

Bahama Lifestyle Coming to St. Johns County?

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Rendering: Twin Creeks in St. Johns County, Crystal Lagoons US CORP

Blue waters that appear ripped straight from the Caribbean lap against sandy shores. You can almost feel the cool Bahama breeze. But this isn't some tropical island paradise, it's St. Johns County — or it soon could be.

Crystal Lagoons US Corp released renderings of a 14-acre water paradise that it says will be the largest in the United States. The project will be built in the Twin Creeks master-planned

development, said Crystal Lagoons CEO Uri Man, and will cost \$200,000 to \$250,000 an acre to create. Man said that with all the development in St. Johns County, particularly in Nocatee, the lagoon will set Twin Creeks apart from its competitors.

“We have seen how much value Crystal Lagoons brings to communities they are in, and we are very excited to work with them on Twin Creeks,” Twin Creeks developer John Kinsey said in a statement. “We look forward to bringing the largest Crystal Lagoon in the U.S. to St. Johns County and its residents.”

Twin Creeks is a 3,000-acre development where about 3,000 homes could be built. Man said the development will create waterfront, retail and residential projects. The area will also feature retail and office space.

“Our lagoons provide real estate developments with substantial quantifiable benefits such as increases in pricing, sales velocity, higher rents and in many cases, the lagoons are being used to transform otherwise nonviable development sites into viable development sites,” he said in a statement.

Kinsey was not immediately available for comment Monday.

Crystal Lagoons, based in Miami, has 11 projects announced in the U.S. The first man-made lagoon using the technology was built in Chile about 17 years ago.