

Matt's Point

Living Shoreline Restoration Project

Matt's Point History

Developed as a Marina

A dredge-and-fill operation in the 1950s created the horseshoe shape of the Lake Beresford shoreline for a marina.

Stetson Rowing Team

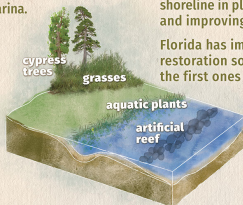
By the 1970s, the marina was closed. In the 1980s, Stetson University began leasing the property for its Rowing Team. Stetson University eventually purchased the property from the Clifton family in 2012.

Erosion since the 1950s

The two breakwater peninsulas on the north and south side of the shoreline have been eroding since original construction. The south peninsula (now Matt's Point) suffered major erosion during Hurricane Matthew (2016), Hurricane Irma (2017), Hurricanes Ian and Nicole (2022), and severe thunderstorms in 2020.

The Living Shoreline construction commenced in summer 2026.

A Freshwater Living Shoreline



The goal of a living shoreline is to mimic natural systems to hold the shoreline in place, preventing erosion and improving water quality.

Florida has implemented many coastal restoration solutions, but this is one of the first ones developed in freshwater.

Oyster Reef Breaks (ORBs)



A central feature of this project is an artificial reef made of ORBs.

The ORBs will enhance our living shoreline by reducing wave energy, breaking the waves without fully blocking the water flow, and by providing a protected new habitat for aquatic life.

Young Bear Environmental specifically designed ORBs to be used as a component of living shorelines, which protect waterfront properties from erosion using a nature-based solution.

Beneficiaries of the Artificial Reef



Two-toed amphiuma
Amphiuma means



Florida manatee
Trichechus manatus



Florida softshell turtle
Apalone ferox

Eelgrass
Vallisneria spiralis

