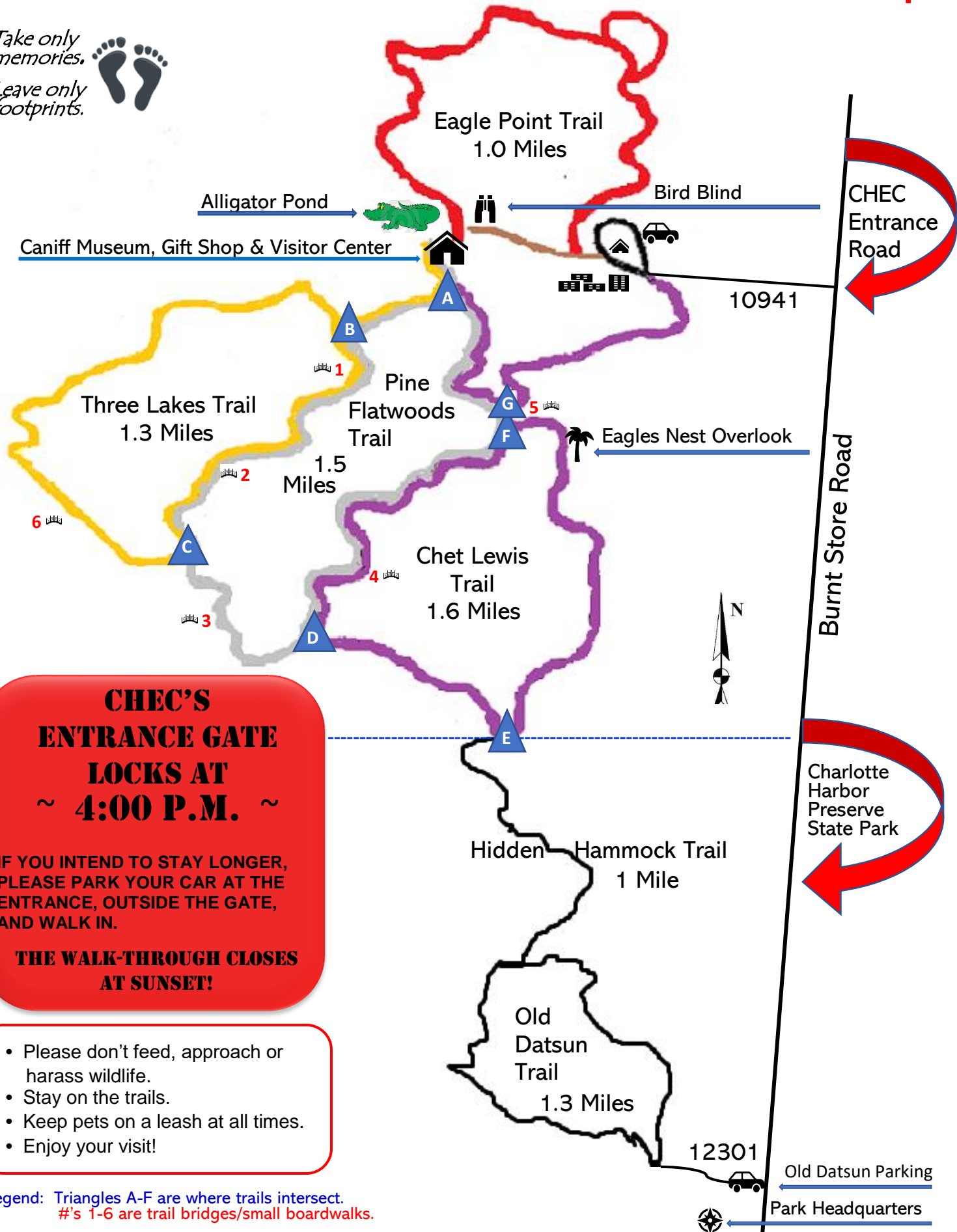


CHEC Alligator Creek Preserve Trail Map

Take only memories.
Leave only footprints.



CHEC'S ENTRANCE GATE LOCKS AT ~ 4:00 P.M. ~

IF YOU INTEND TO STAY LONGER, PLEASE PARK YOUR CAR AT THE ENTRANCE, OUTSIDE THE GATE, AND WALK IN.

THE WALK-THROUGH CLOSSES AT SUNSET!

- Please don't feed, approach or harass wildlife.
- Stay on the trails.
- Keep pets on a leash at all times.
- Enjoy your visit!

Legend: Triangles A-F are where trails intersect.
#s 1-6 are trail bridges/small boardwalks.

CHARLOTTE HARBOR ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER, INC.

Alligator Creek Preserve

10941 Burnt Store Road, Punta Gorda -- 941-575-5435 -- www.cheeflorida.org – cheec@cheeflorida.org

HOURS: Gate open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday from January 1 through Easter.

TRAILS are open from dawn until dusk and can be accessed using the pedestrian walk-through located at the park entrance.

GUIDED WALKS are held at 10 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday (November through April).

NATIVE PLANT NURSERY is open on Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Open on Saturdays seasonally.

PETS are welcome, but must be on a leash at all times. Owners are responsible for picking up after pets and properly disposing of waste off grounds.

PICNIC TABLES are located throughout the Preserve. Use is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Screened-in **PICNIC SHELTER** may be reserved for special events. Cost is \$15.00/hr. on weekdays. Call 941-575-5435 for more information & weekend rates.

Take a walk on the wild side of southwest Florida at the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center's Alligator Creek Preserve.

Eagle Point Trail begins just behind the screened-in picnic shelter. It is a 1 mile walk through pine flatwoods, mangrove, and marsh areas, and ends near the Caniff Museum & Gift Shop.

Pine Flatwoods Trail is a 1.5 mile loop trail that begins behind the Caniff Museum & Gift Shop. This trail provides habitat to the protected gopher tortoise.

Three Lakes Trail is a 1.3 mile trail that is accessed off the Pine Flatwoods Trail. With a boardwalk through the marsh and mangroves, this trail is a favorite location for otters.

Chet Lewis Trail is a 1.6 mile trail with an overlooking view of an active eagles' nest. This trail also provides important gopher tortoise habitat.

The **Caniff Museum & Gift Shop** is located at the end of the boardwalk and serves as a starting or ending point for many of the trails. The Caniff Center provides information about the preserve, the major types of habitats found in this area, and CHEC activities. The balcony offers an excellent vantage point to observe surrounding natural areas.

RESTROOMS are located outside the Caniff building and in the public parking area, just to the right of the Administration building.

Remember to respect wildlife! Alligators can be found throughout the many ponds, lakes and marshes on the preserve. *Do not disturb or feed the alligators!* They are federally protected.

CHEC is funded solely through grants and donations.

PLEASE CONSIDER LEAVING A DONATION if you enjoyed your visit with us. Donation boxes are located inside the Caniff Museum & Gift Shop and the Administration building, and outside near the new kiosk at the entrance to the Welcome Center boardwalk.