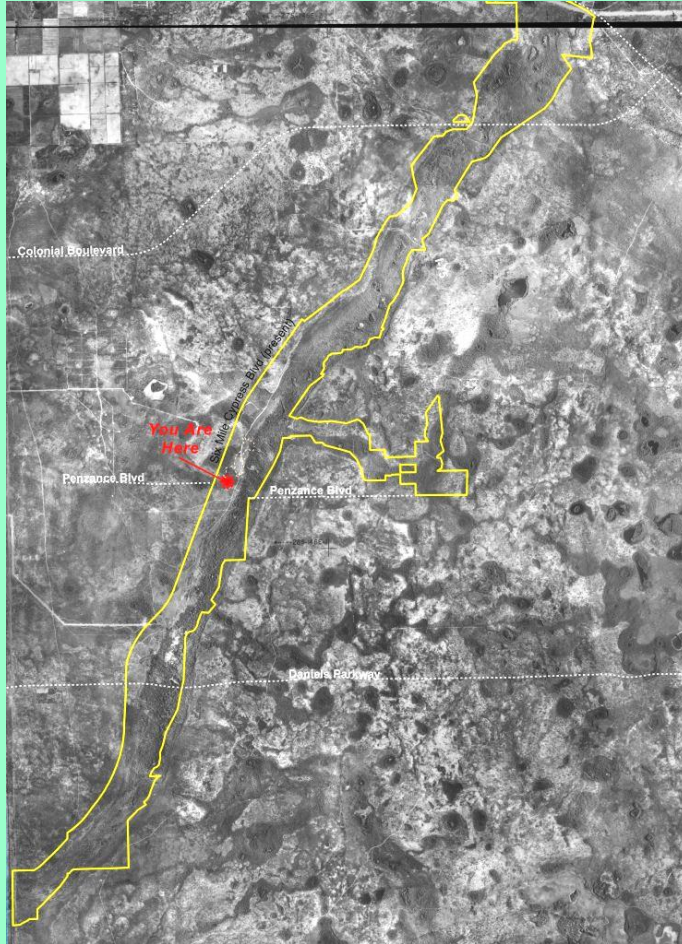


You can tour
the Slough on a
1.2 mile boardwalk

Six Mile Cypress Preserve

1953

2008



Voters to get opportunity to decide swamp purchase

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

10/25/70

By BETTY PRICE
News-Press Staff Writer

Lee County citizens will get a chance for a lifelong romp in the swamp if they vote yes in a referendum in the Nov. 2 election.

After three years of work by a group of environmentally aware high school students, the county purchase of Six-Mile Cypress Swamp hinges on voter approval.

A referendum calling for a .5-mill tax for no more than two years has been placed on the ballot after months of lobbying by the Environmental Education class of Lee County, made up of students from five county high schools. A mill is \$1 tax for every \$1,000 of taxable property.

That works out to about \$15 a year in taxes for the average \$40,000 home. When you consider that it would cost about \$50,000 per acre to perform all the functions that a wetlands area like Six-Mile does, that's a whale of a bargain, according to the class students.

But the students have found that

many people don't know what Six-Mile Cypress is; and when they find out, the first question asked is, "Why buy a swamp?"

To answer questions about the swamp, the students, with the guidance of Bill Hammond, have been speaking to as many as three civic groups a night. So far, every group has been enthusiastic about the project.

Six-Mile Cypress Swamp is one of the last major undisturbed cypress strands in Lee County. The swamp is about two miles east of the county airport, and, contrary to what many people assume, it's not six miles long. The strand is about 10 miles long and up to three-fourths of a mile wide. The name Six-Mile comes from its distance from town, Hammond says.

As an inland wetlands area, Six-Mile would be very difficult to develop because of the strict permitting requirements, he added. But environmentally, the area has almost unlimited potential.

Turn To SWAMP, Page 2B

News Press 24 Mar 11

LOC

South water district to buy slough land

News-Press staff

The South Florida Water Management District voted unanimously Thursday to buy 25 acres in Six Mile Cypress Slough.

The \$250,000 purchase is part of a district five-year plan to buy a larger section of the slough known as the North Arm for \$577,600.

"The North Arm is a natural flow way into Six Mile Cypress, and, because there has been and always will be development pressure out there, provides what is a major convey-

ance into the slough," said Chip Merriam, director of the water district's Fort Myers service. "Historically, a lot of the guys who did the initial development channelized the flow ways. But, instead of altering them, we're using them as nature intended."

Extending about two miles east of the main slough and varying in width from 400 to 1,000 feet, the North Arm collects runoff from the north and from areas east of Interstate 75.

Buying the North Arm is a cost-sharing program between the water district and Lee County. The county

LAND PURCHASE

■ **WHAT:** The South Florida Water Management District voted to buy 25 acres in Six Mile Cypress Slough.

■ **WHY:** The purchase is part of a five-year plan to buy a larger section of the slough known as the North Arm.

buys the property from private landowners, then the district reimburses the county.

In addition to the 25 acres in the North Arm, the district owns 794 acres in the slough.



REFERENDUM
NO. 207 VOTE YES ✓
SIX MILE CYPRESS

CONSERVATION 20/20 #352

#204

#239 - 2

#237

#347

#53 - 2

#348

#352

#352

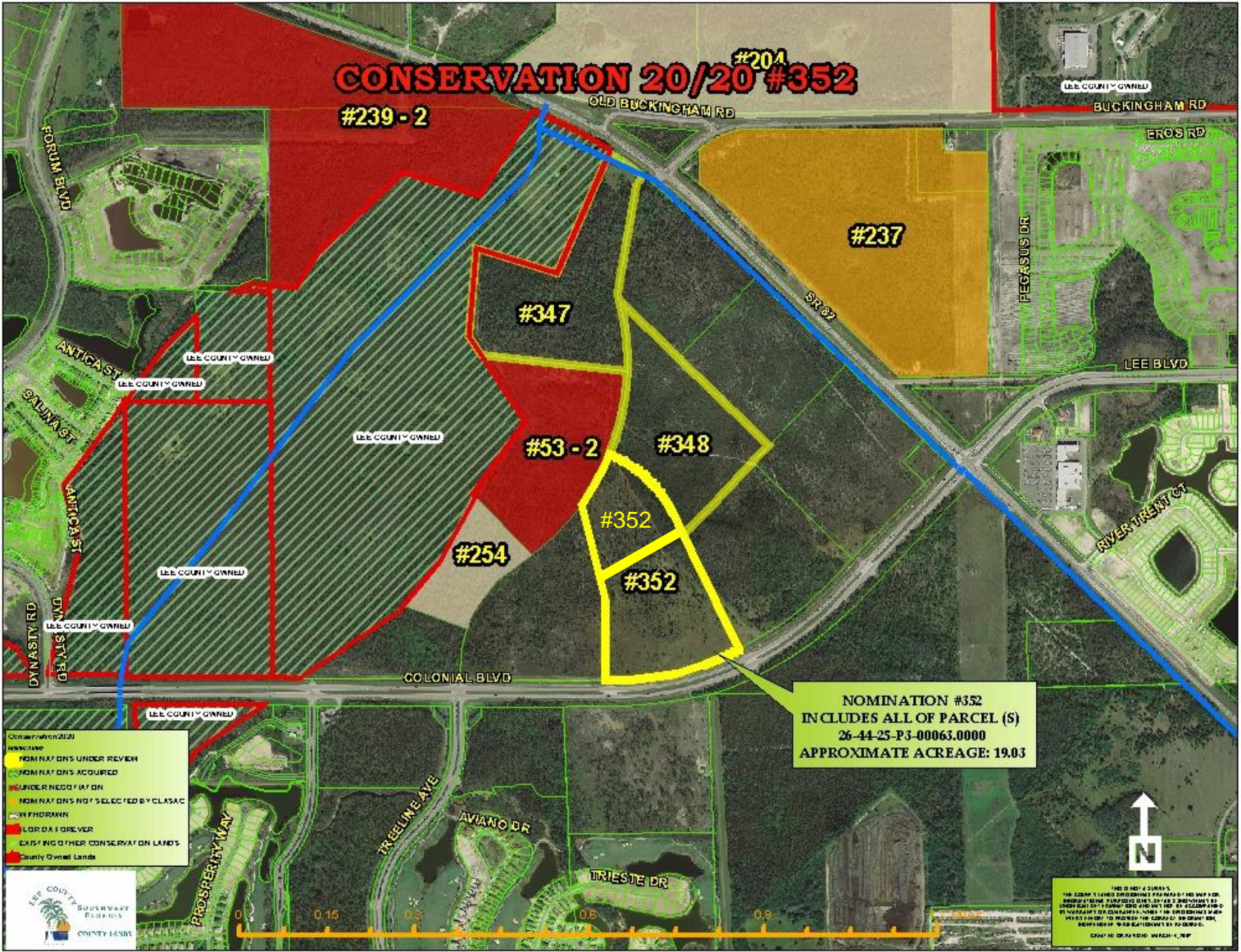
#254

NOMINATION #352
 INCLUDES ALL OF PARCEL (S)
 26-44-25-P3-00063.0000
 APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 19.03

- Conservation 20/20
- NOMINATIONS UNDER REVIEW
 - NOMINATIONS ACQUIRED
 - UNDER NEGOTIATION
 - NOMINATIONS NOT SELECTED BY CLASSIC WITHDRAWN
 - FLORIDA FOREVER
 - EXISTING OTHER CONSERVATION LANDS
 - County Owned Lands



THIS IS NOT A SURVEY.
 THE COUNTY LANDS OVERLAPPING PARCELS ON THIS MAP FOR
 PURPOSES OF THE CONSERVATION 20/20 PROGRAM ARE NOT INTENDED TO
 BE USED AS A BASIS FOR ANY LEGAL ACTION OR AS EVIDENCE OF
 ANY RIGHTS OR INTERESTS IN THE LANDS OR AS A BASIS FOR
 ANY OTHER ACTION. THE COUNTY LANDS DEPARTMENT IS NOT
 RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS ON THIS MAP.
 DATE: 10/20/2010 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Education

groups of all ages



Volunteers



**Melaleuca
Removal**



**Hyacinth
Control**



Environmental Education





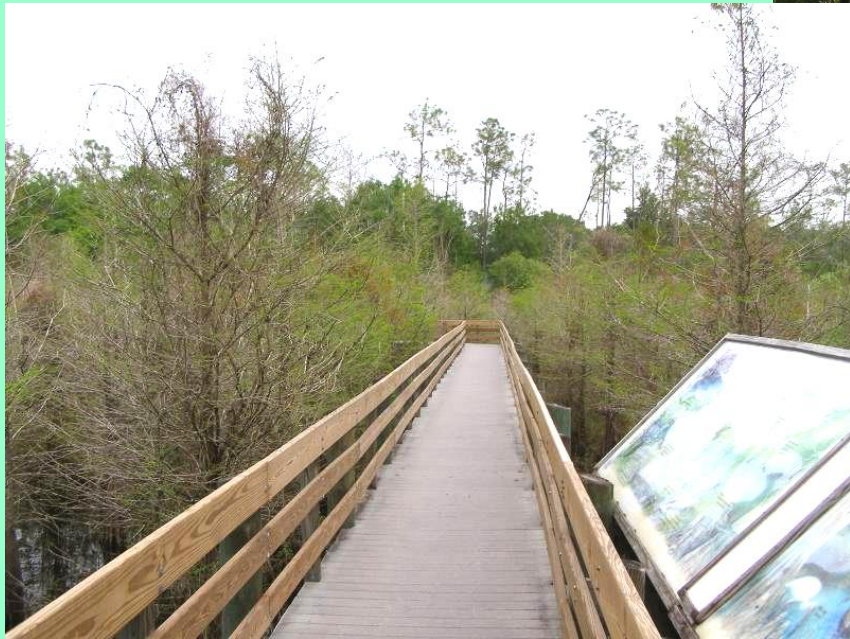


First Facilities

Boardwalk

With observation decks

Built in 1991



Other facilities included a kiosk and maintenance shed

First Volunteer office under kiosk



Staff and volunteer side

Amphitheater



LEED-certified buildings

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

- Lower operating costs and increased asset value.
- Reduce waste sent to landfills.
- Conserve energy and water.
- Are healthier and safer for occupants.
- Reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions.
- Qualify for tax rebates, zoning allowances and other incentives in hundreds of cities.
- Demonstrate an owner's commitment to environmental stewardship and social responsibility



Criteria for Green Building

- sustainable site
- materials and resources
- energy and atmosphere
- indoor environmental quality
- water efficiency

Sustainable Site



Materials and Resources: Marmoleum



- a natural version of linoleum
- natural ingredients (linseed oil, rosins (pine resins used as adhesives), wood flour, pigments and jute
- installed with solvent-free adhesives
- linseed oil promotes anti-microbial properties
- anti-static characteristics of the linseed oil prevent dust and dirt from sticking to the floor's surface.)

Materials and Resources: Hardi Board



- made of fibrous cement
- resists moisture and termites
- comes sealed, pre-primed and pre-painted
- mold and fungus resistant
- flame-resistant and will not melt after being exposed to a heat source



Materials and Resources: Recycling During Construction



Energy and Atmosphere:



Insulated Concrete Forms

Energy and Atmosphere:



Water Efficiency:



Cistern

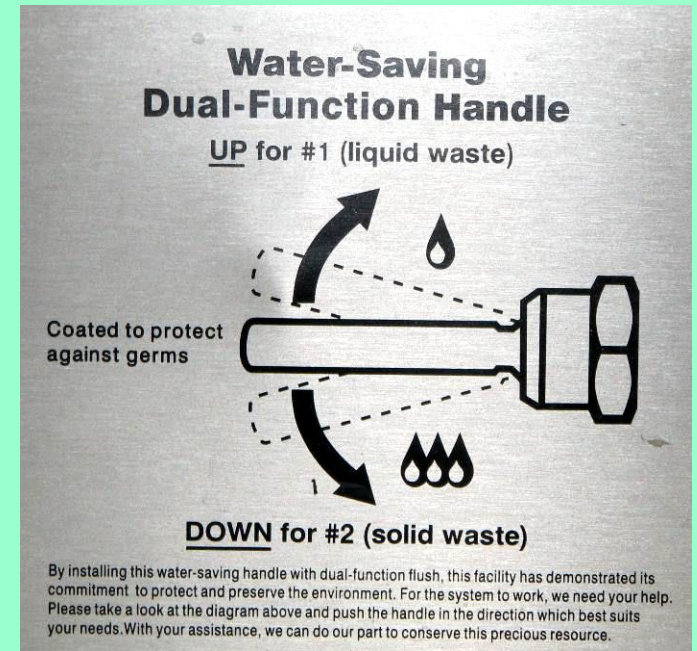


Water Efficiency

Waterless Urinal



Toilet uses rain water



Dual flush system saves water

Indoor Environmental Quality

Bamboo Ceiling
quickly grown natural
renewable resource



**Fans to circulate
the air more efficiently.**

**Functional clerestory windows
Provide further natural circulation
and light.**

Indoor Environmental Quality

All materials used in the interior were low gas and vapors including the:

- Flooring
- Paint
- Wood
- Carpets
- the building was then sealed and vented with high powered fans for several weeks before moving in.

Things to Consider

- \$\$\$\$\$
- Guinea Pig for new technologies.
- Think about what fits for your area not just how many green points you get.
- Green does not stop when you move in.

**Green cleaning
product station**



Thank You

