Park Rules

Liability - Use caution during your activities; usage is at your own risk.

Access - Park will be open from dawn to dusk.

Pets - Domestic animals are allowed, provided they are leashed at all times.

Prohibited Activities - The following activities are prohibited on park property, except where special approval has been granted by permit from Osceola County or in specific designated areas: Hunting, swimming, waste disposal, discharging firearms, fireworks, destruction of property, introduction or collection of plants or animals, feeding or disturbing wildlife, alcoholic beverages, sales or concessions and other uses not specifically referenced.

Please enjoy this natural area and allow others the same courtesy.

It is strongly recommended that you carry a cellular phone for emergency situations. In the event of an emergency, call 911.

All other inquiries call 407-742-0200 or visit our website at: www.osceola.org

For your safety and the protection of habitat, please stay on the designated trails.

Shingle Creek Partners

Shingle Creek Regional Park

Headwaters of the Florida Everglades

Osceola County Natural Resources
1 Courthouse Square • Kissimmee, FL 34741

Updated Sept 2013
Shingle Creek has a rich history from a lifeline to the early inhabitants of Osceola County to the urban oasis present today. Beginning in Orlando, Shingle Creek meanders 23 miles before flowing into Lake Tohopekaliga (Toho) in Osceola County. Water from Shingle Creek will make a 350 mile journey through the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes (KCOL), down the Kissimmee River and into Lake Okeechobee, before flowing out to the Everglades or the Gulf of Mexico.

The creek and its adjacent wetlands provided a safe haven and stronghold for the Seminoles during the Second Seminole War, who would use the wetlands for transportation, hunting and materials. After the Civil War, Shingle Creek became home to those seeking a new life in a warmer climate, establishing one of the earliest settlements in the area. Shingle Creek provided its residents with resources, such as wood from its abundant cypress trees, used for building materials and roof shingles, granting the creek its namesake. At the turn of the century, several area families, such as Yates, Bronson, Steffee and Babb raised families, and produced cattle, citrus and timber.

The creek served another role as a source for goods to be transported by vessel to Lake Toho and the KCOL. The Florida Midland Railroad crossed Shingle Creek in 1890 and remained in effect until 1950, just south of present day US192, remnants of which can be seen while paddling along the creek.

Babb Landing was established in 1914 by Franklin Babb and family from Tennessee. The family established a successful citrus grove and harvest operation, which is visible at the site today.

Steffee Landing The original 1890 Shingle Creek Cabin, originally used as a hunting and fishing camp, remains along the creek bank due to it’s restoration.

The Steffee Homestead was built in 1911 after Judson and Mollie Steffee moved their family from Kentucky to Shingle Creek. Their son George married Ada, the daughter of famous steamboat captain, Clay Johnson. This allowed him to captain the steamboat Roseada to transport goods and cattle throughout the KCOL. Follow the trail to the caretaker’s cabin, where Henry Haines, one of the area’s first minorities, constructed his home using left over construction materials.

To learn more about the natural history and culture of Shingle Creek, visit the Osceola County Welcome Center and History Museum at 4155 W Irlo Bronson Highway, Kissimmee, FL 34746, (407) 396-8644