

# Biscayne Nature Center

Florida

D U A N Y P L A T E R - Z Y B E R K & C O M P A N Y



Location: Key Biscayne, Florida  
Type: Civic Building  
Year Design: 1994  
Status: Built  
Size: 4,700 Square Feet  
Contact: Theo Long  
Executive Director  
305.361.6767



The new Biscayne Nature Center is a collaborative effort between Dade County Public Schools, the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas/ Biscayne Nature Center organization, and the Dade County Parks and Recreation Department. The site is in Crandon Park on Key Biscayne, adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean. Sand dunes separate the building from the beach and serve as an evolving natural community that will eventually become an interpretive display. The Center will also act as a gateway to the Bear Cut Preserve area to the north, which will be biologically restored to its previous state, before extensive damage from Hurricane Andrew.



The building contains 4700 sf of air conditioned space and has large porches and patios to catch breezes. Public toilets are provided to serve both the beach and the facility. The program includes a science demonstration classroom, media facilities, exhibit space, and administrative offices for Dade County Parks and the Biscayne Nature Center. The Center is intended to serve as a model of sustainable development in which opportunities for natural ventilation, the use of recycled materials, and the careful selection of building materials that support sustainable industries will be considered.