



Outdoor Florida

Website User Guide



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Publication Date: July 1, 2017



Outdoor Florida Website User Guide Contents

Introduction.....	3
Getting Started	3
Website Navigation	4
Search from the Outdoor Florida Home Page.....	5
Searching for all Recreation Sites	6
Searching for Recreation Sites with a set of Activities	6
Searching for Recreation Sites with a Specific Activity.....	8
Using the Map Page	9
Map Page Features	10
Searching for Recreation Sites with Specific Activities.....	11
Searching for Recreation Sites near a Location	13
Listing the Recreation Sites within your Map Window	14
Recreation Site Information	15
Changing the Map Appearance	17
Zoom Level	17
Map Layer	18
Sharing Your Experience	19
Need More Information?	20
Useful Links	20
FAQs	20
Privacy Policy.....	21
Disclaimers.....	21
Accessibility.....	21
Contact Us	22
Get the App!	23

Introduction

Outdoor Florida is your source for finding recreational opportunities on Florida’s publicly accessible lands. This website, provided by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, provides a mechanism for searching by activity or location to find natural lands that support your recreational interests. From camping, to boating, to hiking and biking, there are opportunities around every corner.

Getting Started

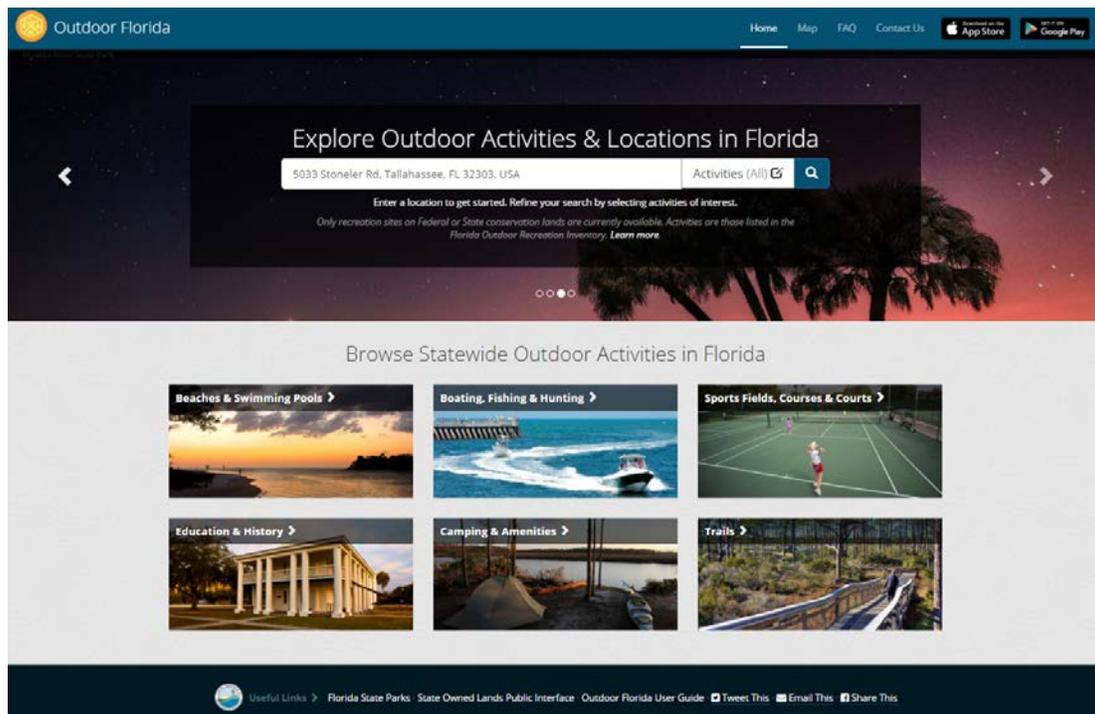
The Outdoor Florida website is designed for use with the following browsers:

- Google Chrome version 55.0 or later
- Internet Explorer version 11 or later
- Microsoft Edge (EdgeHTML version 14) or later
- Mozilla Firefox version 50.1.0 or later
- Safari version 10.0 or later

If you are using one of these browsers, you can start exploring Florida by entering the Outdoor Florida web address in the address bar on your browser:

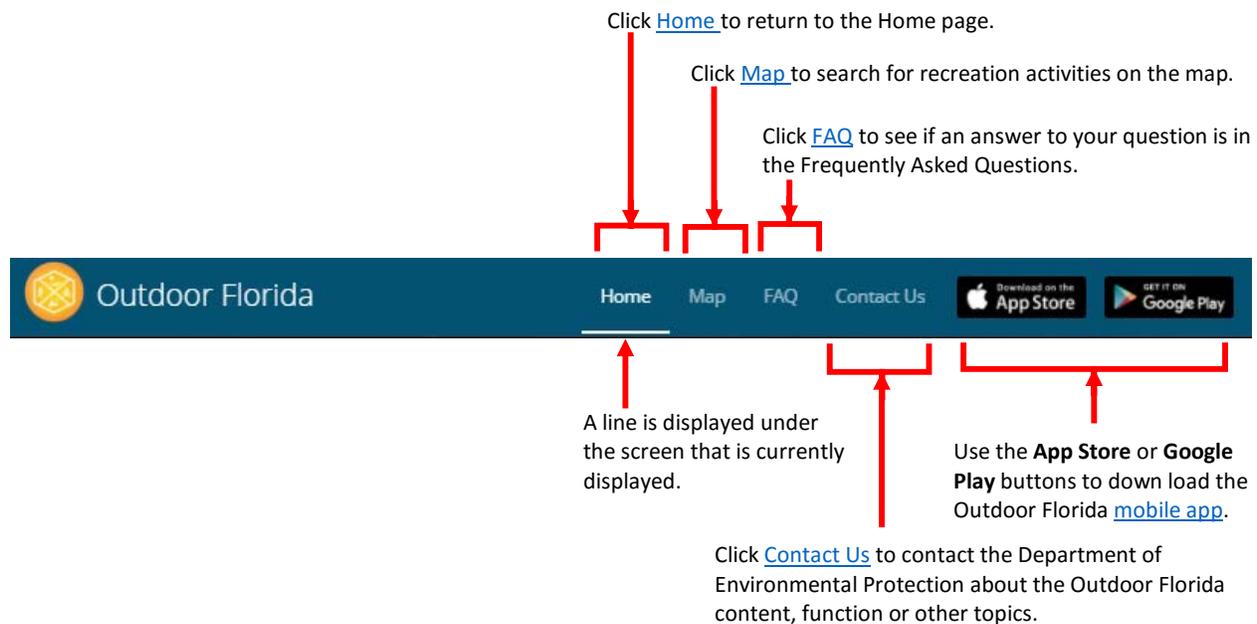
www.outdoorflorida.org

The Outdoor Florida home page will be displayed.

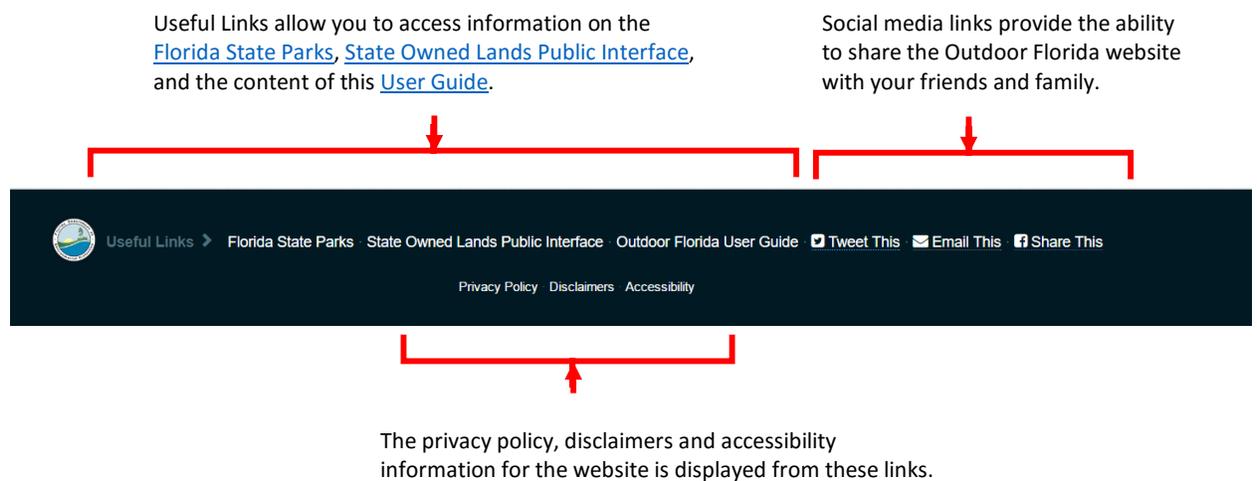


Website Navigation

You can search for Florida recreation sites directly from the [Home page](#) or by clicking on [Map](#) in the header. Other header features allow you to get more information about Outdoor Florida and related sites, contact the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, or download the Outdoor Florida mobile app. The header is displayed at the top of every page of the Outdoor Florida website.

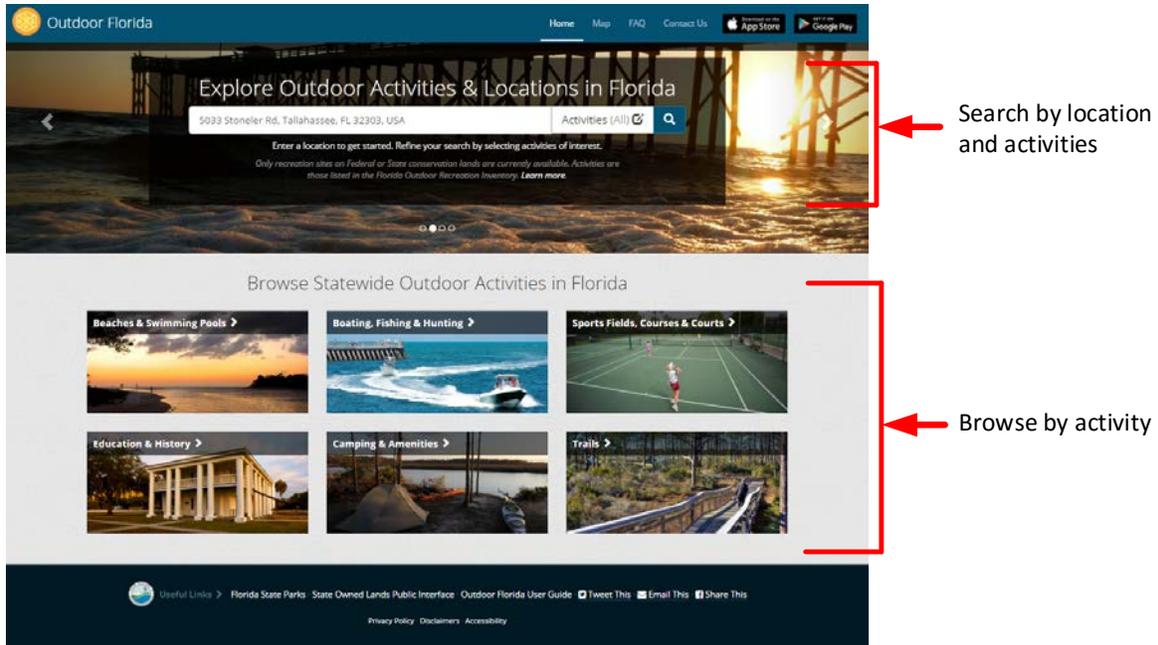


The footer provides you links to help you learn more about the Outdoor Florida website, Florida facilities and state owned land.



Search from the Outdoor Florida Home Page

The Outdoor Florida home page is designed to help you quickly locate recreation sites by location or by activity.



The screenshot shows the Outdoor Florida website home page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo and links for Home, Map, FAQ, and Contact Us. Below the navigation bar is a large banner area with the heading "Explore Outdoor Activities & Locations in Florida". A search bar is present in the banner, containing the address "5033 Stonewall Rd, Tallahassee, FL 32303, USA" and a search button labeled "Activities (All)". A red arrow points to this search bar with the text "Search by location and activities". Below the banner is a section titled "Browse Statewide Outdoor Activities in Florida" which contains six activity categories: "Beaches & Swimming Pools", "Boating, Fishing & Hunting", "Sports Fields, Courses & Courts", "Education & History", "Camping & Amenities", and "Trails". A red arrow points to this grid of activity categories with the text "Browse by activity". At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with "Useful Links" and various links including Florida State Parks, State Owned Lands Public Interface, Outdoor Florida User Guide, and social media icons for Twitter, Email, and Share. There are also links for Privacy Policy, Disclaimers, and Accessibility.

Searching for all Recreation Sites

From the home page, you can search for recreation sites that are near you or enter a location from which to start the search.

To begin, enter a location in the Search box. If your browser supports location services and you have allowed the Outdoor Florida website to use your location, your address or an address near you will be displayed in the Search box.

If the Search box does not already contain an address or you want to search from another location, enter the address from which you want to search in the Search box.

Once the address has been entered, search for all recreation sites by clicking the **magnifying glass**. The [Map](#) will be displayed centered on the Search address and displaying all the nearby recreation sites.

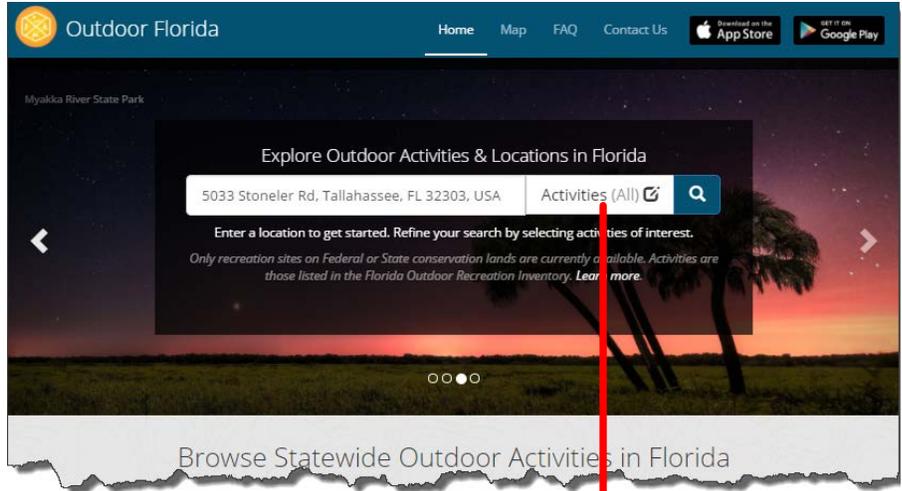


Searching for Recreation Sites with a set of Activities

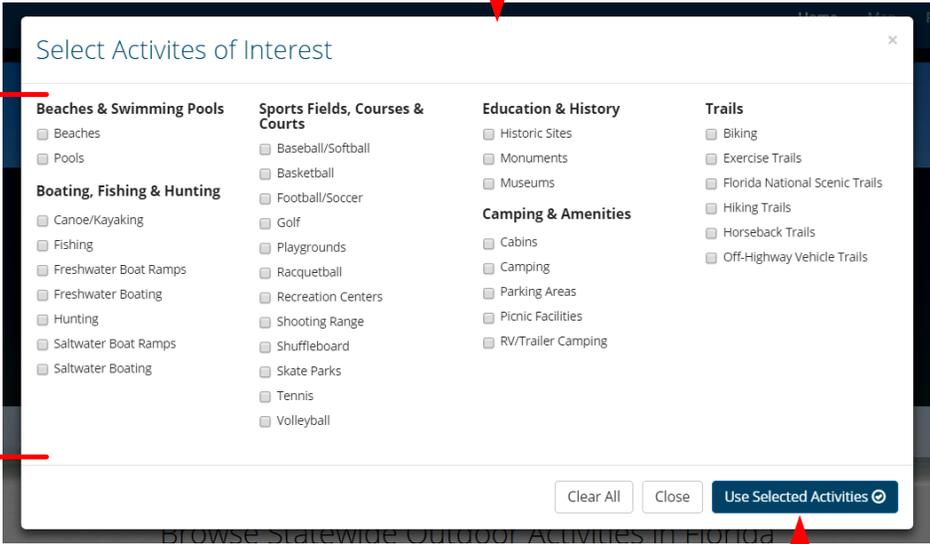
By default, the system will show all recreation sites. You can limit your search to a single activity or group of activities by clicking the **Activities** button.

Clicking on the **Activities** button will display a dialog box from which you can choose activities to be included in the search. Check the boxes for the activities you would like to include. If you change your mind or want to start over click the **Clear All** button to uncheck the boxes you have checked. When you are satisfied with the activities that you have selected, click the **Use Selected Activities**.

When you click the **magnifying glass** to start the search, recreation sites that have any of the activities you chose will be displayed on the [map](#). If no activities are selected, all recreation sites will be displayed.



Clicking the **Activities** button displays a dialog box for selecting specific activities.



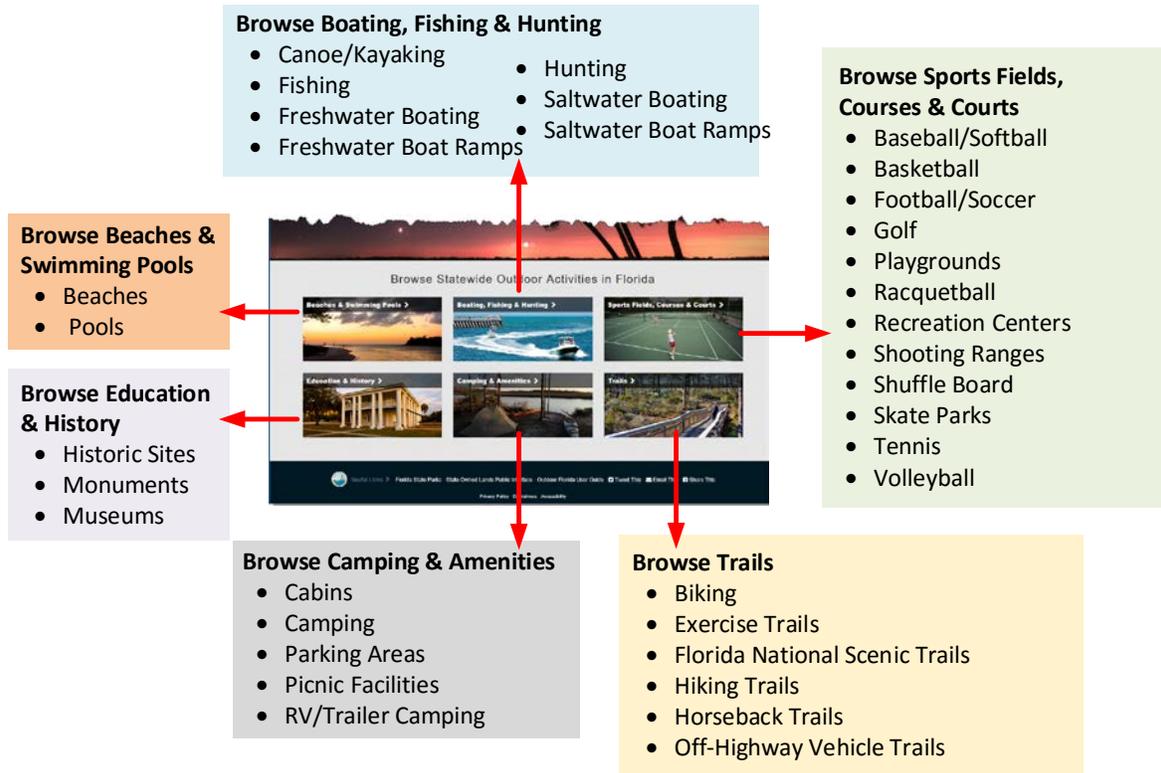
Check the boxes for the activities that interest you.

Click the **Use Selected Activities** button to search for recreation sites with any of the activities that have been checked.

Use the **Close** button to close the dialog box without changing the selected activities

Searching for Recreation Sites with a Specific Activity

Use the **Activity Category** buttons to drill down and search for a specific activity. When you click an **Activity Category** button, a page containing all the activities for that category is displayed.



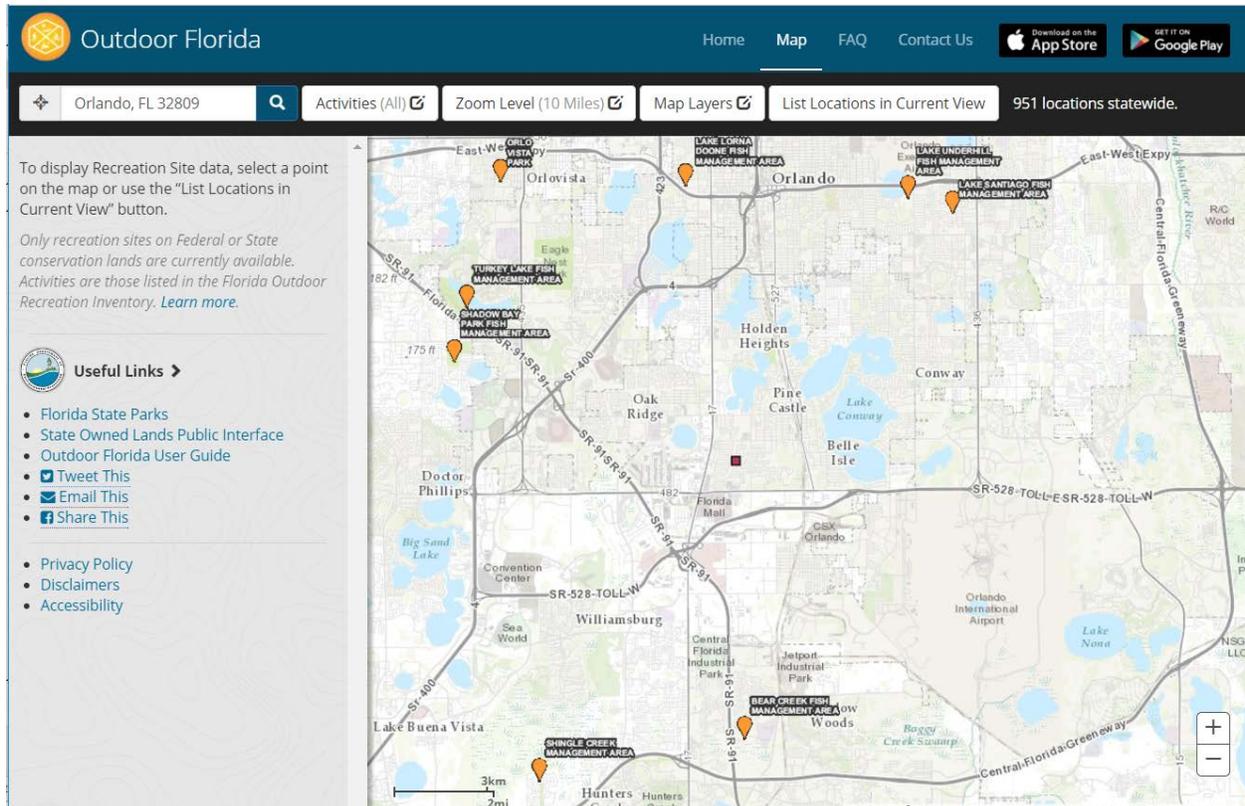
On the Browse page, click the activity in which you are interested. The [map](#) will be displayed. The map will be centered on Orlando, Florida and the recreation sites that have that activity will be marked on the map. You may pan the map or zoom out to view the location of additional recreation sites across the state.

From any of the Browse... pages, click an Activity to display all recreation sites with that activity on the map.



Using the Map Page

When you click the **magnifying glass** from the [Home page](#), the map will be displayed and centered on the location that you selected on the home page. If you selected activities before clicking the **magnifying glass**, the recreation sites shown on the map will have at least one of the selected activities. The number of activities that you have selected will be displayed on the **Activities** button.



When you click **Map** in the header from any page, the Map page will be displayed. The map will be centered on Orlando, Florida and will show all the nearby recreation sites.

If you accessed the map by selecting an activity on one of the [Browse](#) pages, the map will be centered on Orlando, Florida. The **Activities** button will show that one activity has been selected and only recreation sites with that activity will be shown on the map.

Map Page Features

The top of the screen, under the header, contains the Search box and buttons for searching for specific activities, setting the zoom level, changing the map view and listing recreation site names. The message, “{##} locations statewide” shows the number of recreation sites statewide that have the currently [selected activities](#).

Annotations for the map page features:

- Choose the activities** you want to find at the recreation site. (Points to the 'Activities (3)' button)
- Change the way the map looks by selecting a [zoom level](#) or [map layer](#). (Points to the 'Zoom Level (10 Miles)' and 'Map Layers' buttons)
- [List the recreation sites](#) shown on the map in the left pane. (Points to the 'List Locations in Current View' button)
- Indicates the number of locations statewide that have the activities you have selected. (Points to the '263 locations statewide' text)
- Enter a location in the Search box and click the **magnifying glass** to [search for recreation sites](#) near that location. (Points to the search box containing 'S20 Short St, Tallahassee')
- Click on the **compass** to enter your current location in the Search box. (Points to the compass icon)
- Useful, Social Media and other links normally displayed in the footer. (Points to the 'Useful Links' section in the left pane)
- Use **[+]** to zoom in and **[-]** to zoom out. (Points to the zoom controls on the map)

The map page is divided into two panes. The right pane contains the map and the left pane displays the links to related Florida Department of Environmental Protection websites, links for accessing social media and links for viewing the privacy policy, disclaimers and accessibility statements. These links are in the footers of the other webpages within the Outdoor Florida web application. This left pane will also contain the names of recreation sites when you click on a recreation site on the map or the [List Locations in Current View](#) button.

You can change the way the map is displayed from the right pane by using the **[+]** and **[-]** buttons at the bottom right of the map or the scroll wheel on your mouse to zoom the map in and out.

You can also use your mouse to pan the map or move the map within the right pane. The map is treated like a large continuous image. Only a portion of this image is displayed within the right panel. You can pan the map to show other areas of the map.

To pan the map, hold your mouse over the map in the right pane and press the left mouse button down and hold it. Slide the mouse while continuing to hold the left mouse button down. The map will move within the pane in the direction that you are moving your mouse. Release the mouse button when the map is in the desired view. Continue to click, hold and move the mouse until the section of Florida that you want is displayed within the pane.

As you pan the map, additional recreation sites will be brought into view.

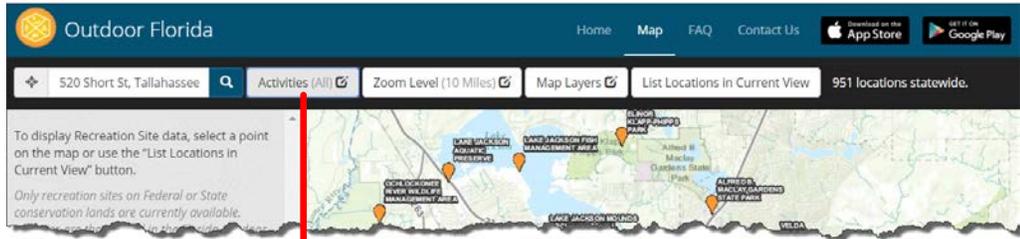
If you are looking for a recreation site in a specific part of the state, you may enter the address or city in the Search box and [search for sites near that location](#) instead of panning to that location.

Searching for Recreation Sites with Specific Activities

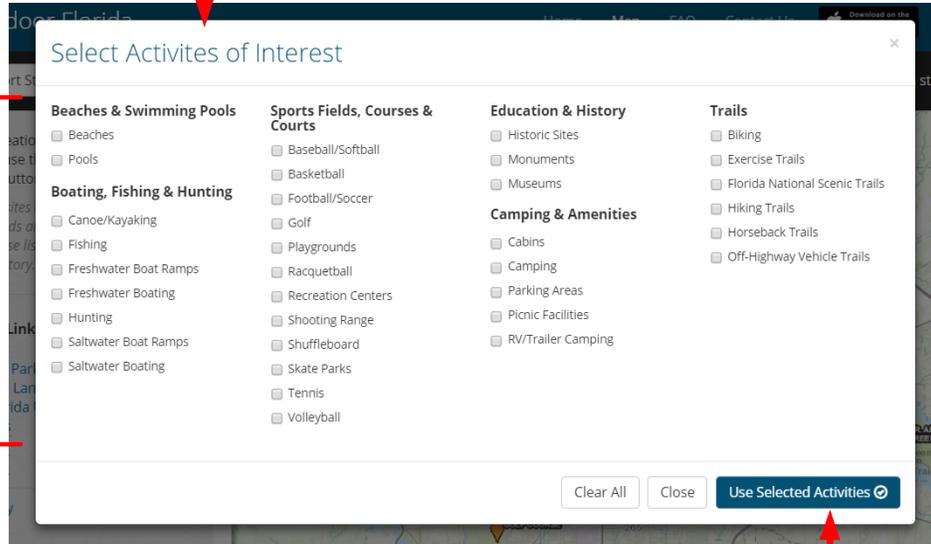
By default, the system will show all recreation sites. You can limit your search to a single activity or group of activities by clicking the **Activities** button.

Clicking on the **Activities** button will display a dialog box from which you can choose activities to be included in the search. Check the boxes for the activities you would like to include. If you change your mind or want to start over click the **Clear All** button to uncheck the boxes you have checked. When you are satisfied with the activities that you have selected, click the **Use Selected Activities** button.

When you click the **magnifying glass** to start the search, only recreation sites that have at least one of the activities you chose will be displayed on the [map](#). If no activities are selected, all recreation sites will be displayed.



Clicking the **Activities** button displays a dialog box for selecting specific activities.

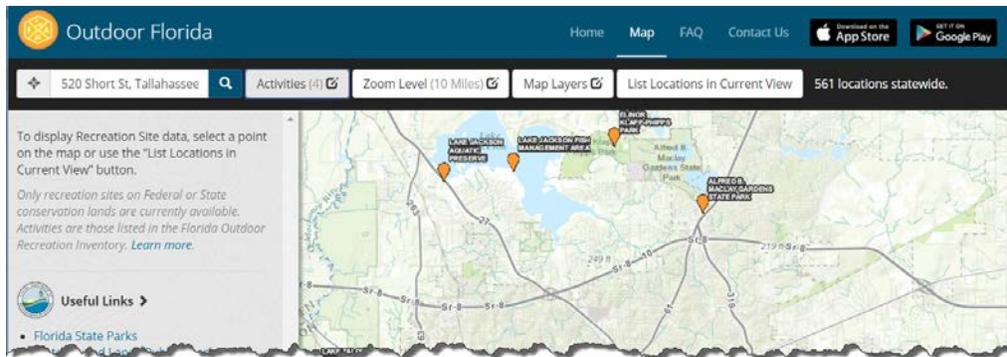


Check the boxes for the activities that interest you.

Click the **Use Selected Activities** button to search for recreation sites with any of the activities that have been checked.

The map will be redisplayed and will only show markers for the recreation sites that have at least one of the selected activities.

The **Activities** button will be updated to show the number of selected activities.



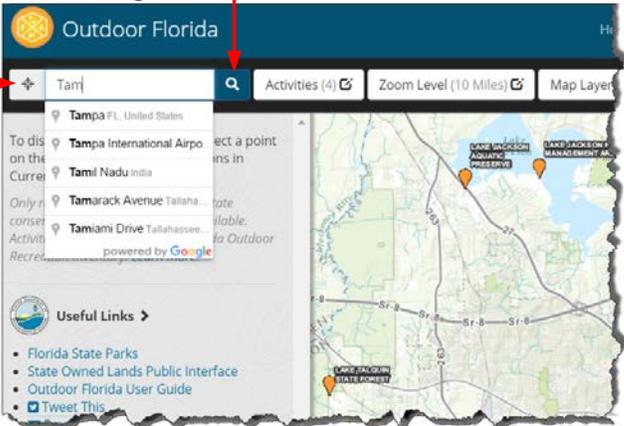
Searching for Recreation Sites near a Location

Change the location from which to start searching for recreation sites by entering a new address or city in the Search box. As you enter characters in the Search box, addresses, cities and other locations that start with the characters you have entered will be displayed below the Search box. You can continue entering the location or click one of the locations listed below the Search box. Once you have entered a location in the Search box, click the **magnifying glass** to center the map on the new location.

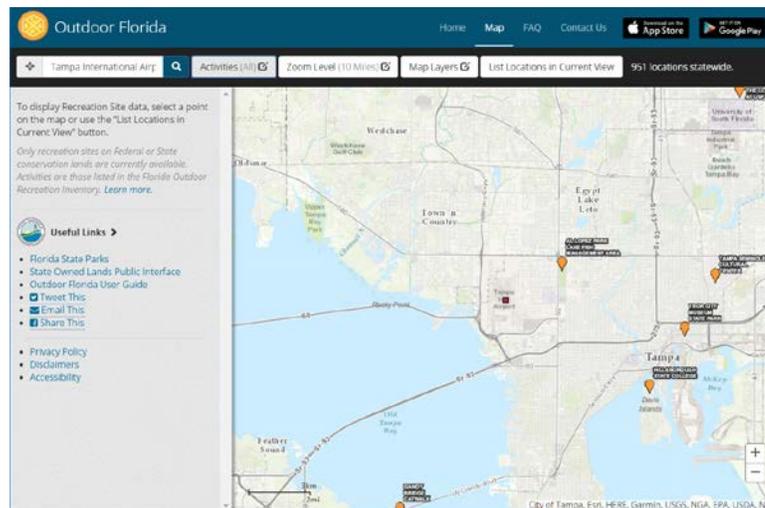
When you start typing in the Search box, addresses and/or locations containing the characters you type will be listed below. As you continue to type, the list will be updated.

Finish typing the location or address, or click on an item in the list. Clicking on the item in the list will enter that item in the Search box.

After you enter a location in the Search box, click the **magnifying glass**.



When you click the **magnifying glass**, the map will be redisplayed with the location in the Search box centered in the right pane and the recreation sites near that location marked.



If you are searching for recreation sites near you, click the **compass**. This will enter your current address (or an address near to you) in the Search box. When you click the **magnifying glass**, the map will be centered on your current location.

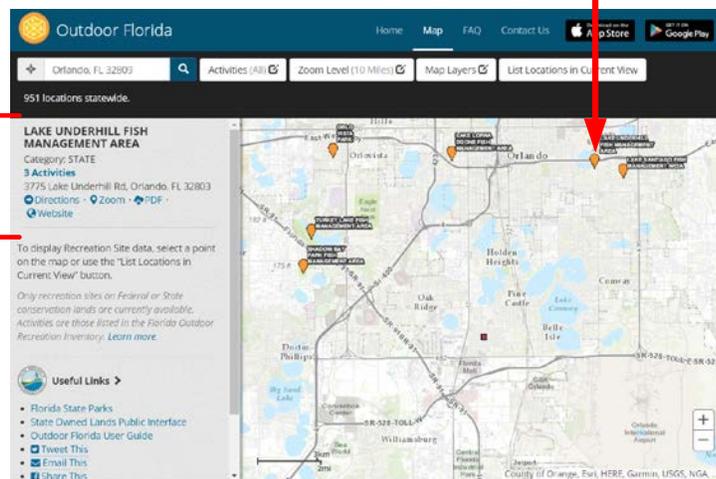
Listing the Recreation Sites within your Map Window

You can obtain names and other information about the recreation sites shown on the map by either clicking the marker for a recreation site on the map or, if there are 20 or fewer recreation sites shown on the map, you can click **List Locations in Current View**.

Clicking on the marker for a recreation site will display [information about the recreation site](#) in the left pane of the map screen. Usually this will display information about one recreation site, however, there are multiple recreation sites at some locations. When you click on a marker for one of these locations, all of the recreation sites at that location will be listed.

Click on the location of a recreation site to display information about the site.

Information about the recreation site will be displayed in the left panel.

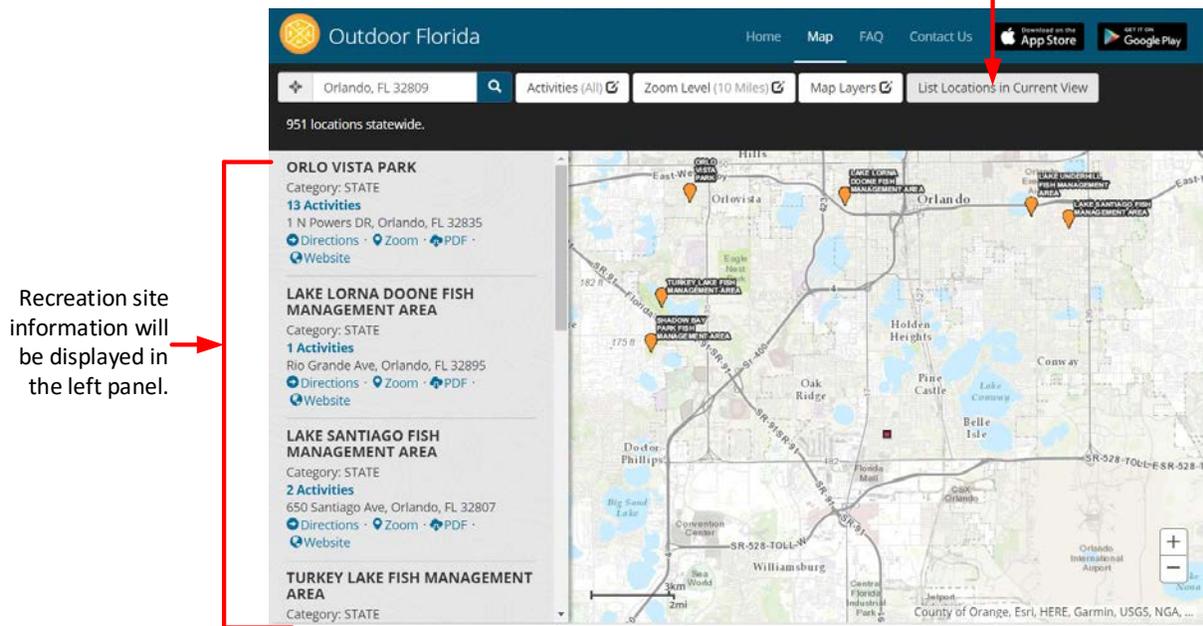


All of the recreation sites shown on the map can be displayed in the left panel by clicking **List Locations in Current View** if there are 20 or fewer recreation sites shown on the map.

If there are markers for more than 20 recreation sites on the map, the message “There are too many sites on the map to be listed. Please zoom in further or refine the search.” will be displayed. The search can be refined by either clicking the [Activities button](#) and searching for recreation sites with specific activities or by [zooming into the map](#).

When you click **List Locations in Current View** if there are 20 or fewer recreation sites shown on the map, the names of those recreation sites and [information about each site](#) will be displayed in the left panel. Use the scroll bar to scroll down the panel and view the entire list. If you pan the map, the list will not be refreshed until you click **List Locations in Current View** again.

When there are 20 or fewer recreation sites displayed on the map, click **List Locations in Current View** for information about those recreation sites.



Recreation Site Information

Information about a recreation site is displayed in the left panel when you click on a recreation site location on the map or click **List Locations in Current View**. The following information will be displayed for each recreation site:

- The name of the recreation site.
- The recreation site category: Identifies the type of agency that manages or owns the site. For example, the state of Florida or a federal agency.
- The number of activities available at the site. Click on the number of activities to see a list of activities.
- Locational information about the recreation site: Locational information will provide you with a street address, if available, or a general description to the site, if the site is in a remote location. Some recreation sites will have additional access requirements such as boat-in only. For recreation sites that do not have a valid street address, remote location or have special access requirements, you will need to refer to the recreation site's managing authority for specific access information.
- The **Directions** button: Tap the **Directions** button to open a new browser tab showing Google Maps with directions for going to the recreation site from your current location.
- The **Zoom** button: Tap the **Zoom** button for a closer look at the area surrounding the recreation site on the map.

- The **PDF** button: Tap the **PDF** button to download a PDF file containing information about the recreation site which may be opened, saved and or printed.
- The **Website** button: This button will only be displayed if the recreation site has a website. Tap the **Website** button to open a new browser tab showing the recreation site's website.

Recreation site name and the responsible government category.

Recreation site address

The **Activities** link shows the number of Activities at the recreation site.

Click the link to display a popup with activity details. Click anywhere on the screen to close the popup.

- Click **Directions** to open Google Maps showing you how to get to the recreation site.
- Click **Zoom** to take a closer look at the site location on the map.
- Click **PDF** to open a printable PDF with information about the recreation site.
- If the recreation site has a website, the website link will be displayed. Click **Website** to open the browser with the website for the recreation site.

Changing the Map Appearance

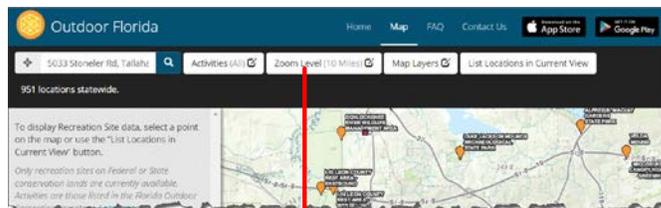
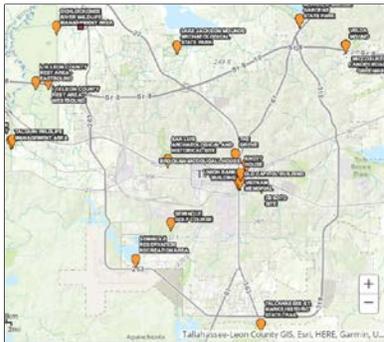
The Map page offers features that allow you to change the appearance of the map, such as the ability to set the [zoom level](#) and [map layer](#).

Zoom Level

The zoom level controls the size of the map area and the level of detail displayed on the map. Higher zoom levels show more of the map and less detail within the right panel. Lower zoom levels show less of the map and more detail.

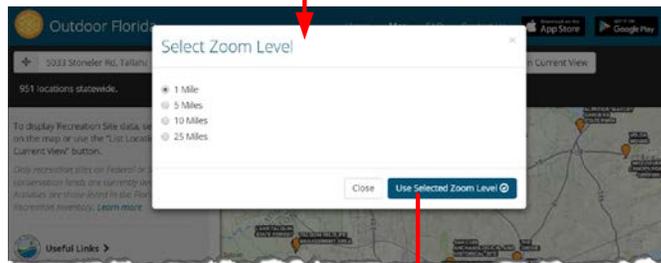
By default, the zoom level is 10 miles. You can change the default by clicking the **Zoom Level** button, selecting a zoom level and clicking **Use Selected Zoom**.

An example of the map displayed at the default, 10 mile, zoom level:



Click the **Zoom Level** button to open the dialog box that allows you to change the zoom level at which the map is displayed within the right panel.

An example of the map displayed at the 1 mile zoom level:



Click **Use Selected Zoom Level** to change to the newly selected zoom level.

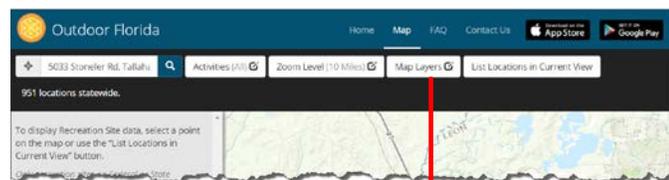
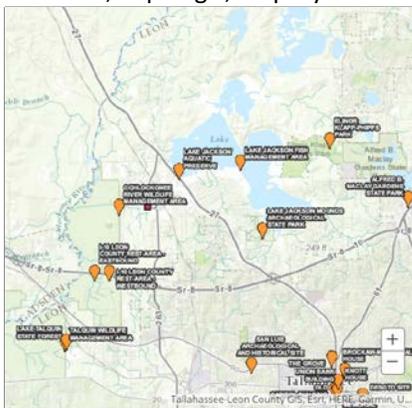
Use the **Close** button to close the dialog box without changing the zoom level.

Map Layer

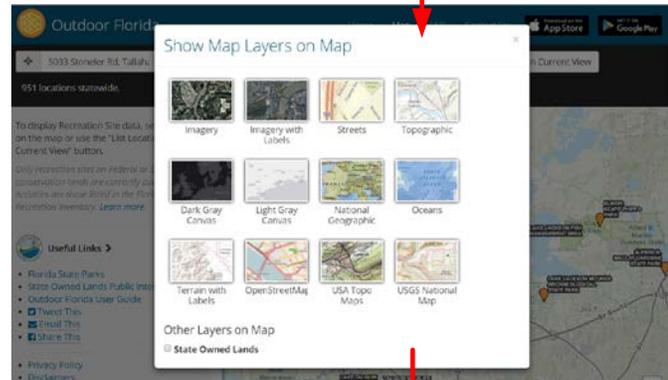
The **Map Layer** button changes the details that are shown on the map. For example, the default map layer, Topographic, shows high level streets and land contours; the Satellite Map Layer depicts the map as it is seen from a satellite; and the Street Map Layer emphasizes the transportation. Additional map layers are also available.

The Map Layer is changed by clicking the **Map Layer** button and clicking one of the map layers. Close the Map Layer dialog box by clicking outside the dialog box or the “x” in the upper right corner of the box.

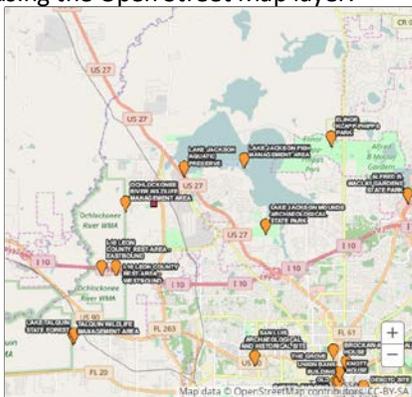
An example of the map displayed at the default, Topologic, map layer:



Click the **Map Layer** button to open the dialog box that allows you to change the map layer used to display the map.



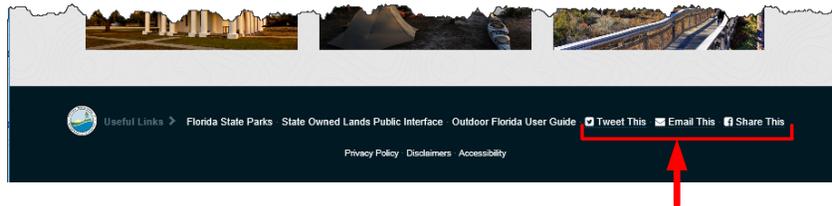
An example of the map displayed using the Open Street Map layer:



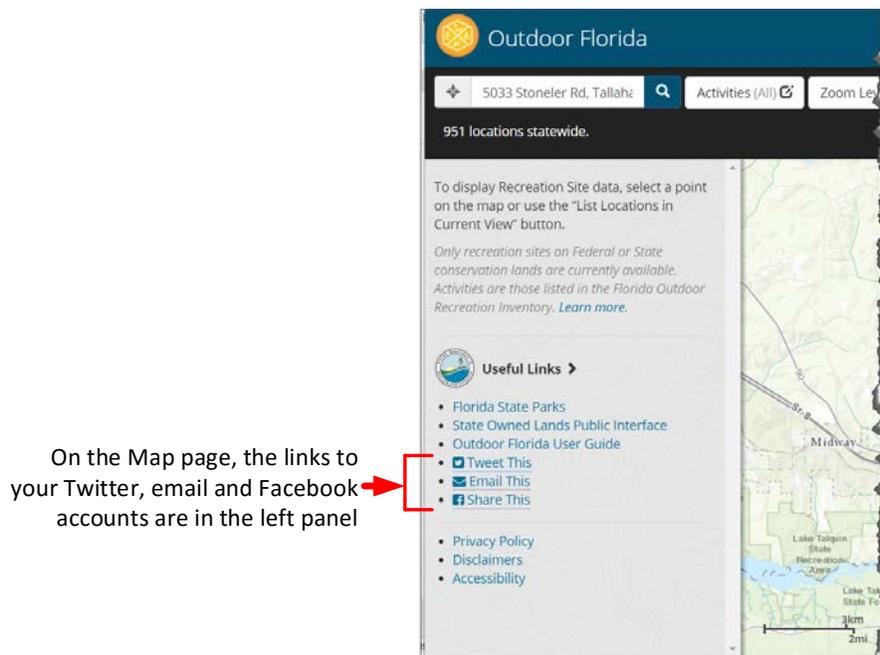
Click on a map layer to change the map appearance. Close the dialog box by clicking the screen outside the dialog box or click the “x” in the top right corner of the dialog box.

Sharing Your Experience

Find a recreation site that you want to share with your friends? Use the *Tweet This*, *Email This* and *Share This* links on any of the screens to tweet, email or post to Facebook the web address for an Outdoor Florida page.



Links to your Twitter, email and Facebook accounts are available at the bottom of every Outdoor Florida web page, with the exception of the Map page.



On the Map page, the links to your Twitter, email and Facebook accounts are in the left panel

Clicking **Tweet This** or **Share This** will open the appropriate website (i.e., Twitter or Facebook) in a new browser window on your device. If you are not already logged in, you will be asked to do so. Once you are logged in you will have the opportunity to share the URL for the Outdoor Florida website.

Clicking **Email This** will open your email application with the Subject (i.e., “Outdoor Florida”) already populated and the Outdoor Florida URL in the body of the email. The **Email This** link will not work properly if you do not have an email application set up on your computer. If it is not working please refer to the support website for your browser and look for instructions for setting the email client.

Need More Information?

Useful Links

The Useful Links at the bottom of each page and in the left panel of the map page provide you the ability to quickly access other websites with information about Florida lands:

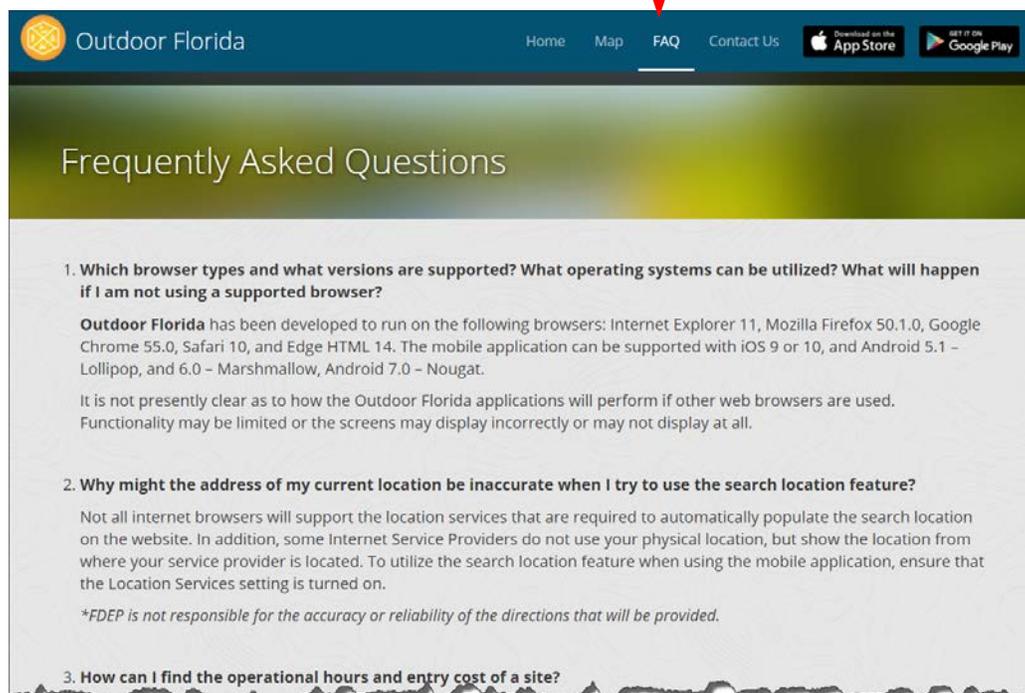
- *Florida State Parks* – Obtain information about Florida State Parks and reserve camp sites.
- *State Owned Lands Public Interface* – Research land owned by the state of Florida.
- *Outdoor Florida User Guide* – View the contents of this User Guide whenever you need them by clicking on the Outdoor Florida User Guide.

FAQs

Have a question? You may be able to find the answer on the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page. **FAQ** is on the menu bar on every Outdoor Florida web page.



Click **FAQ** in the header of any Outdoor Florida web page to review Frequently Asked Questions.



[Privacy Policy](#)

Florida Sunshine Laws give the public access to public records. Click **Privacy Policy** to read how these laws affect your use of this website.

[Disclaimers](#)

Click **Disclaimers** to learn about the limitations of the Outdoor Florida information.

[Accessibility](#)

Click **Accessibility** to obtain information about 508 ADA compliance for this website. Please see the FAQs for instructions for obtaining information about accessibility at individual recreation sites.

Contact Us

Still have a question? You can contact us directly at the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks by email. Click **Contact Us** in the header of any Outdoor Florida web page.



Click **Contact Us** in the header of any Outdoor Florida web page to display the Contact Us form.

A screenshot of the 'Contact Us' form overlay on the website. The form is white with a close button in the top right corner. It contains the following fields: 'Name' (text input), 'Email' (text input), 'Type of Message' (dropdown menu with 'Question' selected), and 'Message' (text area). At the bottom right, there are 'Close' and 'Email' buttons. The background shows a blurred view of the website's content.

Fill in the fields in the form. We ask that you choose a Type of Message to expedite our response. Choose from Question, Technical Problem, Report a Problem, Suggestion or Compliment. We will use this information to get your email to the person best able to respond.

Once all the fields are completed, click the **Email** button. This will open your email application with the email address and body already filled out. All you will need to do is send the email.

If your device is not configured with an email application, you may use whatever method you usually use to send an email. Address it to Outdoor.Florida@dep.state.fl.us.

Get the App!

You can take Outdoor Florida with you. Download the Outdoor Florida mobile app to your device by clicking the **Google Play** or **App Store** buttons in the upper right corner of any Outdoor Florida web page.

Download the Outdoor Florida Mobile Application by clicking on the App Store or Google Play buttons from your mobile device.

