

1. Balloons 2. Bottles & Cans 3. Starfish 4. Plastic 5. Sea Grass/Oats 6. Birds

Since most people who like to walk and enjoy the beauty around us, we offer the following conservation hints.

BALLOONS - full of air, full of water or broken and floating on the seas look like food - jelly fish - a favorite of Sea turtles. Sea turtles can not pass them out. They die a very slow death. PLEASE do not release balloons into the sky or fill them with water to throw.

BOTTLES - and pop top cans become early morning time homes for the night feeding snails. As the sun comes up these creatures are cooked inside these containers. If you can not pick them up and dispose of properly, at least crush the cans flat and push bottle necks down in the sand until someone will pick them up and dispose of properly.

STARFISH - are much less abundant this year. They are uncollectible as they always smell - even if the insides are carefully scraped out. If you pick one up to examine it and it floats afterwards, don't let it float away as the sun will kill it in minutes. Hold it under water in different positions and you will see bubbles come out of various places. Even placing a small stone on it is better than sunburn. Starfish are strong and will walk out from under a small weight.

PLASTIC - Well, we should all know by now how bad 6 pack plastic rings, plastic, and plastic bags are. None of which belong in the water - slow your boat down and scoop them up - you'll feel better.

EROSION - avoid sliding down the dunes. Don't climb the face of the monument hill - stick to the paths. The plants on the dunes prevent erosion, but are delicate and can be damaged by walking on them.

BIRDS - We have many more birds on Stocking Island especially song birds. If you have extra water with you, please pour some into the bird water stations on the paths.

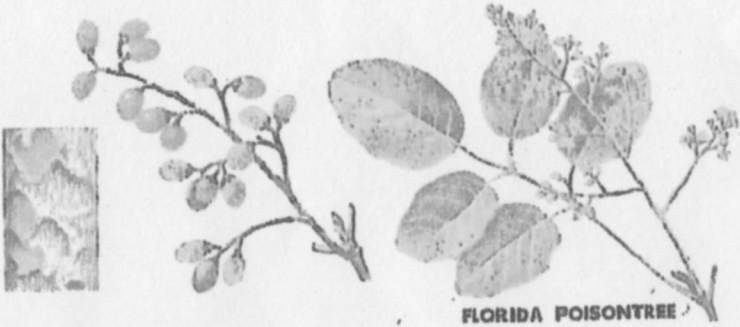
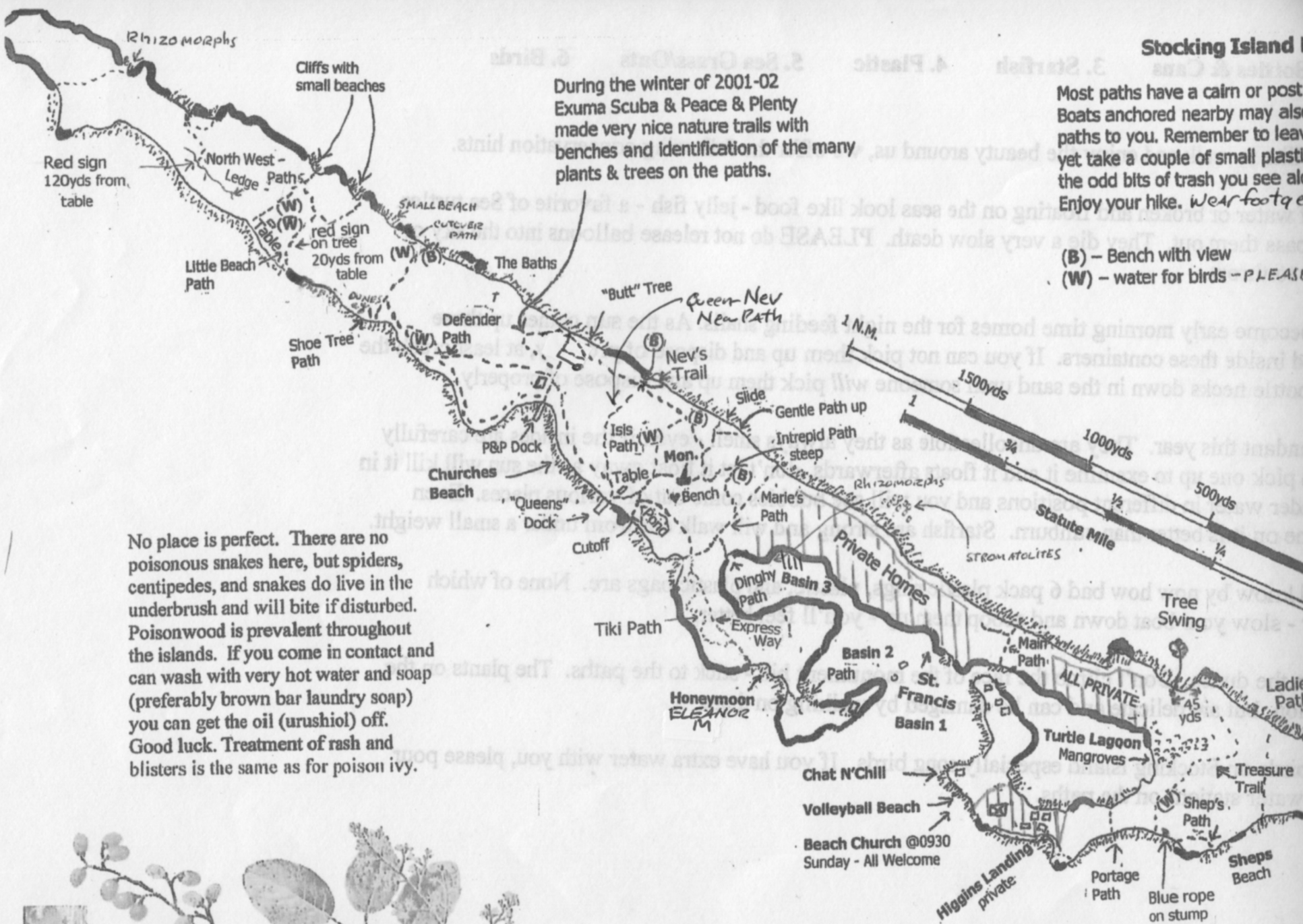
Stocking Island P

Most paths have a cairn or post. Boats anchored nearby may also paths to you. Remember to leave yet take a couple of small plastic the odd bits of trash you see al Enjoy your hike. Wear footq ea

(B) - Bench with view
(W) - water for birds - PLEASE

During the winter of 2001-02 Exuma Scuba & Peace & Plenty made very nice nature trails with benches and identification of the many plants & trees on the paths.

No place is perfect. There are no poisonous snakes here, but spiders, centipedes, and snakes do live in the underbrush and will bite if disturbed. Poisonwood is prevalent throughout the islands. If you come in contact and can wash with very hot water and soap (preferably brown bar laundry soap) you can get the oil (urushiol) off. Good luck. Treatment of rash and blisters is the same as for poison ivy.



FLORIDA POISON TREE

OK 2010 H. T. JAN
Feb 2012

Stocking Island Paths

During the winter of 2001-02 Exuma Scuba & Peace & Plenty made very nice nature trails with benches and identification of the many plants & trees on the paths.

Most paths have a cairn or post to mark beginnings. Boats anchored nearby may also be willing to point out paths to you. Remember to leave only footprints - or better yet take a couple of small plastic bags with you to pick up the odd bits of trash you see along the way. Enjoy your hike. *Wear foot gear*

- (B) - Bench with view
- (W) - water for birds - PLEASE ADD WATER IF EMPTY

