



ffbch.org

Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen, Inc.
Preserving our equine cultural heritage on public lands for today and tomorrow.

FFBCH NEWS

November 2019

The November meeting is scheduled for

S-A-T-U-R-D-A-Y, November 23, 2019.

Registration and social begins at 11:00, lunch as close to 12:00 as possible with meeting to follow.

FFBCH will provide spiral sliced ham AND pulled pork, buns, paper plates, bar-b-q sauce & silverware. We simply ask that attendees bring a covered dish to share, lawn chair(s) and your favorite beverage and ice if you want.

The **Christmas party** at Stumpknockers is scheduled for Thursday, December 19.

Social Hour from 5:00 to 6:00.

To be seated for dinner as close to 6:00 as possible.

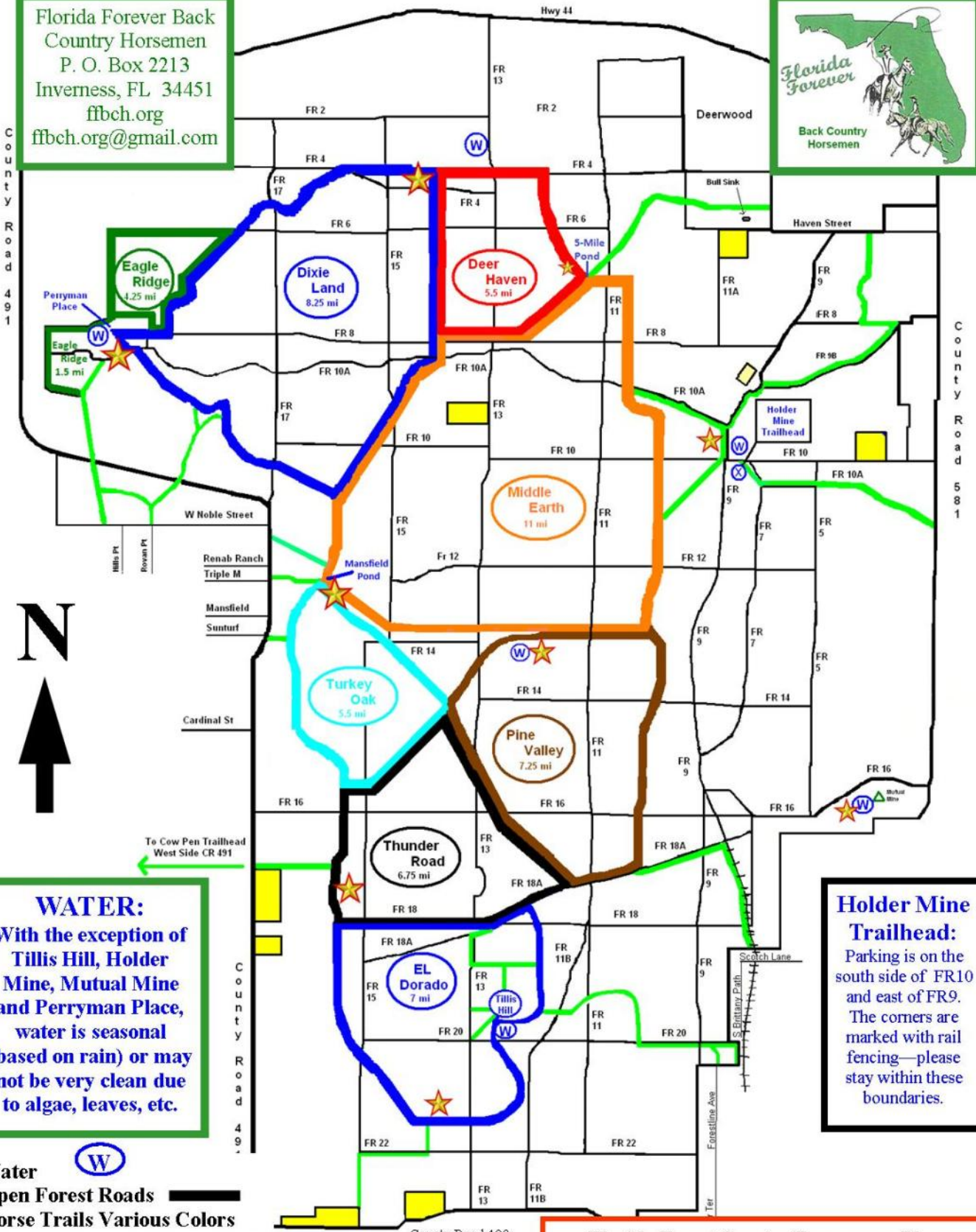
Non-Members are WELCOME!
Please come and join us!



LIKE us on Facebook!

FFBCH Website: www.ffbch.org

Florida Forever Back
Country Horsemen
P. O. Box 2213
Inverness, FL 34451
ffbch.org
ffbch.org@gmail.com



WATER:
With the exception of
Tillis Hill, Holder
Mine, Mutual Mine
and Perryman Place,
water is seasonal
(based on rain) or may
not be very clean due
to algae, leaves, etc.

**Holder Mine
Trailhead:**
Parking is on the
south side of FR10
and east of FR9.
The corners are
marked with rail
fencing—please
stay within these
boundaries.

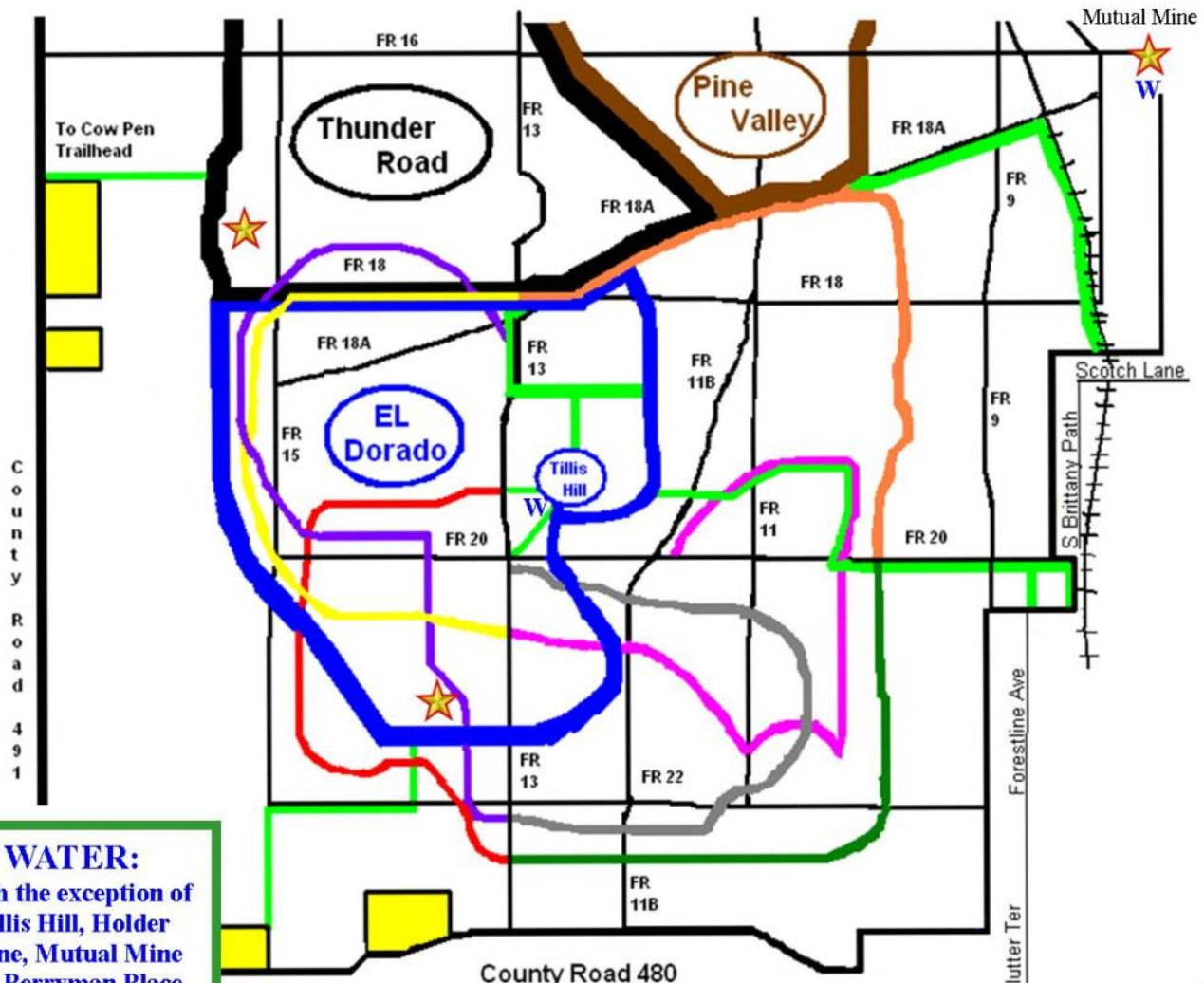
- Water (W in circle)
- Open Forest Roads (thick black line)
- Horse Trails Various Colors (thin black line)
- Neighborhood Access Trails (thin green line)
- Private Property (yellow rectangle)
- Rest Stops (red star)

**Florida Forest Service Emergency Phone
1-352-797-4100
Florida Wildlife Commission
386-758-0525 (normal business hours)
After Hours 888-404-3922**

Revised 11-2019

Withlacoochee State Forest Citrus Tract Tillis Hill Recreation Area Map

- Field Trial Trails are the thinner multi-colored lines.
 - Horse Trails are the thicker blue, black or brown lines.
 - Neighborhood access trails are bright lime green.
 - See "Citrus Trails" for full map.
- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Field Trial Run Mileage: | |
| Purple | 4.0 miles |
| Green | 2.8 miles |
| Red | 2.9 miles |
| Yellow | 3.3 miles |
| Pink | 4.2 miles |
| Orange | 3.2 miles |
| Gray | 3.6 miles |



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FFBCH Newsletter November 2019

October 2019 FFBCH
General Meeting
10/24/2019
Old World

Welcome back snowbirds

A Motion to approve the June minutes was made by Calvin McDavid, second by Darlene Creasman and group approved.

Treasurer's report by Gary Reynolds. Motion to approve by Dave Van, 2nd by Fred Fulcher and group approved.

Gary and Sally met with Forestry personnel Keith, Eddie and Lita. That brought up improvements that have been made at Tillis Hill. A new wash pad, concrete for new covered manure pit and shavings bin. They are going to repair and replace panels in the corral area. We are going to suggest dividing it in half to allow for more than one group of horses turnout at a time. This would be to prevent fighting amongst the horses. Sally also mentioned that future improvements should include a hand pump for water since water is a real issue in the forest. Our group would be willing to contribute \$2,000 to the project and do some fund raisers for the rest if necessary. Sally brought up with Forestry the attitude of operations towards us. Specifically on how they plow the trails and roads prior to burning. They have been using the big V-shaped plow which renders the trail unrideable for quite some time afterwards. Forestry stated that they have had a huge turn over in personnel and the plowing was due to undertrained staff and inexperience. Since then, Calvin and Gary have noted that recently plowed trails and roads have been done with the double disc implement which is much better. Sally brought up the fact that the equestrian community contributes greatly to local economy and the riding trails here draw a lot of revenue to the community. Also, there is a need for more law enforcement in the forest. Eagle Ridge is closed due to serious destruction by the mudders. She furnished pictures of the deep ruts and damage in that area.

Calendar:

Oct 25-26 Back Country Horseman of Florida State Annual meeting at Spotted Dance Ranch
Nov 23 Picnic at Tillis Hill
Dec 19 Christmas at Stumpknockers on the River

A vote was taken on shaved ham or pulled pork for the picnic. Pulled pork had highest vote.

Meeting Places: We need everyone to scout around and find some suitable places to hold our meetings. The venue needs to be able to accommodate 35-40 people and preferably have a separate meeting room. Some mentioned that Old World was fine. They seem to have improved service and food quality. Someone mentioned Buffet City in Brooksville which might be a possibility.

Volunteers: We need volunteers. Forestry is not going to maintain our trails. It is up to us. There are 7 Field Trial Trails that need painting. The following people volunteered for this task: David and Darlene and Andy and Sue will do purple and orange trail. Steve and Karen Rossman will do the Green Trail. Gary and Cindy Cyphers will do the Red Trail. Janice and Gary Reynolds will do the Yellow Trail. Fred, Gary, Sally and Calvin have cleared most of the trails.

We still need people to adopt trails to monitor and recon. Picnic tables need areas cleared and raked around them.

There is a Chain saw class coming up.

We have 3 people so far that have expressed interest. Gary and Darlene have also expressed interest.

Sally has permits for our group. Keep track your hours spent volunteering and turn in to Gary Reynolds so we can get recognition for our efforts.

Those who have earned T-shirts for volunteering will need to wait a while longer. There is a hold up on the shirts.

50/50 \$27.50 won by Steve Rossman

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Finally - this is what we have been waiting for - a Chainsaw class that doesn't last a week! Please, if you are interested let me know as there will probably be two classes. Once the details are worked out, you will have the opportunity to sign up if the date and time is convenient to you.

It is time for others to step up and help.

Sally McDavid, President

From Mark Lewis, Recreation

"If anyone would like to take the new version of the Chainsaw Training which is a PowerPoint presentation, a video, and written exam which can all be completed in one day please let me know. We will also try and schedule some hands on training if the opportunity presents itself. We are tentatively planning to hold this training at Rock Lake Lodge and I am building a list of names currently. We will let you know when the class gets scheduled.

Thank you. **Mark Lewis**

Recreation/Volunteer Coordinator

Florida Forest Service

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services"

Citrus Hunting Dates 2019 - 2010

Archery Season:

November **2-10**, **11-17** and **18-24**.

Muzzleloading Gun Season:

November **29** through December **1**
and December **13-15**.

General Gun Season:

December **6-8** and **27-29**.

Small Game Season:

December **30** through February **23**.

Spring Turkey Season:

Youth Turkey: March **14-15**.

Spring Turkey: March **24-27**, April **7-10** and



For other management areas go to:

<https://myfwc.com/hunting/wma-brochures/>

Look for the region then the management area you are interested in.

Please Respect Other User's Trails

Stay OFF Hiking Trails





Want to help? Can't find the time to work on the trails? Can't always make the meetings? That doesn't matter! You can show your support by joining Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen (FFBCH). Individual memberships = \$25 and Family memberships = \$30. Or, make a donation!

Every member of a local chapter is automatically a member of the Back Country Horsemen of Florida AND Back Country Horsemen of America. Not in the Citrus County area? Then join Back Country Horsemen of Florida as an at-large member until a local chapter is developed in your area.

There are many issues facing equestrians today. Help us to preserve the trails we have. Add your voice to those of more than 15,000 of your fellow American horsemen and women. **You only have to look at the Croom and the Citrus Tract of the Withlacoochee Forest as an example of what can be accomplished when we work together and with our land managers!**



Current Officers and Directors

President—Sally McDavid
Vice President—Fred Fulcher
Secretary—Becky Fulcher
Treasurer—Gary Reynolds
Janet Day - Director
Tom Allen—Director
Barb Porch—Director
Cal McDavid—Director

Florida Forest Service
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