



REAL ESTATE

This man-made lagoon puts your pool to shame

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Take a look at the sprawling Twin Creeks Crystal Lagoon.

Photo: Crystal Lagoons

With turquoise waters hugging sandy shores, wide waterside boardwalks and people paddling away on kayaks, you may think you're looking out at a beachy scene in the Caribbean. But looks can be deceiving: It's actually the coolest amenity in the middle of a 3,000-acre real estate development in northern Florida, and it's not even located on the coastline.

So, what's that big blue expanse? It's a 14-acre installation by Crystal Lagoons — a manufacturer of these sprawling, crystalline amenities — which is making a big push into the US multi-family housing market. And when completed in a year, it will be their biggest man-made lagoon in America, *The Post* can reveal. And you thought your pool was cool.

The development — located in St. Johns County, Fla., and set to include more than 3,000 homes — will keep the lagoon on its northern end. Beyond beachcombing, swimming and boating, residents will also benefit from some 150,000 square feet of waterfront retail and dining on the lagoon's south side.



The Crystal Lagoon at Twin Creeks will be able to swim and boat in its blue water.

Photo: Crystal Lagoons

Crystal Lagoons, the first of which was built in Chile 17 years ago, has over 300 of these installations around the world. There's a 30-acre one in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, which is currently the largest in the brand's portfolio. But an even grander 90-acre lagoon under construction in Dubai will take that title when construction ends. In sum, there are 35 projects under negotiation worldwide valued at a whopping \$33 billion, the company says.

This Twin Creeks lagoon marks the the 11th in the US. There's another underway at the \$4 billion SoLe Mia Miami mixed-use community in North Miami, which will measure 10 acres and 6 to 12 feet deep. There's also an option to develop yet another lagoon in this project, according to top trade publication [The Real Deal](#).

The company touts environmental sustainability in its work. Lagoons use 30 times less water than a typical 18-hole golf course and 50 percent less water than a park of their acreages. Its ultrasonic filtration system also uses 50 times less energy than the conventional models.