#### **MEET OUR NEIGHBORS**

A recent census found 3,500 burrowing owls scattered across the undeveloped lots of Cape Coral. The owls dig burrows in the sandy, loose soil of the Cape. But new developments are destroying potential habitat, which has led the owls to create burrows on lawns, with the help of the Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife's "Starter Burrow Program."

Cape Coral is also home to thousands of gopher tortoises. Due to new construction, tortoises have sought refuge on the city's sandy, undeveloped lots.

Both species are designated as "Threatened" by the State. They are likely to become endangered if subjected to increased stress. Cape Coral has strict, protective ordinances for both species.



#### THE URGENCY

Cape Coral is one of the fastest growing cities in the United States. Critical wildlife habitat is disappearing daily. We are racing against time. If the gopher tortoise and burrowing owl survive this onslaught, it will be due, in part, to the generosity of folks like you. Your gift will help ensure that these fragile creatures will live on to fascinate and delight future generations.

#### A *lot* now means a lot later.



 ${\bf Cape Coral Wild life Trust.org}$ 

239-980-2593

Email: info@capecoralwildlifetrust.org

# Give a "Forever Home" to Wildlife

by purchase or donation







Cape Coral Wildlife Trust

Preserving land for wildlife.



#### **ABOUT US**

Established in November 2017, the Cape Coral Wildlife Trust, a nonprofit, 501c3, acquired its first two conservation lots at the corner of NW 3rd Place and NW 7th Terrace in the center of Cape Coral that same year. At that time, forty-two gopher tortoise burrows were scattered across the lots. The first burrowing owl lots were purchased the following year.

Today, there are over ninety-four gopher tortoise burrows on that original property, dramatic proof that tortoises are feeling the intense pressure of development and are seeking haven on our properties.

The Trust currently owns sixty-seven city lots, providing habitat and protection for burrowing owls and gopher tortoises.



## GIVE A "FOREVER HOME" TO WILDLIFE

Individuals, businesses, and non-profits can help the Cape Coral Wildlife Trust expand the Trust's holdings. A monetary, or property donation, estate bequest, stock, 401k, or retirement fund donation, will ensure the preservation of threatened species and other wildlife within the City of Cape Coral.

Speak to your tax advisor to determine if land donation would benefit you as it would benefit wildlife.

Donors who provide significant funding or gift property will be recognized on CCWT's property signs, website, FB page, and in local media.

#### Contribution levels:

Defender.....\$5,000.00

Steward.....\$15,000.00

Champion....\$35,000.00

To contribute by credit card go to

capecoralwildlifetrust.org

To speak to a donation representative call

#### 239-980-2593

THE FLORIDA REGISTRATION NUMBER FOR CAPE CORAL WILDLIFE TRUST IS  $\mathrm{CH}_{53948}$ .

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATIONAND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-425-7352) WITHIN THE STATE OR GOING TO THE WEBSITE FOR THE DIVISION CONSUMER SERVICES (www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com). REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY STATE.

#### WE ARE DIFFERENT

Cape Coral Wildlife Trust acquires relatively small, city-sized plots with existing FL "Threatened" wildlife, such as the gopher tortoise and burrowing, owl. Our scope, however, reaches across *all* wildlife species.



Dr. John Herman

#### THE SCIENCE

Research has shown that city-sized lots can provide valuable habitats for wildlife. Dr . John Herman of Florida Gulf Coast University demonstrated that "the urban gopher tortoise populations in Cape Coral represent a self-sustaining, viable conservation unit." He encouraged our efforts to create a land trust for the conservation of gopher tortoises and wildlife in general.

### Science-based Conservation