



Environmental Improvements at The Bay Park

April 2021

Nature and Environmental Attractions of The Bay Park

- 1.5+ miles of waterfront promenades and boardwalks along Sarasota Bay at buildout
- ½ mile 10-ft. sidewalk around coastal wetland known as the Mangrove Walk
- Paths and educational decks through the historic oak and cabbage palm hammock on the east end of the Mangrove Bayou
- Conversion of hardened shorelines to natural shorelines, capable of accommodating occasional flooding through storm events

Water Quality Features of The Bay Park

Pretreatment of 70+ million gallons of untreated stormwater that flows from/through the site directly into Sarasota Bay **annually**. Treatment train methods include:

- Storm water treatment ponds and marshes
- 600' x 6' x 6' denitrification trench
- 30 – 50 ft. native plant shoreline buffers along all waterfront edges of the park
- Stormwater baffle boxes that remove silt and pollutants from onsite and offsite runoff running through stormwater pipes
- Pervious paving at key locations
- Underwater features including clam and oyster seeding, underwater mini reefs/reef balls

Additional Environmental Benefits of The Bay Park

- Improved flushing to the tidal creek/mangrove bayou
- Native habitat restoration to restore lost or damaged habitat, creating a net increase in intertidal habitat
- Restored historical hydroperiods along the shoreline
- Ecologically friendly and sustainable design of all park features

Environmental Education and Recreation Benefits of The Bay

- **Public education** through interpretive signage and programmed learning opportunities will demonstrate how site enhancements improve the quality of runoff into Sarasota Bay, inspiring children of all ages to become stewards of their community's environment
- **Hands-on and feet-in environmental learning laboratories and experiences** throughout the facility will educate visitors about our area's aquatic plant and animal life. A variety of shoreline treatment demonstrations will be utilized, both for evaluation and education
- **Increased opportunity for recreation, improved connectivity to regional trail systems, additional planting and shade, and enhanced access to the water** will all result in a site that can improve the overall health of Sarasota's and the region's citizens.