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Hyatt Coconut Point: Green Meetings in an Eco-Preserve

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Now that's our idea of a green meeting space

Located in Bonita Springs on the west coast of Florida near Naples, the 454-room [Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa](#) sits on the 26-acre Estero Aquatic Preserve. The 4-diamond beach resort maintains a Three Palm certification from Florida Green Lodging due to a militant eco-preservation program, which parallels nicely with the Old Florida architecture and thickly landscaped, beautifully manicured gardens.

You definitely want to create outdoor events here among the many leafy venues that make up the 70,000 sf of group space. The best part is you can dress it up or down without a lot of extra theming. The groundskeepers have done most of the heavy lifting for you.

“In the case of our property, what you’ll find is more of a casual elegance where the attendees are more relaxed, but you still have the luxury 5-star feel,” says Darin Henry, Director of Group Sales. “Once you get to the hotel, it’s a 1-stop destination in itself. We have fantastic function space, indoors and out. Groups can do poolside, lawn parties or on the terrace, and that’s great for networking opportunities because of all the public areas where people can sit down and catch up in a really nice atmosphere.”

Hyatt Coco Point has two DMCs in-house, one to handle land activities and one for the water. The latter is operated by Jay Stemen, President of [All Water Excursions DMC](#).

Jay, what’s the most popular program you offer groups?

“That would be the beach parties that go over to Big Hickory Island where there’s a private pavilion overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. Groups have had pirate themes with pirates there to greet the guests and harass them, and parrots at the entryway. We can pretty much do any kind of theme you want, but the pavilion out there sells itself.”

Big Hickory is suitable for groups up to 350, who arrive via the hotel’s private boats. Stemen also arranges day trips to Key West aboard the 100-passenger [Naples Princess](#) yacht. The trip runs 3-4 hours each way with five hours on-island to explore in the footsteps of Jimmy Buffett. [Captain Tony’s Saloon](#) can easily handle 100 pax, and the jukebox there is the best in town.