

Community-based Mangrove Restoration on Sanibel Island

Lead By: SCCF (Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation)

Activity: Plant Mangroves! Pre-registration Required

When: Sept. 9, 23, 24, 30; Oct. 1, 21, 22 (Other dates; call for info)

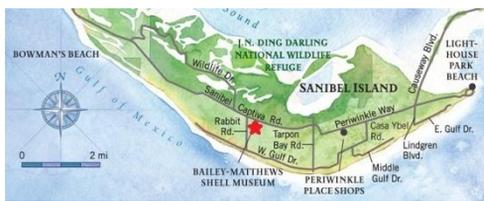
Where: Clam Bayou on Sanibel Island (see map and directions below)

Why collect and plant Red Mangroves (*Rhizophora mangle*) in Clam Bayou?

Mangroves provide essential habitat for shrimp, crabs, fish, wading birds and also help protect the shoreline from erosion due to waves and tropical storms. Mangroves also improve water quality by trapping sediments, nutrients and pollutants, thereby removing them from the water column. Along the edges of open water, well-developed mangrove prop roots provide protection for juvenile animals from their predators as well as serving as an attachment substrate for colonizing filter feeders, such as oysters.

Red mangroves do not produce seeds or seedpods, they produce propagules. Propagules are seedlings which develop and grow on the mother tree until they are mature, at which point they drop to the ground or water. Propagules are available from May through November and are collected by volunteers and planted along the shoreline at Clam Bayou. Propagules for the restoration project are collected, then planted in Clam Bayou, where hurricanes and human-induced disturbances have degraded the marine habitats. The City of Sanibel installed box culverts in 2006 to improve tidal flushing into Clam Bayou. Funding for the project is provided by several competitive grants and in kind contributions by the National Association of Counties, NOAA, and the City of Sanibel.

Activities include: Collecting propagules, planting seedlings or propagules and paddling to restorations sites. **Bring a kayak if you can.**



Where: SCCF Marine Lab, 900A Tarpon Bay Rd.

For more information, please contact: SCCF Marine Lab, Eric Milbrandt at 239-395-4617

Or email: emilbran@sccf.org

