Lake Maggiore Island
Shaded by spreading live oaks, the island looks out on Lake Maggiore. Perched on dead branches, cormorants and anhingas fan their wings out to dry, turtles sun themselves and flocks drift by.

Swamp Woodlands
Winding along a creek, the path and boardwalk are shaded by bay, cypress, sugarberry and red maple trees. Box turtles hide in the leaf litter on the forest floor. The golden orb weaver spins its perfect web between the branches.

Willow Marsh
Coastal willows' slender leaves provide food for orange darner dragonflies. The boardwalk passes over the rich muck which provides a home for a variety of frogs, limiting of an almost prehistoric flavor. Twelve-foot fronds of leather ferns lift above the boardwalk. Look for lizards and sphynxos (or “air plants”) on the trees.

Pine Flatwoods
Like the columns of a forest mansion, tall pines shade the path. This is borderland between the scrub and the broad-leaved forest. Look for pheasant woodpeckers on the pines and tall snags. Southeastern flier-fitted skinks flash through the sunlit patches in their pursuit of an insect meal.

Wildlife
Boyd Hill Nature Preserve is home to a diversity of wildlife. You may encounter any of the 213 species of birds or 59 species of butterflies during your visit. Osprey and bald eagles soar; black and yellow cats, long-winged tiger swallowtails float overhead. Orange and iridescent green wings are like jewels hovering among the wild flowers. American alligators bask in the sun's warmth and gopher tortoises munch on the new shoots of grasses.

Sand Scrub Trail
More than 12,000 years ago Florida was almost twice its current size. This place was the center of a vast scrubland stretching from horizon to horizon. Today, turkey oak, sand pine and wiregrass live of that distant time. Fall wildflowers cover these fields with color. Boyd Hill Nature Preserve is the home of the gopher tortoise. This is one of the most endangered habitats in the world.

Prescribed Fire in the Preserve
Do you see charred tree trunks? Prescribed fire is one tool we use to mimic lightning-caused fire that would naturally restore and maintain our ecosystems. By reducing the buildup of fuels we protect our forests and our neighbors from dangerous unplanned wildfires.

Discoveries Await
• 245 acres of preserved habitat
• 5 miles of trails & boardwalks
• Lake Maggiore shoreline
• Environmental education center
• Aviary with live birds of prey
• 5 ecosystems
• Gators, tortoises, eagles, osprey & more
• Picnic area, playgrounds, grills & tables
• Daily tram tours
• Nature programs and classes

BOYD HILL
NATURE PRESERVE
1120 Country Club Way South, St. Petersburg, Florida
A precious oasis in the midst of Florida’s most densely populated county.

HOURS
Mar-Oct
Tue.-Fri. 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sat. 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sun. 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Mon. Closed

Nov-Feb
Tue.-Fri. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat. 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Mon. Closed

Trails close 1/2 hour before park closing. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day

LEARN MORE
Visit Our Website: stpeteparksrec.org/boyd-hill
(727) 893-7326

BOYD HILL
NATURE PRESERVE
CITY OF ST PETERSBURG