

Media Contacts:

Holly Zawyer / Lauren Liebler
Cheryl Andrews Marketing Communications
P: 305-444-4033
Holly@cam-pr.com / Lauren@cam-pr.com



HAWKS CAY RESORT PARTNERS WITH THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION

Florida Keys resort joins initiative to conserve the Everglades ecosystem

DUCK KEY, Fla. – April 21, 2017 – [Hawks Cay Resort](#), a resort destination in the Florida Keys, announces today that it is partnering with The Everglades Foundation to raise awareness of its initiative to restore and protect the greater Everglades ecosystem.

“Our guests come visit to experience the natural Florida Keys environment, and with the Everglades in our backyard, we know how important it is to educate them on their potential impact to this precious habitat,” says Sheldon Suga, VP Managing Director of Hawks Cay Resort.

The heart of the partnership lies in the resort’s Environmental Education program for children at Camp Hawk, which will provide a new Everglades Literacy curriculum for campers to learn about the ecosystem and its importance to South Florida. As the partnership’s goal is to educate, this component focuses on teaching the upcoming generations about the importance of preserving the Everglades. Visitors will also find messaging throughout the resort that educate on best practices for conserving water and being more eco-friendly while on vacation.

"The Everglades is a national treasure that houses hundreds of species of beautiful and fascinating wading birds, mammals, fishes, reptiles, amphibians and plants. However, America’s Everglades is on life support,” says Eric Eikenberg, CEO of The Everglades Foundation. "More than 70 threatened and endangered species call the Everglades home. Over a century of ditching and draining have reduced the wetlands to half their original size." He continues, "Everglades education will introduce our future generation at Camp Hawk to key aspects of this one-of-a-kind ecosystem - including its watershed, endangered species, and water conservation."

In addition to the educational component of the partnership, the Resort will have reusable water bottles available for purchase with proceeds benefiting the foundation. As well, guests will have the opportunity to make a donation during their stay.

About The Everglades Foundation

The Everglades Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to leading efforts to restore and protect the greater Everglades ecosystem. Since its founding in 1993 by a group of local outdoor enthusiasts, the Foundation has become a respected and important advocate for the sustainability of one of the world's most unique ecosystems.

America's Everglades is prominent among our nation's environmental treasures. In addition to providing nearly eight million Floridians with clean and plentiful drinking water, the Everglades is home to no fewer than 77 threatened or endangered species of plant and animal life. From an economic point of view, nearly 400,000 jobs in tourism, recreation, boating, fishing, real estate and numerous other sectors depend upon – and benefit from – a healthy Everglades.

Funds raised by the Foundation are used for scientific research, advancing understanding of the Greater Everglades ecosystem and to provide grants to our conservation partners. Through environmental leadership, scientific expertise, education, and policy experience, the Everglades Foundation works to protect and restore America's Everglades. Learn more at www.evergladesfoundation.org.

About Hawks Cay Resort

A recipient of the prestigious AAA Four Diamond Award and a member of the Preferred Hotel Group Lifestyle Collection, Hawks Cay Resort is located on Duck Key in the Middle Florida Keys. Situated roughly halfway between Key Largo and Key West at mile marker 61, this 60-acre, tropical destination is easily accessible by car, boat or plane yet feels worlds away from everyday life.

Alongside the aquamarine water of the Atlantic Ocean, guests enjoy offshore, flats and backcountry fishing; diving; kayaking; kiteboarding and standup paddleboarding programs; Cliff Drysdale tennis program; Segway tours and the only resort-based Dolphin Connection program with complimentary daily viewings in the continental U.S. The resort boasts 177 guestrooms and 250 two- and three-bedroom villas, a full-service marina, six restaurants, saltwater lagoon, five swimming pools, kid and teen clubs and the award-winning Calm Waters Spa.

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