

#3. Bird Blind

The Gulf Coast of Florida's unique orientation along the Atlantic flyway, a primary migratory bird route, makes for a great place to encounter birds otherwise uncommon to the rest of the state.

- Our bird blind is an opportunity to view these birds in an intimate setting.
- Photographers, Novice and expert birdwatchers can enjoy the experience of viewing these birds up close.

#4. Butterflies & Wildflowers

Flowering plants (angiosperms) are pollinated by insects. Butterflies & Moths have co-evolved with pollinating flowers in exchange for nectar, their primary food source. Flowers that attract butterflies are brightly colored, clustered flowers, non scented and provide a place for a butterfly to land. Native Flowering plants in a butterfly garden (host plants) provide egg laying opportunities and food for specific species.

#5. Raptors (Birds of Prey)

- Sharp curved beaks for tearing flesh.
- Strong talons for grasping prey.

Raptors seen at Felts Preserve

- Hawks
- Osprey
- Falcons
- Kestrel
- Eagles
- Turkey & Black Vultures
- Owls

#6. Bird & Bat House

- Provides housing for cavity animals to take shelter.
- Types of houses provided at Felts Preserve-

- Wood Ducks
- Bluebirds
- Purple Martins
- Barn Owls
- Bats



#7. Littoral Shelf

The gently sloping perimeter of earth surrounding our wetland. These mild changes in elevation provide more habitat for wetland plants, which greatly assist in filtering out pollutants and stormwater runoff.

These areas may reveal:

- Great Blue & Little Blue Herons
- Roseate Spoonbills
- Wood Storks
- Great & Snowy Egrets
- Wood Ducks and more!



BIRDS THIS WAY



CONTACT US



941-729-2222



4600 24th Ave E
Palmetto, FL 34221



manateeaudubon@gmail.com



★ WELCOME TO ★

FELTS AUDUBON PRESERVE

Self-Guided Trail Brochure



Learn about the various habitats and the importance of conservation as you walk Felts Audubon Preserve.

MANATEEAUDUBON.ORG

#1. Snag & Nurse Logs

Did you know that dead trees and fallen logs provide great habitat? Standing dead trees, called snags play a vibrant role in the ecosystem. Snags serve as ideal sites for:

- Cavity Nesters
 - Wood ducks, bluebirds, tufted titmice, screech owls and woodpeckers and more.
- Raptors
 - Clear view to hunt, feed and build their nests.
- Bats
 - Roost under loose bark.
- Insects
 - Rotting wood provides a plentiful food source, which in turn feed many other animals.

Nurse Logs - (fallen, rotting tree) The moisture and nutrients from these logs contribute to new seedlings, giving them an advantage at becoming healthy adult trees.

#2. Native Plants & their Benefits

- Aesthetically pleasing.
- Adapted to flourish in Florida's climate, soil, and biological community.
- Attract Butterflies, Birds and other Wildlife.
- No pesticides or additional fertilizers needed.
- Protect water quality.

Invasive Plants have aggressive growing habits and pose a great threat to Florida's ecosystem.



This property was once used by Otis Felts for grazing cattle. Upon his passing, Mr. Felts donated this 28 acre parcel of land to the Manatee County Audubon so it would remain undeveloped. Restoration Efforts here such as planting of pine trees, are designed to regain the ecological integrity of natural ecosystems historically found here at Felts Audubon Preserve

