

# Collier County Government



Community Development & Environmental Services  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Grand Opening for Second Conservation Collier Property**

On **March 7, 2007, at 11 a.m.**, Conservation Collier staff will kick-off Florida Archaeology Month by hosting an informal opening ceremony for the Otter Mound Preserve.

The Otter Mound Preserve is a 1.78-acre nature preserve and historically significant site located at **1831 Addison Court on Marco Island**. It was purchased by Collier County in July 2004 as one of the first of the Conservation Collier preserve properties. Originally zoned for residential development, this property was chosen for preservation because it contains tropical hardwood hammock, a rare and unique habitat in Collier County.

Commissioner Donna Fiala, District 1, will provide comments at the grand opening of the preserve and local archaeologist John Beriault will provide a guided tour. The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society will also display Native American artifacts.

An interpretive trail at the preserve was made possible through the Florida Humanities Council (FHC). Collier County was among numerous community organizations throughout the state to receive an FHC grant that funds humanities programs. FHC is an independent, non-profit organization and is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Each year, FHC funds hundreds of public programs throughout the state that explore Florida's history, folklore, environment, literature, music, and art.

Program staff and volunteers have planted native plants and developed the interpretive trail so the public can visit and enjoy. Hours for the preserve are 8 a.m. to dusk. Visitors are asked not to bring pets, as the preserve is meant to be a sanctuary for wildlife.

For additional information, contact Lisa Koehler, public information coordinator at 403-2327.

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