

HOA Preservation Areas

Environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands are protected by federal, state and local governments for their many values such as water quality, flood control and wildlife habitat. Prior to land development, protected habitats are surveyed by environmental professionals and set aside for preservation in perpetuity.



Management and Oversight

The management of preservation areas in planned subdivisions is the responsibility of the Homeowner's Association (HOA). Depending on the age of your community, there may be a Resource Management Plan (RMP) on file with the Sarasota County Environmental Protection Division (EPD).

The RMP is prepared by an environmental professional and submitted to the EPD for authorization as part of the development review process. As an HOA board member, it's important for you to be familiar with your RMP to make sure your community is on schedule for meeting the success criteria. If you are an HOA board member and need help locating or understanding your RMP contact the county's call center at 941-861-5000 and ask to speak with the Sarasota County EPD.



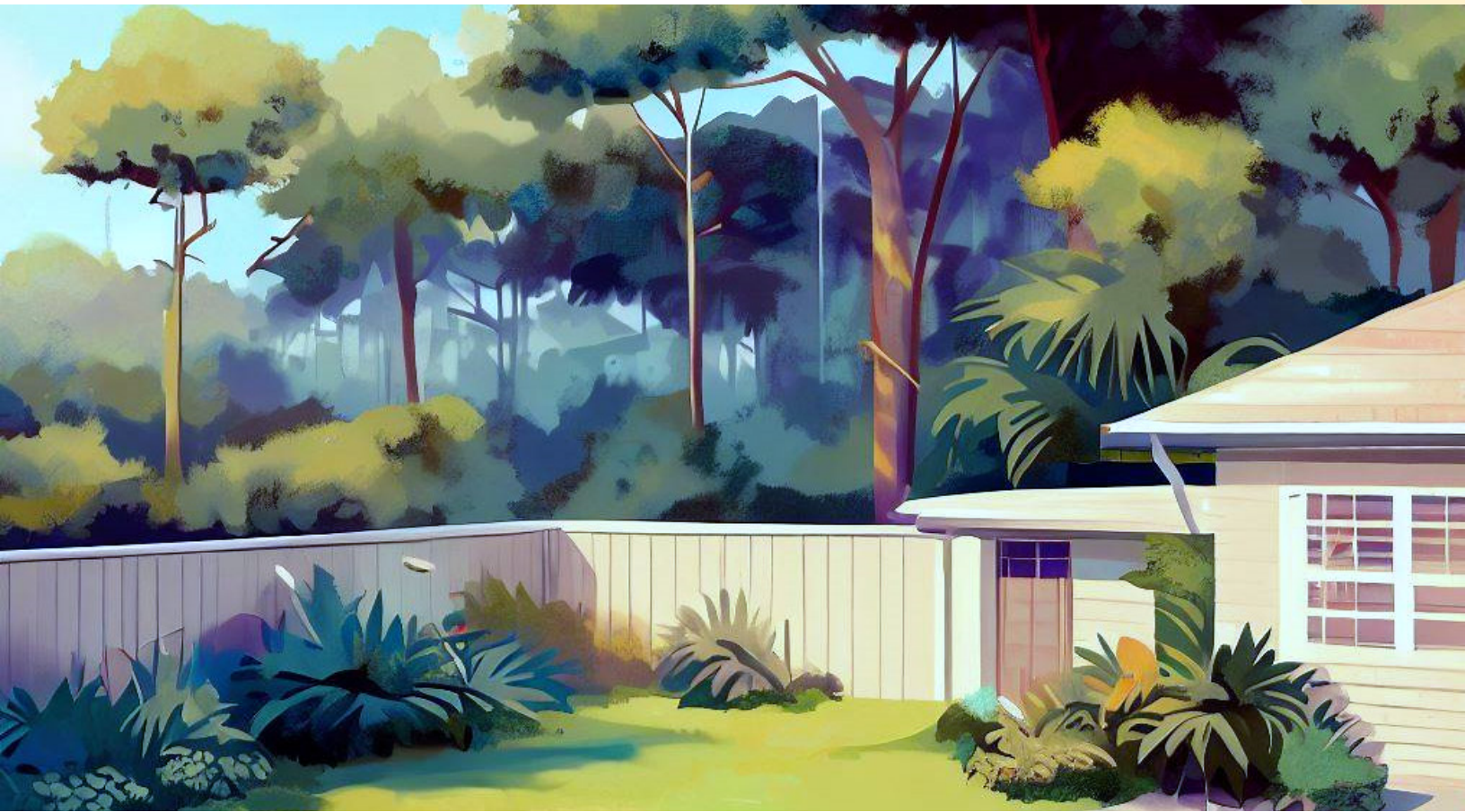
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Be a Good Steward... and Know Your Boundaries

Costly encroachments into preservation areas can easily be avoided by **knowing your property boundaries**. Review your files for a copy of your original survey; look up your lot on your subdivision plat in the official records (visit secure.sarasotaclerk.com/SubPlatsSearch.aspx) or by contacting your HOA; or work with a professional surveyor and mapper to have your property boundaries flagged on site.

Your property boundary should be clearly identified on site and a survey shared with any contractor hired by you to conduct earthmoving activities, landscaping, irrigation installation, tree work or clearing activities to confirm no impacts to preserve areas will occur.



Learn more "Neighborhood Best Practices"

Our "Neighborhood Best Practices" program provides tips and techniques on preservation areas (including how to look up a plat), importance of a Community Tree Care Management Plan, Florida-Friendly Landscaping™, how to protect our local waterways and much more. Register online at tiny.cc/ufsaraext_nbp to make a difference in your neighborhood.

- Register here: tiny.cc/ufsaraext_nbp
- Follow us on social media for the latest tips:
Facebook.com/ufsarasotaext | Instagram.com/ufsarasotaextension | Twitter.com/ufsarasotaext

Find more information at our websites: sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota and scgov.net/extension



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