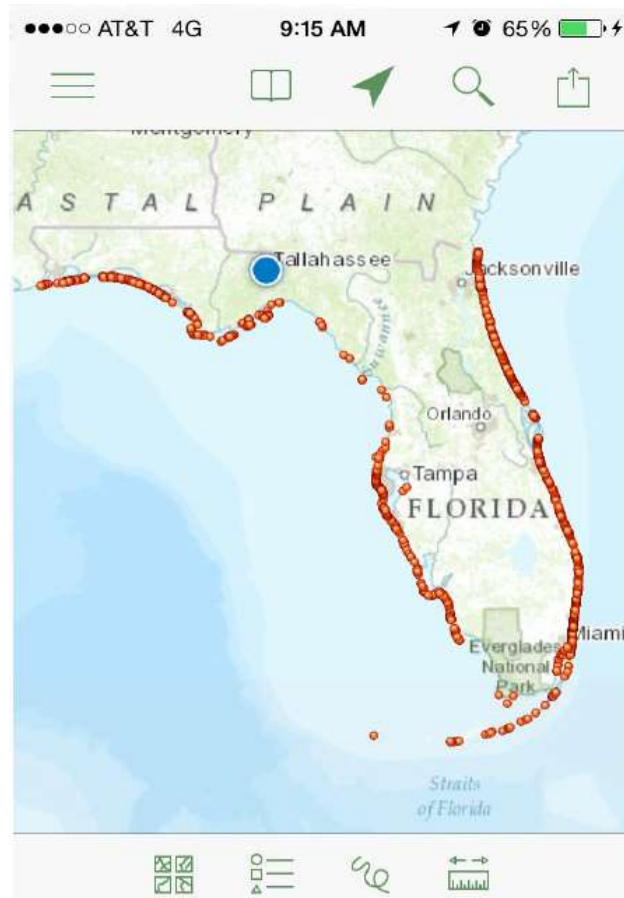


The Florida Coastal Access Guide

1. Photo of story topic



2. Photo caption: A screenshot of the Florida Coastal Access Guide App.
3. Short title: The Florida Coastal Access Guide: Interactive map displays beach access points around the state
4. One sentence summary of story: The Florida Coastal Management Program provides an easy tool, the Florida Coastal Access Guide, that provides users an interactive map that displays coastal access points throughout the state.

The Florida Coastal Management Program provides an easy tool to help both residents and visitors maximize their quest for fun in the sun. The Florida Coastal Access Guide is a website that provides users an interactive map that displays coastal access points throughout the state. The guide also displays detailed information about each access point such as parking, ADA-accessibility, facilities, shelters, picnic areas, boardwalks, camping, boat ramps, fishing piers, fees and much more. “Florida’s coast is lined with beautiful beaches,” said Rebecca Prado, program administrator of the Florida Coastal Management Program. “We hope that this tool will allow the public greater knowledge of Florida’s beach accesses so they can explore and enjoy more of the coast.” There are more than 2,000 public coastal access sites included in the Florida Coastal Access Guide. The guide can be found online and via mobile application.

Website:

The Florida Coastal Access Guide is hosted online. Users can open their web browser, navigate to www.dep.state.fl.us and click on the “Florida Beach Guide” icon or scan the QR code to get to the main page (<http://dep.state.fl.us/cmp/beachaccess/>). On the webpage, the access sites are divided into three regions: The Panhandle, Atlantic coast and Southwest Florida coast. Each region features an overview of coastal counties and includes detailed information about each county’s unique attractions.

Mobile application:

Finding the perfect beach access is even easier with the free Explorer for ArcGIS mobile application. This app is available for download in the Apple App Store and Google Play. Once the Explorer for ArcGIS app is downloaded, users can search for “Florida Beach Access Guide” and have the option to save it to their favorites for ease of use. The app allows users to search for a specific beach, city or address, zoom to their current location and see accesses nearby. Users can also tap any access point and press the information icon for driving directions and a street view of the access.

The Florida Coastal Access Guide was recently showcased at the Gulf of Mexico Alliance’s (GOMA) Tools Café, which took place during the GOMA 2016 All Hands Meeting in Baton Rouge, LA. The GOMA Tools Café was an interactive experience where participants learned how the Florida Coastal Access Guide tool works and had an opportunity to ask questions or walk through a demonstration of tool functionality.