

Project GreenShores

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Project GreenShores represents approximately 30 acres of oyster reef, salt marsh, and seagrass habitat. The project site runs from the Three Mile Bridge to the Hawkshaw Lagoon/Missing Children Memorial. Spaced along the way you will find 14 educational signs about the different aspects of Project GreenShores, the habitat it provides, and the impact it is having on the local community.



Project GreenShores Sites is a community-based environmental restoration effort that has taken thousands of hours of labor both paid and volunteer over the course of almost ten years. During that time approximately \$2.6 million in grants and donations have been collected, \$2.5 million received from “in-kind” donations such as volunteer hours, food, material, etc. which has been used to create one of the largest community based restoration projects in the country.

Little known facts about Project GreenShores:

- *Project Birth* – Gulf Power was looking to donate money for a local environmental project and at a suggestion from the Pensacola News Journal’s Carl Wernicke, Gulf Power officials met with DEP and ultimately donated \$150k to the Project.
- *It’s all in the name* – The Project GreenShores name came from the unique mind of Gulf Power’s John Hutchinson.
- *Location, location, location* – The land underneath Project GreenShores is actually owned by the City of Pensacola and is platted with streets.
- *Win, win project* – In 2003 the United States Navy honored Project GreenShores with a Coastal America Partnership Award and in 2004, Project GreenShores received the Gulf Guardian Award in the Partnership category for the number of community partners that helped make this project a reality. This project demonstrates that with commitment and common vision, a community can work together to achieve goals that no single entity could achieve alone. Project GreenShores is a project that was built *by the community for the community*.
- *Birds* – Project GreenShores is part of the Great North American Birding Trail and hosts a variety of shorebirds, gulls, terns, waterfowl, wading birds, and marsh birds. Some of these species such as the coastal wading birds, shorebirds and waterfowl were previously missing from the Bayfront Shoreline due to lack of habitat but have returned since the creation of Project GreenShores. Many birds found along the Gulf Coast are migratory, and depend on shoreline habitats such as these for their survival and reproduction.

For more information about the environmental projects occurring in your community and how you can volunteer to help please contact:

- Amy Baldwin, DEP Ecosystem Restoration Section Manager 595-0559
- Keith Wilkins, Escambia County Community and Environment Department 595-3454.
- Al Garza, City of Pensacola Public Works Director 435-1755
- Website - <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/northwest/Ecosys/section/greenshores.htm>

