March 2022

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



Conradina Chapter Meeting Monday, March 14, 2022

5:30 - 6:00 pm socialization, Meeting will begin at 6:00pm.

Wearing of masks are recommended!

Melbourne Library Meeting Room 540 E Fee Avenue

'Invasive Species In The Landscape' by Skip Healy

Skip Healy is the owner and designer of a local landscape design firm, Change of Greenery LLC.

Skip was born and raised in Brevard County and earned a bachelor's degree in Agribusiness with a Horticulture minor from Mississippi State University. He has worked in greenhouses, and garden centers across the state, including EPCOT's The Land pavilion.

His education and industry experience have brought him to start a landscape firm with the purpose of implementing Florida native & edible landscapes.

Focusing on providing habitat to native pollinators and wildlife through sustainable approaches & lagoon friendly plantings, all in order to preserve Brevard's natural beauty.

Please join us!



Next Chapter Meeting

March 14, 2022



Carol's Corner: Fiddlewood

By Carol Hebert

Always a great accent in your landscape. Very shiny leaves on the multi stem structure of Fiddlewood. Florida Fiddlewood (Citharexylum spinosum) is a wonderful large shrub or small tree that can be used as an ornamental or accent element to your garden. It tolerates full sun to partial shade, making it great as a barrier shrub or a great addition to your understory.

The Fiddlewood is a very pretty shrub and it has tiny fragrant flowers blooming in spikes and globular hanging fruit. And what a wonderful smell of the small flowers! Its fruits resemble a hanging bunch of grapes, juicy and loved by wildlife. When ripe, the fruits turn a dark orange color. The fruit is not poisonous but is not very tasty. This is a plant that has a male and female plant and the female develops the fruit as the way to reproduce more shrubs. It has a range from Cape Canaveral to Key West and the West Indies.

I got home from work one afternoon and a mockingbird flew right in to my Fiddlewood and picked a darker fruit out of the bunch and gobbled it up. Wish I had my camera for that!

Plant Native!



Upcoming Events & Meetings

Date	Event		
Saturday Mar 5, 2022	Downtown Melbourne Botanical Festival. 1900 S. Harbor City Blvd. Melbourne		
	8am -4 pm		
Monday Mar 14, 2022	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. Brendan "Skip" Healy, Change of Greenery		
	Melbourne Library		
Monday Apr 11, 2022	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. Richard Baker, President of Pelican Island Audu-		
	bon Society		
	Richard will be talking about how important native plants are for the environment and helping the		
	earth. He will also stress the importance for birds using native plants for food and shelter.		
	Melbourne Library		
Saturday Apr 30, 2022	Olmsted Day in the Park. Lake Wales FL 9 am—7 pm		
Monday May 9, 2022	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. Dr. Kimberly Moore, Phd of Environmental Hor-		
	ticulture and Associate Center Director for the UF/IFAS at the Ft Lauderdale Research & Educa-		
	tion Center "How To Become A Plant Doctor"		
	Melbourne Library		
May 20-22, 2022	41st FNPS Conference. Virutal		
	Register: https://www.fnps.org/conference/2022		
Sunday Jun 12, 2022	Conradina Board meeting (11:00) and Member Potluck Brunch (Noon) at Erna Nixon Park		

See Conradina web page for additional events: https://conradina.fnpschapters.org/events/

Native Plant Nurseries and Service Providers

Have you planned on, or have you already started planting new native plants in your garden and yard? Have you had trouble finding the native plants and wildflowers you want? Well here are a few links to help you locate what you are looking for. Please call or check

Company / Web link	Name / email	Telephone	Comments
4C's Nursery		321-586-0019	Native plants, landscape design & installation
Change of Greenery	Brendan Healy	321-536-0655	Native and edible plants, landscape design, installation & maintenance
Florida Native Wildflowers			Purchase seeds and plants online
Go Native Landscaping	Nichole Perma	321-795-3111	Native landscape design, installation, consultation and maintenance
Maple Street Natives / NatScape LLC Native Land- scapes	Drew Dolan	321-223-6147	Native plants
Native Butterfly Flowers, LLC	<u>Tim / Anna</u>	321-626-7386	Native plants and landscape design

Additional local sources of plants and services may be found at our FANN partner site: www.PlantRealFlorida.org

Shopping elsewhere? Please always ask for Florida native plants – especially when you see none on the shelf. Popular demand drives



Melbourne Botanical Festival



Lake Wales - Olmsted Day in the Park

https://lakewalesheritage.org/olmsted-200-celebration-april-30-2022



41st Annual FNPS Conference



This year we are holding an all-virtual conference which will be held on a full-featured online platform to allow for you to bookmark and attend your favorite sessions, contact and network with other attendees, speakers, and vendors/exhibitors, join workshops, and "sit down" with your favorite plant nerds at a virtual table.

Registration for the full weekend of conference activities:

- \$50 for attendees
- FREE for full-time students who are members of FNPS

A few highlights:

- Adventures of a Transplanted Gardener: Improving efforts to create gardens that truly benefit pollinators
- Cutting-edge research
- Enhancing Landscapes with Native Plants to Attract Wildlife
- Why and how restoration matters
- Lots of networking and advocacy opportunities with our Whova virtual platform!

Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour







Save the date – Oct. 15, 2022

Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour

Tickets will be on Eventbrite or Visit conradina.fnpschapters.org



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Conradina Chapter

Florida Native Plant Society www.conradina.fnpschapters.org

YouTube - Conradina Chapter FNPS

Florida Native Plant Society www.fnps.org



Chapter News

Conradina Chapter at HelpTheLagoon.org Event

Conradina went to a very well attended event which featured speakers covering subjects on creating a habitat for winged wildlife, growing your own food, Florida friendly landscapes in HOA's and updates on the health of the Indian River La-

goon. Thank you



















Conradina Chapter Newsletter

We are looking for one or two people to help create and post the Conradina Chapter newsletter.

If you are looking for a new spot promoting native plants - WE NEED YOU! Training will be provided.

Please contact Carol Hebert at carol.hebert@gmail.com if you are interested. Thank you

It's Time to Start Planning for the Yard Tour on Oct. 15, 2022!

This is our biggest event to educate the public about native plants and their benefits. How can you help?

- 1. We're looking for yards with native plants to be on the tour
- 2. We're also looking for Committee members and volunteers for the many tasks before and during the event

For more information and to get involved, please contact Lynda at slgeraci@att.net. Thank you and plant native!