

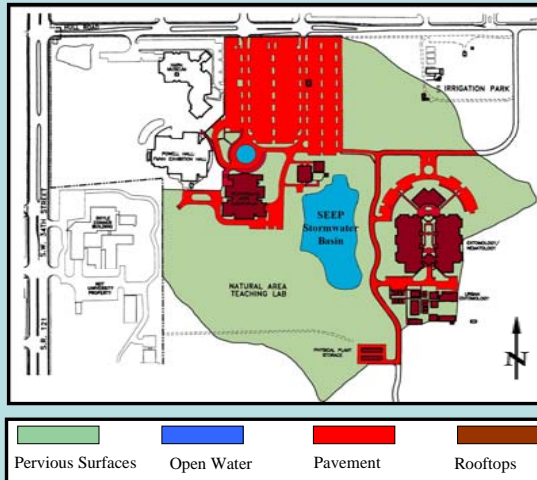
Stormwater Ecological Enhancement Project (SEEP)

The Watershed

NATL's retention basin is at the low point within the surrounding watershed (see map at right). Within this watershed are the Center for Performing Arts, the Park & Ride commuter lot and Parking Garage, Entomology and Nematology buildings, and roadways between and around these buildings. These structures contribute significant runoff that flows into the basin.

The Project

SEEP was conceived by UF's Wetlands Club and implemented with help from the NATL advisory committee and UF Physical Plant. Funding was from six sources.



Re-contouring the basin



In 1998, the basin was reshaped to create new wetland habitats.

Planting wetland species



In 1999, appropriate native wetland species were planted to colonize the new habitats.

Increased wildlife variety



When water levels fall, food for wading birds is concentrated in the remaining pool.

SEEP Nature Trail



To see SEEP up close, take the SEEP Nature Trail!

Pre-Enhancement

The original design of the basin was a flat pool with small slopes on three sides. The original basin was dominated by cattails (the light brown color), had little diversity in wildlife habitat, and was aesthetically unappealing.



SEEP from south, 1996

Post-Enhancement

The new design of the basin has increased biotic diversity and water storage capacity. While achieving these objectives, it improved water quality and aesthetics. The area now has habitat types ranging from shallow marsh to open water.



SEEP from south, 2004