



See & Hear the Wildlife! Audio-Visual Equipment Installed



Mingace Custom Sound, Inc. finalized the majority of the audio/visual equipment installation at the River Center on September 28. Features include all building audio with outdoor speakers, mounted ceiling projectors and audio in the classroom and over the touch tank, and large wall mounted flat pannel monitors that will show videos pertaining to the Loxahatchee River.

The October Friends meeting was the first opportunity to debut the new system. All the bells and whistles

were operating for our visitors. The guest speaker was able to use the ceiling mounted projector in the classroom, which has increased the quality of our presentations.

The final installation of two additional flat panel monitors will coincide with the installation of Exhibit 5, The Wild and Scenic River Aquarium. Come on by and hear and see the wildlife!

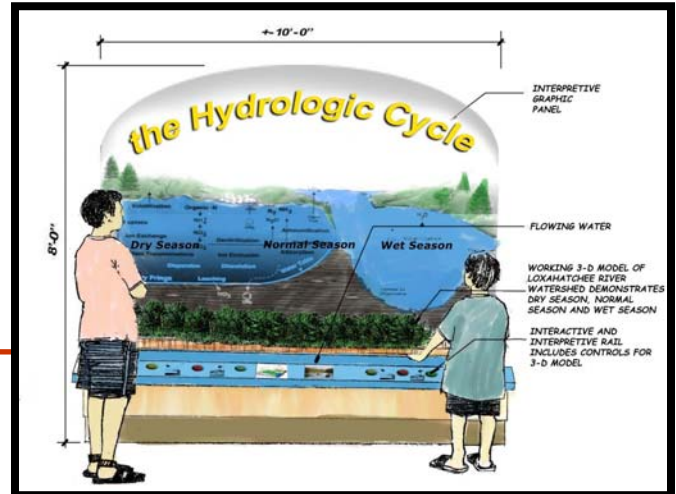


Exhibit 7—Floodplains and the Water Cycle

Featured Exhibit— Floodplains & the Water Cycle

Wetlands and floodplains play a very important role in the Loxahatchee River Watershed. They hold excess water during extended wet periods and storm events, they clean water by removing sediments and nutrients, and they provide habitat for a wide variety of wildlife.

Visitors will be able to experience the function of floodplains as they look down upon a scale model of a portion of the Wild and Scenic

Loxahatchee River. The river will have a constant flow of water within the river channel. The visitor will be able to control the amount of water flowing down the river and across the floodplains, simulating the increased or decreased amount of precipitation during different times of the year (dry and wet seasons).

Exhibit graphics will give visitors a basic overview of the functions of a flood-

plain: 1. Storage of excess water 2. Sediment and nutrient removal 3. Release of water during dry periods 4. Wetland habitat for plants and animals.

Finally, illustrations will show how water from the floodplains is part of the water cycle and its four steps: 1. Evapotranspiration 2. Condensation 3. Precipitation and Run off (recharging surface waters) 4. Percolation / Infiltration (recharging aquifers).

Migratory Bird Garden

"Elementz" Envirothon Team

Jupiter Environmental Research and Field Studies Academy

As part of their Action Project, this group of students will create habitat for migrating birds by planting trees and shrubs at the River Center.

Special points of interest:

- Friends of the Loxahatchee River meetings are regularly held at the River Center on the 1st Thursday evening of the month..
- The office is now open at the River Center. Contact Jocelyn O'Neill for more information at 561-743-7123 or jocelyn@loxahatcheeriver.org.
- The River Center welcomes its first intern, Jessica Mitchell, a senior at Jupiter High School.