

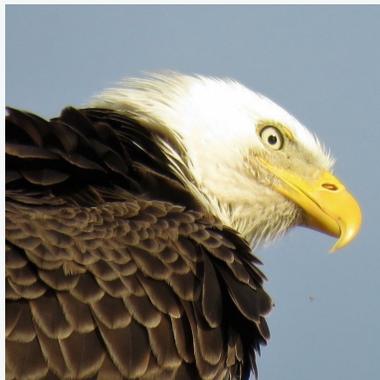
## THE URGENCY

Established in November 2017, the Cape Coral Wildlife Trust acquired its first two lots of land at the corner of NW 3rd Place and NW 7th Terrace in the center of Cape Coral. Upon purchase, there were 42 gopher tortoise burrows on the two lots.

Today there are over 94 burrows, dramatic proof that gopher tortoises are feeling the intense pressures of development in Cape Coral and are seeking safe haven on our properties.

The Wildlife Trust currently owns forty-four city lots providing habitat for gopher tortoises and ALL the other wildlife species that depend upon their burrows.

We are racing against time and the rapid pace of development in Cape Coral. Critically needed wildlife habitat is disappearing daily.



# Cape Coral Wildlife Trust

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We're different.

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No one else does what we do. Other land trusts look to acquire large tracts of property. We purchase relatively small, city-sized lots of prime wildlife habitat for threatened and other wildlife species here in Cape Coral.

Our city is one of the fastest growing cities in the nation. Consequently, development pressure on wildlife is extreme.

They will not be here in future years if they have no land to live on.

*A lot now means a lot later.*



[CapeCoralWildlifeTrust.org](http://CapeCoralWildlifeTrust.org)

239-980-2593

## Buy a Home For Cape Coral Wildlife



Cape Coral Wildlife Trust

*Preserving Land for Wildlife*



## SETTING NEW PARAMETERS IN CONSERVATION

Small, city-sized lots can provide valuable habitat for wildlife.

Three years of extensive ecological study by 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." For this reason, Professor Herman "fully supports and encourages the establishment of a land trust of current vacant lots within the City of Cape Coral for the conservation of gopher tortoises specifically and wildlife in general."

Science-based Conservation

## BUY A LOT FOR WILDLIFE

Individuals, businesses, and non-profits can help the Cape Coral Wildlife Trust purchase prime habitat to ensure the preservation of threatened species and other wildlife within the city.

Our approximate cost for a single lot of land in Cape Coral is \$25,000.00 including closing fees and educational signage.

Donors who provide significant funding for a burrowing owl or tortoise lot will be recognized on our property signs and our website .

Contribution levels:

*Defender*.....\$5,000.00

*Steward*.....\$10,000.00

*Champion*.....\$25,000.00

To contribute by credit card go to

**[Capecoralwildlifetrust.org](http://Capecoralwildlifetrust.org)**

To speak to a donation representative call

**239-980-2593**

THE FLORIDA REGISTRATION NUMBER FOR CAPE CORAL WILDLIFE TRUST IS CH53948.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE OR GOING TO THE WEBSITE FOR THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES (www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com). REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY STATE.



## A KEYSTONE SPECIES

Establishing gopher tortoise preserves in Cape Coral is critical to more than the preservation of gopher tortoise populations. National Geographic states emphatically that the gopher tortoise is "crucial to the ecosystem of the southeastern United States.

More than 350 other species—burrowing owls, coyotes, snakes, foxes, and more—use tortoise burrows to seek shelter and escape heat, fires, and predators. For this reason, gopher tortoises are considered a keystone species.

***If they disappear from an environment, the ecosystem will collapse in on itself."***

The gopher tortoise is classified as State Threatened by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. ([myfwc.com](http://myfwc.com)).