



Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District
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Services Provided by Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District

Palm Beach Gardens, Fl., May 16, 2007 - The Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District (Northern) is an independent special district created in 1959 by the Florida Legislature. Northern provides services related to water management and infrastructure for properties in northern Palm Beach County. So what does that mean?

Northern serves an approximate 128 square mile area and maintains over 3,000 acres of preserves. Its boundaries run from Southern Boulevard north to the Martin County Line, and from the Intracoastal to the L-8 canal west. There is currently 22 full-time staff at Northern working in Operations, Finance, and Administration. Staff biologist, Sam Payson, manages Abacoa's preserves, uplands, and Greenway system, and serves as the Chairman of the Abacoa Greenway Committee. He conducts a minimum of six "green walks" each year to collect debris and trash from the walking trails.

Northern focuses on environmental restoration, preservation, and provision of effective design, management, and oversight of water resource systems. Northern works with other government entities such as the South Florida Water Management District, Palm Beach County Government, and the Town of Jupiter.

Northern is governed by a five member Board of Supervisors. Two Supervisors are elected in the General Election by popular vote, and three Supervisors are elected by landowner vote at the Annual Landowners Meeting. Having two Supervisors elected by popular vote was a major change in 2005. Marilyn Lew-Jacobs was elected in the November 2006 General Election to fill Seat No. 2. Seat No. 5 is currently held by Ronald M. Ash, P.E., and will be up for election in November 2008.

What does Northern do for Abacoa?

Northern issued bonds for construction of infrastructure within Abacoa. Northern monitors economic conditions on an ongoing basis in order to evaluate refinancing opportunities, and Abacoa's bonds were refunded within the past three years providing lower interest rates and lower debt assessments for the residents and businesses in Abacoa. Northern has two assessments, maintenance and debt, that are reflected in the non-ad valorem section of the annual real estate tax bills.

The infrastructure that Northern maintains includes 16 aerators, preserves and uplands, lakes and marshes, fencing, 9 operable water control structures and 9 access gates, 9 telemetry stations, 9 metritapes, culverts, 9 landscape sites, 4 observation decks and canal rights-of-way. In addition, there are 12 miles of Greenway and preserve trails that are maintained as part of the Solid Waste Authority's Adopt a Spot program. These trails provide a natural habitat for wildlife and an opportunity for

residents to learn about the different wildlife and vegetation that grows in Florida.

The Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District has a website that can provide answers to many questions that you may have about its district. Please visit www.npbcid.org or contact Joanna Cunningham, Community Information Specialist, (561) 624-7830.

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