

In and Around Naples  
**A Series of Presentations**  
**for the Collier County Library**  
**by Paul Pacter**

**Calusa Nature Center  
 & Planetarium**

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[www.paulvisits.com](http://www.paulvisits.com)

**Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium**  
 Not-for-profit organization dedicated to  
 environmental education and preservation.

**Website:** [www.calusanature.org](http://www.calusanature.org)

**Where:** 3450 Ortiz Ave. Fort Myers, FL.

**Get There:** I-75 Colonial Blvd Exit #136.  
 Then west on Colonial ½ mile.  
 Right on Ortiz Ave. ½ mile.

**When:** 10 am - 4 pm Tuesday – Sunday.  
 Closed Mondays.

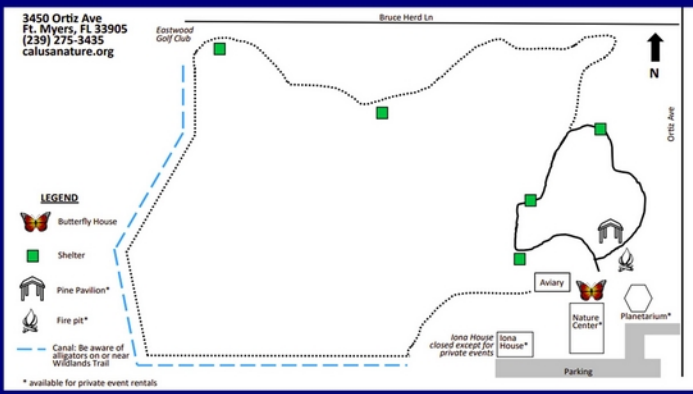
**Admission:** Adult \$10. Children \$5.



**What:**

- 105-acres.
- Natural history museum.
- Home to many rescue animals, including birds, snakes, turtles, alligators.
- Two nature trails:
  - **Wildlands Trail 1.3 miles.**
  - **Pine Loop Trail: One-third mile.**
- Planetarium theater.
- Bird aviary.
- Butterfly garden.

**Calusa Nature Center Trail Map**



**Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium**  
**Typical Event Schedule:**

- Butterfly talks 11:15 am.
- Planetarium shows usually 12:15 pm and 2:15 pm.
- Live animal talks usually daily 1:15pm.
- Many nights: Movies in the planetarium.

**Calusa Nature Center**  
**Exhibits and Demonstrations**



**Calusa Nature Center**  
**Fort Myers**





Calusa Nature Center  
Fort Myers



Florida White-Tailed Deer

Males (antlers) average 115 pounds  
Females average 90 pounds



Largemouth (Black) Bass

Florida State Freshwater Fish.  
Found in lakes and rivers.  
State record 17 pounds.  
Most popular game fish in North America.



African spurred tortoise  
Sulcata tortoise



Cane Toad

Native to South and Central America.  
Invasive in Florida.  
Highly poisonous glands (bufotoxin) and toxic skin. Deadly to dogs and cats.



Argentine Black and White Tegu

Omnivorous  
Pets Released into the Wild  
Invasive in FL, GA, SC  
Threat to Native Birds and Reptiles



Wild Boar (Wild Hog)

Native to Europe.  
Brought to Florida 1539 as food  
for Spanish explorer DeSoto and his troops.  
Now wild in all counties of Florida.  
5-6 feet long. 150 pounds.  
May be hunted, generally without permit or limit.



Florida Gar

**Calusa Nature Center Planetarium**

**The only planetarium in SW Florida.  
2020 surround-sound Digitalium Lambda Plus  
laser projection system.  
One-hour shows 12:15 pm and 2:15 pm daily.**

**Calusa Nature Center Planetarium**

**87 seats.  
Dome 44 feet in diameter.**