

# Broward County Parks and Recreation's Energy Savings Program Community Programs and Demonstration Projects to Fuel Growth Within the Renewable Energy Sector

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#### As part of our Mission we:

• Support parks, recreation, and environmental conservation efforts that enhance the overall quality of life for our residents.

#### As part of our Vision we:

 Make our parks, natural areas, and nature centers accessible to opportunities in a sustainable community.



# Benefits in expanding solar opportunities in Broward County parks include:

- Reaching more than 11.5 million visitors annually in our parks & natural areas
- A park system with more than 50 regional and local parks, nature centers, and natural areas sites with approximately 6,500 acres of land and water
- Four nature centers with hospitality halls, educational exhibits, and environmental programs that include Anne Kolb, Fern Forest, Long Key, and Secret Woods
- A variety of public/private partnerships with local universities, nonprofits, and businesses that share similar interests and commitments to the environment
- Several unique venues that offer incredible outdoor recreation and educational opportunities such as Tradewinds Park Educational Farm, Marine Environmental Education Center at the Carpenter House, Tree Tops, Deerfield Island, and Everglades Holiday parks



#### **Energy Savings Program 2012-2016**

- Converted lighting to LED in many park buildings
- Installed trial solar panels and solar parking lot lights
- Installed automatic light switches, efficient thermostats
- Star-certified, high-efficiency SEER A/C units installed through an \$85,879 sustainable-energy grant with County match
- Portable Model Sustainable House, lectures, and brochures produced by Parks and Recreation Florida Master Naturalist graduates and presented to more than 20,000 people during GO-Solar, Everyday Green Expo, and other events

#### **New Projects 2016-2020**

- \$1.6 million for streetlight and parking area lighting
- \$8 million for facilities improvements of which \$1.8 million is for infrastructure to achieve greater sustainability and to incorporate alternative technologies
- Partnership with FPL





## Broward County Parks & FPL SolarNow Program

- 1. Five levels of project proposals
- 2. Includes parks and nature centers in north and south Broward County as well as in coastal, central, and western County areas
- 3. Sites chosen based on:
  - a. Existing infrastructure
  - b. Opportunity type (e.g., curve solar trees, benches, small and large covers, tennis courts and conference room canopies, etc.)
  - c. Educational impact visitation & opportunity to learn about solar
  - d. Total energy savings to park and power grid





# Broward County Parks & FPL SolarNow Program **Examples of Structures- Solar Trees**











London Parks, UK

The Netherlands

**NY City Parks** 

# **Solar Covers- Playgrounds**







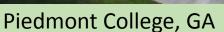
Public Housing, Melbourne, AUS





# Broward County Parks & FPL SolarNow Program Examples of Structures - Large Covers







Ascend Amphitheatre, Nashville, TN



Cricket Stadium, Bangalore, India

### **Smaller Covers**



Lookout Tower, Seattle, WA



Picnic Table, Seattle

