The Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center and the Charlotte County Natural Resources Department will be conducting the following free programs - available to the public - in March 2023. All programs can be found at <u>www.checflorida.org</u>.

## ~ Free Guided Nature Walks ~

All walks begin at **9:00 AM on Mondays, Wednesday and Saturdays from November to April**. On these casual walks with CHEC volunteers, you will search and learn about plants, animals, fungi, and more that live in Charlotte County preserves. Prepare for each walk with plenty of water, insect repellent, sunscreen, and clothing that will protect you from insects and plants.

Advance registration is required. For more information please contact *tome@checflorida.org* or to register, call at 941-475-0769.

<u>Wednesday, March 1st</u> Join CHEC on a walk at **Bayshore Live Oak Park** along the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor to explore the various mangrove species found there. We will cover mangrove identification, special adaptations that allow mangroves to thrive in salty environments, and why mangroves are important and protected in Florida. **Meet at the playground.** Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

<u>Saturday, March 4th</u> Join CHEC on a guided walk through the old-growth pine flatwoods, scrub habitat and mangrove fringe of 135-acre **Oyster Creek Environmental Park** in Englewood. Meet at the parking lot. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

<u>Monday, March 6th</u> Join CHEC on a guided walk through 380- acre **Tippecanoe Environmental Park**. This Charlotte County park includes habitats such as scrub, pine flatwoods, marsh, and wetlands. Meet behind the Charlotte County Sports Park. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

> Wednesday, March 8th Join CHEC on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 225-acre Amberjack Environmental Park in Rotonda. Meet at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

Saturday, March 11th Join CHEC on a guided walkthrough the 80-acre Bill Coy Preserve in Englewood. The scrubby flatwoods and mangrove swamp border Buck Creek, which flows into Lemon Bay. Meet in the parking lot. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

<u>Monday, March 13th</u> Join CHEC on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 225-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Rotonda. Meet at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

<u>Wednesday, March 15th</u> Join CHEC on a guided walk through **Tippecanoe II Mitigation Preserve** in Port Charlotte. This 182-acre preserve is home to several families of the threatened Florida scrub jay. Meet in the parking lot. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

<u>Saturday, March 18th</u> Join CHEC on a guided walk through the old-growth pine flatwoods and mangrove fringe of 137-acre **Ann Dever Regional Park** in Englewood. Meet at the San Casa entrance. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

<u>Monday, March 20th</u> Join CHEC on a guided walkthrough the 80-acre **Bill Coy Preserve** in Englewood. The scrubby flatwoods and mangrove swamp border Buck Creek, which flows into Lemon Bay. Meet in the parking lot. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

**Wednesday, March 22nd** Join CHEC on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 225-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Rotonda. Meet at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

**Saturday, March 25th** Join CHEC on a guided walk through the old-growth pine flatwoods, scrub habitat and mangrove fringe of 135-acre **Oyster Creek Environmental Park** in Englewood. Meet at the parking lot. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

<u>Monday, March 27th</u> Join CHEC on a guided walk through **Tippecanoe II Mitigation Preserve** in Port Charlotte. This 182-acre preserve is home to several families of the threatened Florida scrub jay. Meet in the parking lot. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

> Wednesday, March 29th Join CHEC on a guided walkthrough Charlotte Flatwoods Environmental Park, a 487-acre Charlotte County property of mature pines, dry prairie, marsh wetlands, and freshwater ponds. Its location and adjourning state lands make it an important wildlife corridor. Meet at the parking lot on US 41. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

Go to <u>www.CHECflorida.org</u> for a complete program calendar.