



040983 (338)  
2/14/05  
City of  
Commissioner  
Ed Brown  
Doris Bardon

**WOMEN FOR WISE GROWTH**  
1903 NW 36th Drive  
Gainesville, FL 32605  
352 378-1700

**February 11, 2005**

**To: Barbara Lipscomb, Interim City Manager, Pegeen Hanrahan, Mayor,  
and Commissioners Lowe, Chestnut, Nielsen, Domenech, Braddy, Bryant**

As part of the continuing environmental education program of Women For Wise Growth, in cooperation with the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department, we are again offering a field trip to study the Hogtown Creek to the point where it enters Haile Sink. This trip is scheduled for March 12, 2005.

On May 1, 2004, we toured and studied the Hogtown Creek from its origin on 53rd Avenue to the 34th St/University Avenue Bridge. The City of Gainesville cooperated with the May 1, 2004 project by providing us with a city bus.

The enclosed materials describe the May 1, 2004 field trip, the plans for the March 12, 2005 trip, and some general information about Women for Wise Growth .

For the forthcoming field trip, we are requesting that the Gainesville City Commission authorize the provision of a bus for this project.

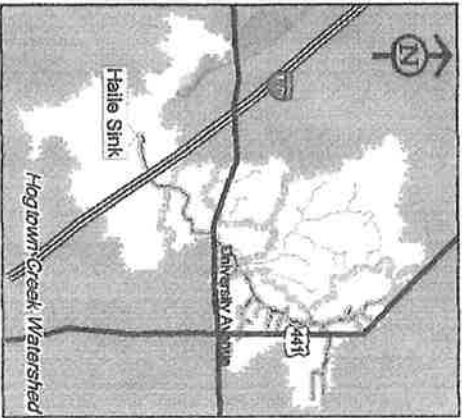
Thank you.

Doris Bardon

**Women For Wise Growth Officers**

Gail Sasnett/ Stauffer, President  
Gladys Lane, Vice President  
Kendra Siler Marsiglio, Vice President  
Billie Staff, Treasurer  
Adrienne Burges, Secretary  
Doris Bardon, Founding President

# What is the Hogtown Creek Watershed?



## Introduction

The Hogtown Creek watershed encompasses nearly 14 square miles of urban and suburban Gainesville. Hogtown Creek begins north of NW 53 rd Avenue and west of NW 13 th Street. It then flows through residential neighborhoods and commercial districts, and then through forested wetlands where it ultimately recharges the Floridan aquifer at Hiale Sink.

Land surface elevations in the watershed range from 175 feet NGVD in the upper part of the watershed to 55 feet NGVD near Hiale Sink. Relief is high in the watershed. In many areas the creek and tributaries are deeply incised, exposing Hawthorn Group soils comprised of sands, silts, clays, carbonates, and phosphates. Fossils are frequently observed in the streambed and along cut banks.

Approximately 65% of the land use in the Hogtown Creek watershed is characterized as low density residential, 15% is commercial, with the remaining 20% is divided between mixed hardwood forest, forested wetlands, silvicultural, agricultural, and institutional uses.

## Watershed Description

Hogtown Creek consists of dredged channels, natural and recovering sinuous streams, wetlands and upland forest, seeps, and sinks. Hogtown Creek has numerous tributaries, with four of the largest being Possum Creek, Springstead Creek, Parthenocle Branch, and Elizabeth Creek. These four tributaries all join Hogtown Creek in the area between NW 39th and NW 8th avenues.

Most of the creek's baseflow is contributed by springs and seeps discharging groundwater from the surficial and Intermediate aquifers. Hogtown Creek flows through wetland forests, residential neighborhoods, parks, and hardwood and pine forests before terminating at Hiale Sink located west of Interstate 75 (I-75) and south of CR 201/24 (SW 24th Avenue).



Working in the Hogtown Creek

The average flow in the upper portion of the watershed varies from a gushing 28.2 cubic feet per second (cfs) to a trickle of just 0.8 cfs. Though what is more than likely seen in the creek is a mean flow of 4.6 cubic feet per second.

The City of Gainesville Public Works Department and Alachua County Environmental Protection Dept performed over 180 surveys on the creek ways. These surveys are part of an effort to assess existing conditions of sedimentation and erosion of the watershed. Data collection focused on sediment accumulation, erosion, riparian vegetation quality, and stormwater infrastructure. This information is critical to understanding the relative health of the Hogtown Creek Watershed.

## The Itinerary:

- 8:30 AM, Start: Westside Park NW 8th Ave and NW 24th St. - Disembark bus to walk the Hogtown Greenway - Various presentations along the trail
- Outside Milder's Big City Food Board the bus here. Taking water temperatures w/ EPD staff - up to four points...
- Forest Park Doggy Walk area and retention basins - Brief walking tour
- Bridges at 24th Ave?????
- Hogtown Creek where it passes under I-75
- 11:30 AM, Hiale Sink - Drain ' w/ Wee Skiles
- 12 Noon, Lunch at La Brown Bag
- 12:30 PM, Wee Skiles Video/Hiale Sink Live Audio Feed and Panel Discussion of TMDL's (GRU, Homeless Coalition, EPD)...

## Speakers

- Units Bird, Alachua County Environmental Protection Dept
- Gregg Fitzgerald, St Johns River Water Management District
- Robin Halbourg, Alachua County Environmental Protection Dept
- Alison Lane, Water & Air Research
- Michael McKinney, The RETEC Group
- Patricia Olson, Adopt A River
- Alice Rankellon, City of Gainesville
- Beverly Thomas, Women for Wise Growth

## The Itinerary:

8:30 AM, Start: The Gainesville Mall, NW 13<sup>th</sup> St / HWY 441 and NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Please Park in the old Kmart lot - Description of the on site petroleum contamination cleanup - Board the bus here.

Cabot Koppers Superfund Site, NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave and NW 2<sup>nd</sup> St - Viewing of the recovery wells - N Main St and NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Terr - Tour of the N Main Collection Drain and pumping system - Brief walking tour

Hogtown Headwaters, NW 53<sup>rd</sup> Ave and NW 13<sup>th</sup> St / HWY 441 - Drive by description of the headwaters

Pass over Hogtown Creek at various points

11:30 AM, Down to Westside Park NW 8<sup>th</sup> Ave and NW 34<sup>th</sup> St. - Disembark bus to Walk the Hogtown Greenway - Various presentations along the trail

12 Noon, Lunch a la Brown Bag

Walk to 34<sup>th</sup> St Bridge at University Ave.

12:30 PM, From the Loblolly Nature Center - Everyone back on the bus and headed to the Gainesville Mall to pick up their cars by 1:00PM.

## Speakers

✿ Chris Bird, Alachua County Environmental Protection Dept

✿ Michael Drummond, Alachua County Environmental Protection Dept

✿ Casey Fitzgerald, St Johns River Water Management District

✿ Robin Hallborg, Alachua County Environmental Protection Dept

✿ Laura Line, Water & Air Research

✿ Michael McKinney, The RETEC Group

✿ Fritzi Olson, Adopt A River

✿ Alice Rankeillor, City of Gainesville

✿ Beverly Thomas, Women for Wise Growth