



**October
2017**

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Next Chapter Meeting

November 13, 2017

*Using Native Plants Instead of
Invasive or Potentially-
Invasive Non-Natives*
by Dr. Sandy Wilson

Preserving, Conserving, and Restoring the Real Florida Since 1980.



Photos by Bob Peterson

Conradina NEWS

Conradina Chapter Meeting Monday, October 9, 2017

5:30 P.M. Refreshments ☞ 6:00 P.M. Meeting
Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library

Native Plants: Their Functions and Care

Speaker: Sally Scalera, UF/IFAS Horticulture Agent

Sally Scalera graduated from Iowa State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture. With degree in hand she left Iowa to work for a mouse! She started off in Florida working at Walt Disney World at EPCOT Center in landscaping, then to the Land Pavilion at EPCOT, then to the City of Winter Park as their horticulturist and then back to Disney to work at the Tree Farm and Nursery. In 1992 Sally started working on her Masters at UCF, graduating in 1995, and in January 1993 she joined the UF IFAS Extension in Brevard County where she is the Urban Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener coordinator.



Program: Why Sustainability? Learn What It Means to You.

By Brevard IRL Coalition and Florida Tech IRL Research Institute

The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. sharp with welcoming remarks from Dr. Robert Weaver of the Florida Tech IRL Research Institute and MJ Waters of the Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition. Next, brief updates on the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program and the Brevard County Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan will be provided with a few minutes for questions and answers.

Courtney Barker and Zach Eichholz from the City of Satellite Beach will present: *Implementing a Local Sustainability Program*. Learn how the coastal City of Satellite Beach embraced a culture of sustainability, while on the path to resilience. Understand how the city is achieving its goals through sound planning practices and community participation.

Dr. Ken Lindeman, Professor, Sustainability Program Chair, FIT, will present *Sustainability in Local Governments of East Florida: Expanding Opportunities*. Coastal East Florida includes 13 counties and many cities within. Examples of advances on complex sustainability issues reflect emerging opportunities for local governments and communities.

Question and Answer sessions will be provided followed both of these keynote speakers.



Multiple municipalities in Brevard County and throughout the Indian River Lagoon area of Florida are in the process of implementing sustainability boards or committees. This session is intended to provide practical information from actual experience that should be helpful to those involved in these activities.

Register for this free program at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/why-sustainability-learn-what-it-means-to-you-tickets-38256959596>.

- Thursday, October 19, 2017
- 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.
- Gleason Performing Arts Center, Florida Institute of Technology
2940 Science Circle, Melbourne, FL 32901

Carol's Corner: Native Plants After the Storm

By Carol Hebert

I was strolling on the boardwalk at Erna Nixon Park to see if any damage had occurred after storm Irma. It was great to see only a small amount of damage was done to the boardwalk. I was also glad to see no major damage to trees along the walk. I did notice a few damages like a big branch of a Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) had fallen on a Gallberry (*Ilex glabra*) that I always liked to point out on a tour because it was such a big Gallberry—like five feet tall. I saw damage to a few Redbay (*Persea borbonia*) but also noticed new leaves starting and I couldn't resist to take a leaf "for educational purposes" and get the sweet smell of the leaves that are used for cooking. Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) bushes were full of fruit with leaves still on. They are deciduous but most still had all their leaves on their branches along with the fruit.

In the wetland, Sawgrass (*Cladium jamaicense*) was brown and done blooming but *Bidens mitis* was in full bloom filling the wetland with yellow flowers. Always love seeing neat birds. Carolina Wren, Cardinal and a Hairy woodpecker all have great song to draw attention to themselves. The best was the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher eating a beetle!

In the hammock, I noticed Marlberry (*Ardisia escallonioides*) in bloom. Some were almost done blooming like the one in the picture and a lot still had buds. It is a very pretty shrub with dark leaves and birds love eating the fruit. Sadly, there is another type of *Ardisia* (*Ardisia crenata*) native to east Asia that is aggressively taking over the hammock. However, on a positive note, please be aware of the right thing to buy from a nursery. Plant native!



Marlberry (*Ardisia escallonioides*)
Photo by Carol Hebert

Florida Wildflower Symposium Rescheduled



Event rescheduled due to hurricane aftermath.

Due to Hurricane Irma damage and complications, the Florida Wildflower Foundation is moving the date of its Florida Wildflower Symposium, which was to take place Sept. 22 and 23 in Orlando. **The new date for the event is April 27 and 28, 2018.**

If you have registered for the symposium, please let us know what you'd like to do by sending an email to Stacey Matrazzo at smatrazzo@flawildflowers.org.

You can ask us to do one of the following:

- Provide a refund. At your request, your registration fee, lunch and field trip fee will be reimbursed, either by check or through PayPal, depending on your original method of payment. Please allow 30 days for your refund to be processed.
- Apply your registration and other fees to the rescheduled spring event.
- Make a donation. Have the Florida Wildflower Foundation retain some or all of your fee as a donation to the Florida Wildflower Foundation. If you select this option, you will receive a letter for tax purposes noting the amount of your donation.

If you joined the Florida Wildflower Foundation as member in order to attend the symposium, we are grateful for your support through membership. Be assured that you will be able to attend the rescheduled event at the member rate. We must hear from you as soon as possible no matter which of these options you choose.

If you have questions or concerns, you may contact us at Info@FlaWildflowers.org or 407-622-1606.

Conradina Chapter 2017 Landscaping With Florida Natives Tour

Please join us for the 8th annual landscaping with Florida natives tour.

You will see wonderful examples of how six homeowners have incorporated native plants into their landscape plans and also tour a Melbourne Beach park. Native plants are important to preserve our wildlife, pollinators, and local heritage as well as requiring much less maintenance, water, and fertilizer—which benefits our local environment and the Indian River Lagoon. Please come see how easy it is to use native plants and help make a difference in your yard!

Garden tour takes place Saturday, October 14, 2017, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

A ticket is in the form of a booklet with the homes' addresses and directions. Cost is \$7.00 per person.

Purchase tickets online from Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-landscaping-with-florida-natives-tour-for-south-brevard-tickets-38107327041?aff=es2> or pick up your tour book at Maple Street Natives Nursery, 7619 Henry Ave, W. Melbourne, FL 32904. After purchasing tickets online, phone Maple Street Natives at 321-729-6857 for pick-up instructions.

Also register for the FREE workshop at Maple Street Natives prior to the yard tour. Workshop is from 9-10 a.m. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/plant-florida-native-landscapes-tickets-37656728288?aff=es2>.

Plant native!

2017 Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour

Saturday, October 14, 2017
10 AM - 4 PM

Conradina Chapter - South Brevard
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Mon., Oct. 9 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Native Plants: Their Functions and Care</i> presented by Sally Scalera, UF/IFAS Horticulture Agent. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
Sat., Oct. 14 10 a.m.—4 p.m.	Conradina Chapter’s 8th Annual Landscaping With Florida Natives Tour. Six wonderful homes and a public park ready to be toured showing off native plants in their landscape. We will need volunteers! See page 3 for information.
Thurs., Oct. 19 6:30-8:30 p.m.	Why Sustainability? Learn what it means to you. By Brevard IRL Coalition and Florida Tech IRL Research Institute. Gleason Performing Arts Center, Florida Institute of Technology campus. See page 2 for information.
Mon., Nov. 13 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Using Native Plants Instead of Invasive or Potentially-Invasive Non-Natives</i> presented by Dr. Sandy Wilson, University of Florida. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
Sat., Dec. 2	Ocean-Reef-Beach Festival. See below for information.
Mon., Dec. 11 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. Create a Wreath With Native Plant Cuttings. Martha Steuart and helpers provide a wonderful amount of native plant cuttings for decorating a wreath to take home and display in your home for the holidays. Wreaths made from native grape vines are provided or bring your own. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
2018	
Mon., Jan. 8 5:30/6 p.m.	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. <i>Landscaping With Wildflowers</i> presented by author Craig Huegal. Melbourne Fee Avenue Public Library. 5:30 P.M. refreshments, 6:00 P.M. meeting.
Sat., Jan. 13 9 a.m.	Helen & Allan Cruickshank Sanctuary Field Trip. Conducted by Vince Lamb.



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- GALLERY
- FAQ

OCEAN - REEF - BEACH Festival - Celebrate the Ocean Lifestyle!

PRESENTED BY: PUREOCEANTV.COM

OCEAN-REEF-BEACH FESTIVAL

SLOW DOWN, CHOW DOWN
CHOWDER COOK-OFF

BENEFITING:
ANGLERS FOR CONSERVATION
Protect Our Waters™
Surfrider Foundation

DEC. 2nd 2017 - Pelican Beach Park - Satellite Beach, FL

For more information, go to oceanreefbeachfestival.com. See you there!

Indian River Lagoon: Live Lagoon-Friendly

Most people know what it means to make our yards Florida-Friendly but we’ve been wondering lately if it isn’t time to expand that idea a little and encourage everyone to live Lagoon-Friendly. Stormwater runoff connects each of us to the lagoon. The potential pollutants that originate on our properties and from our vehicles and boats are easily washed away from their sources by rainstorms. When it rains, pollutants like eroded soils, grass clippings, pet wastes, excess fertilizers and pesticides, vehicle fluids, and household chemicals can become part of stormwater runoff and enter the nearest storm drain or canal, which flow—mostly unfiltered—directly to the Lagoon. By better controlling how we care for our properties and use harmful chemicals, we can each make a personal contribution to protecting and restoring the health of the Indian River Lagoon.

How can you become Lagoon-Friendly? By making a few simple changes to some personal behaviors and household habits. Even small changes can help reduce the negative impacts to water quality, wildlife, and lagoon ecology. The Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program, following the lead of Brevard County’s Save Our Lagoon Plan, has developed what we call the ‘10 Rs’ for Homeowners.

How Can You Live Lagoon-Friendly?	
REDUCE:	The use of fertilizers, pesticides and the amount of stormwater runoff that originates on your property.
REMOVE:	Exotic invasive plants from your landscaping.
RESTORE:	Natural Florida habitats to your home landscaping by planting native trees, shrubs and flowers.
RESPOND:	Learn more about Lagoon issues and act to help. Volunteer with one of the many organizations working to help the lagoon.
REBUILD:	Replace part of your lawn with native plants; consider updating your septic system or hooking into city sewer lines where available.
RESEARCH:	Knowledge is power! Do some research about your septic system; the good bugs vs. bad bugs in your yard; and greener choices for your home.
REPORT:	Should you witness a person or business illegally dumping or discharging anything into a storm drain or canal, report it to your city or your county.
RESOLVE:	The Lagoon community is one community. It’s everyone’s job to keep the Lagoon clean. Resolve today to do your part.
RESPONSIBILITY:	Help keep your community clean and safe. Don’t dump into storm drains or canals, maintain your vehicles so they don’t leak fluids, and pick up after your pets.
RESILIENCE:	Make your home more resilient to natural disasters and climate change. If you live on the Lagoon waterfront, consider installing a living shoreline, which helps buffer the effects of waves and storm surge, prevents erosion and provides habitat.

By implementing just one of these tips, you’ll be on your way toward living a Lagoon-Friendly lifestyle. We’re hoping that Lagoon-Friendly living becomes addictive so that once you take one step, you’ll keep on taking more; and you’ll bring along some friends and neighbors with you on the journey. Restoring the lagoon to health is a bigger problem than agencies or local governments can solve by themselves. It’s going to take everyone.

By Kathy Hill
Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program
www.ircouncil.com



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Conradina Chapter

Florida Native Plant Society

www.conradina.fnpschapters.org

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Chapter News

October is Native Plant Month!

In 2015 Brevard County Commissioners declared October as "**Native Plant Month.**" Several of us attended the County Commissioners meeting and were honored to receive a Declaration, which is proudly on display in the Melbourne Library. We love to remind the County Commissioners of this honor so each year in October the Conradina Chapter President and other members attend a commissioners meeting and give each commissioner a complimentary booklet for our "Landscaping With Florida Natives" tour. Please join Carol Hebert, President of Conradina Chapter, and other officers and board members at the Tuesday, October 10, County Commissioners meeting. The meeting starts at 5 p.m.; and this item will be addressed early on the agenda. Come all and support native plants!

