
2025 Florida Land Steward of the Year Tour: Jolly Palms at Mohawk

Property of Rebecca and Manny Mendoza

Lake County, Florida



Date: Friday, April 25, 2025

Meet at 9:00 AM ET

Lunch will be served at the property following the tour. See back page for location and directions.

Congratulations to Rebecca and Manny Mendoza, our 2025 Florida Land Stewards of the Year! These land stewards are recognized this year for their outstanding land stewardship efforts and accomplishments at their beautiful and historic, 120-acre Jolly Palms at Mohawk property located in Lake County, on the north end of what is known geologically as the Lake Wales Ridge. Learn more about the property and the Mendoza's here: <https://tinyurl.com/2jadswfv>

This will be a walking tour of reasonable length. Topics will include restoration and management of native forest habitats, plant identification, invasive species, beekeeping, citrus history in the area, and history of the Jolly Palms Lodge and Cabins. Wear appropriate clothing for the field and bring a water bottle.



Register: Register online at <https://fls-tour-2025-04-25.eventbrite.com>. **Space is limited so register soon!** We will meet at the property at 9:00 am ET for the tour. Lunch will be served at the property following the tour. See the next page for location details. Contact Chris Demers for more information, cdemers@ufl.edu, (352) 846-2375.



Funding for the Florida Land Steward Program is provided by, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service's Florida Forest Service, the Florida Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee, and the Florida Tree Farm Program.

Jolly Palms at Mohawk

Location and Directions

Address is 13545 Old Hwy 50 W, Clermont (or Minneola), FL 34715.
There will be a sign marking the turn.

NOTE: You will turn directly off of Old Hwy 50 onto the driveway.
DO NOT TURN INTO COUNTRY RIDGE DEVELOPMENT. Map/navigation apps will likely tell you to turn here but do not. The property entrance is a little further down the highway from there.

From FL Turnpike:

-Take Exit 278 toward Minneola.

-Turn onto N Hancock Road, toward Minneola, Clermont

-In 1.8 miles, turn right onto Old Highway 50

-In exactly 0.7 miles, take a sharp right turn onto an old dirt driveway with 13545 on the fence posts. Follow the "Forest Stewardship Tour" signs.

On Hwy 27, navigate towards Minneola:

-At the light (7-11, RaceTrac), turn east onto E Washington St. This turns into Old Hwy 50.

-In 1 mi, an old dirt driveway with 13545 on the fence posts veers off to the left. Follow the "Forest Stewardship Tour" signs.