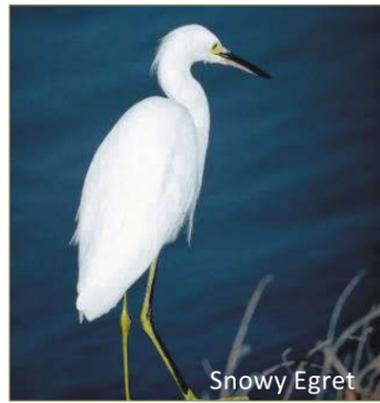
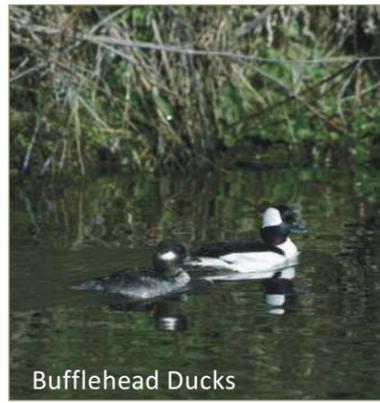




Great Egret



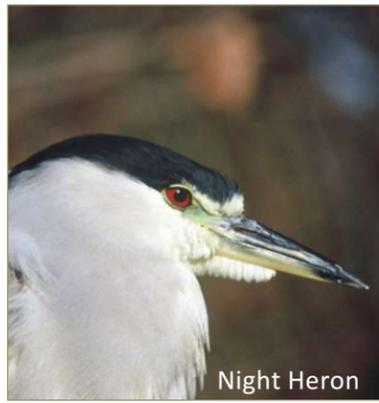
Snowy Egret



Bufflehead Ducks



Tricolored Heron



Night Heron



Wetlands & Stormwater Management



Aeration Fountain

Clean water, good fishing, and outdoor watersports depend upon healthy rivers and wetlands. How can we protect our rivers and wetlands? We can start by managing stormwater.

Stormwater is the water not absorbed into the ground during and after rain storms, which then flows over the land into nearby waters. Stormwater runs off from the streets, buildings, and lawns, and drains into the wetlands through culverts and natural waterways.

In this watershed, the water flows from north to south through a series of wetlands, ponds, and culverts to the Beaufort River and into Port Royal Sound. To restore the watershed, the town of Port Royal installed pipes to connect wetlands that had been isolated by road construction, allowing more natural drainage conditions. To help nature improve the flood control and water quality functions of the wetlands, flashboards control water levels at each pond's inlet and outlet.

The series of wetlands provide natural stormwater capture, retention, and treatment over the days that it takes the water to flow through the system. This improves the quality of the water that drains to the river and Port Royal Sound by trapping pollution, sediments, and excess nutrients. In turn, the habitats, fish and wildlife, shellfish beds, and ecosystems downstream also benefit.



Cypress Wetland Watershed Waterflow Direction



Stormwater Drain



Cypress Wetland

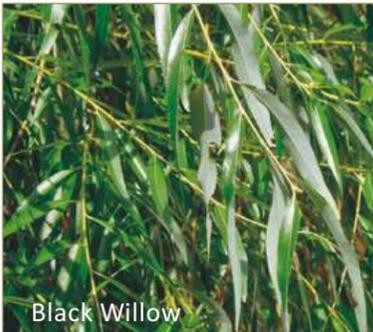
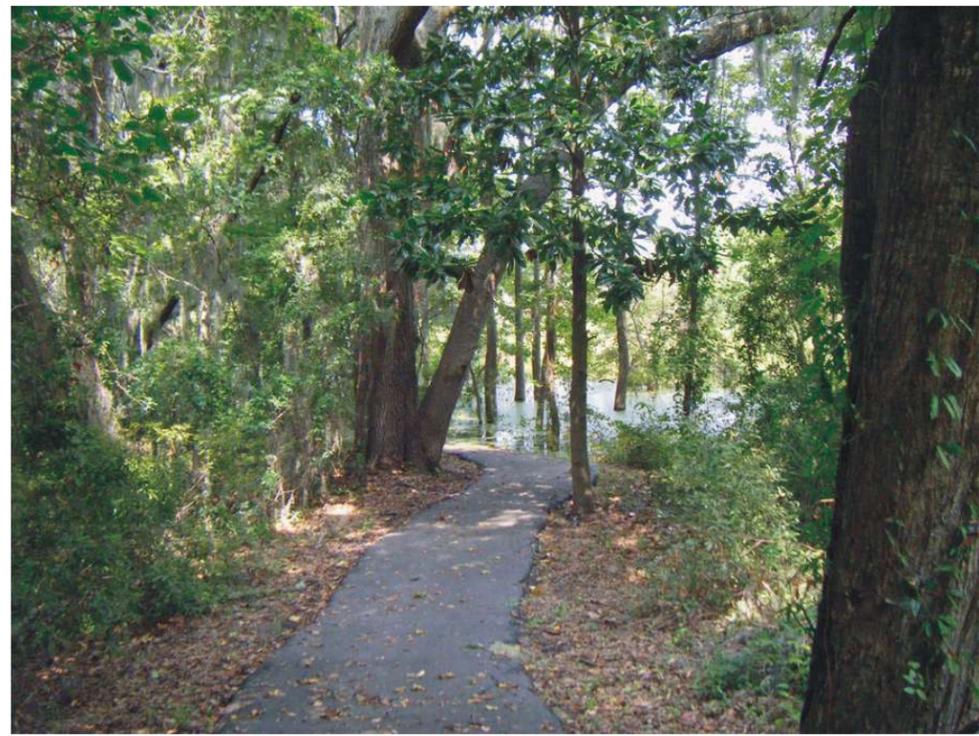


Shrimp Boats

All Images Courtesy of the US Fish and Wildlife Service Digital Database and the US Department of Agriculture Plant Database



PORT ROYAL Cypress Wetlands and Historic Walking Trails



Black Willow



Beautyberry Berries



Cypress Wetland



Water Oak



Red Maple



Port Royal Cypress Wetlands and Historic Walking Trails



LEGEND

- Parks and Historic Loop (1.5 miles)
- Cypress Wetland Loop (0.6 mile)
- Wetland
- Overlooks
- Boardwalks
- Amphitheater
- Handicap Entrance (behind police station)
- Salt marsh areas
- Historic Walking Tour Stops
- Picnic Areas

Please note that the 0.56 mile trail around the wetland is a combination of boardwalk, paved trail, and roadside pedestrian and bike trail. There is no water available along trails, but water is available at the restroom area at the Town Hall and can be purchased from vendors in the area.

NOTE: Public parking is provided along Paris Avenue and on Richmond Avenue near the YMCA, along the road, and at the parking lot at Sands Beach. Please respect the privacy of residents adjacent to the trail and in the historic homes. Thank you! (Restrooms are available at the Town Hall on the corner of 7th Street and Paris Avenue from 8-5 Monday through Friday.)

The Cypress Wetlands Key/Locations

Walking Tour Stops

1. Carpenter's House
2. 709 Paris Avenue
3. Town Hall
4. Appleton/Metcalf Store
5. Customs House
6. The Port of Port Royal
7. The Sands Beach
8. F.W. Scheper Sr. House
9. Scheper House
10. Eichberg House
11. Appleton House
12. 906 9th Street
13. E.A. Scheper House
14. 904 9th Street
15. Port Royal Buoy Park
16. Harter Houses
17. 1003 London Avenue
18. Tea House
19. Gullah Monument
20. Art Deco House
21. Duck Blind
22. Richmond Overlook
23. Live Oak Park/Oyster Shed
24. P.R. Elementary School
25. Jernigan House
26. 1115 14th Street
27. Friends of Caroline Hospice
28. Edmunds Boarding House
29. Shrimp Docks/Blue Channel
30. The Union Church
31. 1103 Paris Avenue
32. Anchor Park
33. 15th Street Wetland
34. Observation Tower/Boardwalk

You can view our interactive Historic Walking Tour Map via the Town's website at: <http://www.portroyal.org>

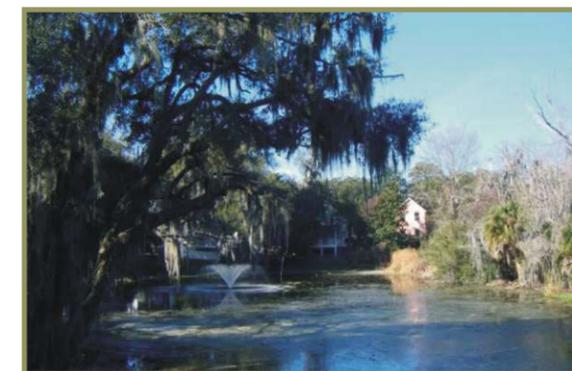
Images by:
Applied Technology & Management, Inc., U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Cypress Wetlands includes the red maple, willow and buttonbush wetlands at the north end, with two nesting islands in the middle. The secluded wetlands provide a refuge for birds and other wildlife. Please minimize noise, use trailhead trash cans, and "take only pictures, and leave only footprints."



Five boardwalks give one great views of the flora and fauna of the wetlands. On the Richmond Ave. overlook and the 1000' main boardwalk, get close to colonial nesting waterbirds in the spring, and see wading birds, ducks, and other wildlife throughout the year. The wetlands flow south under a small bridge to bald cypress and tupelo swamps downstream. The wetland between 15th and 14th Streets has the oldest and tallest bald cypress trees in the area, and an interior boardwalk with benches.



Along Richmond Ave. and 12th St., Duck Blind's tidal and freshwater ponds support many species of fish, ducks, and wading birds. There is a bench along the causeway dividing the ponds, a picnic table at the park along 11th Street. Walking along the marsh, one can venture south to the towering overlook on the river boardwalk. Along the water, one can see dolphins, raptors, wading birds, shore birds, and river otters, and enjoy the sandy beach.