



**October  
2022**

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

*Photos by Bob Peterson*



# Conradina NEWS

## Conradina Chapter Meeting Monday, October 10, 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

### **Our Speakers:**

#### **'The Environmentally Endangered Lands Program (EEL)' by Mike Knight, Program Manager, Brevard County.**



Originally from Vermont, Mike attended Unity College in Maine and Lyndon State College in Vermont receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Outdoor Recreation and Environmental Education.

Following a 15 year career in wilderness high adventure programming for at-risk youth, Mike moved to Brevard County in 1997 and began working with the (EEL) Program in 1998 overseeing volunteer efforts and trail development.

In 2004, he became the Program Manager, and oversees all aspects of the program including land acquisition, land management, passive recreation and environmental education.

#### **'Lagoon Voices' by Lew Kontknik Speak Up for the Lagoon.**

Our wonderful Lagoon is struggling. We know from the dying manatees and loss of seagrass. The Lagoon needs us to Speak for her, to tell our leaders to stop the pollution and restore her beauty.

Understand what it means to be a Lagoon Voice and what you will be asked to do. Join us, have fun, Help the Lagoon!



### **Next Chapter Meeting**

**October 10, 2022**



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

## Carol's Corner: Happy "Native Plant Month"!

By Carol Hebert

Brevard County is celebrating "Native Plant Month" every October. In 2018, both Brevard county FNPS chapters, Conradina and Sea Rocket, received their declarations from Brevard County at a Commissioner meeting. Conradina Chapter has ours on the wall in the meeting room at Melbourne Library. Be sure to check it out at Conradina's October general meeting. Conradina Chapter also hosts their "Landscaping with Native Plants" native plant garden tour in October. That will take place on October 15th and will be our 13th annual native plant garden tour. I personally have enjoyed seeing people with growing interest and vast knowledge in native plants. Tickets are available on Eventbrite.

I moved to my home in Palm Bay almost four years ago and loved expanding my collection and design of native plants in my yard. I bought my home with five mature slash pines and a spider lily in the backyard and a mature wax myrtle in the front. I've added about 130 native plants and more will be added. I have been very lucky to have wonderful gifts and donations of beautiful native plants. Here's a picture from my backyard.

It features Firebush (*Hamelia patens*) with red tubular flowers, Dotted Horsemint (*Monarda punctata*) features purple flowers that bees love and Yellowtop (*Flaveria linearis*) has pretty yellow flowers also attracting some butterflies.

The Yellowtop was given to me from Adam S. when his yard was featured on our garden tour in 2019. Love them!



You will surely be able to appreciate the size, height and beauty of native plants as you landscape your own yard.

See you at Conradina's "Landscaping with Native Plants" garden tour on Saturday 10/15!

Plant native!



## Upcoming Events & Meetings

Date	Event
Monday Oct 10, 2022	Conradina Chapter FNPS General Meeting. 6pm at Melbourne library on Fee Ave.
Saturday Oct 15, 2022	Florida Native Landscaping Tour. Buy your ticket now on Eventbrite
Tuesday Nov 8, 2022	Vote YES to CONTINUE our Environmentally Endangered Land and Water Areas Brevard Bond Referendum

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

The FNPS license plate initiative has been suspended !!!



### 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 websites for hours, services and plant availability.

Company / Web link	Name / email	Telephone	Comments
<a href="#">4C's Nursery</a>		321-586-0019	Native plants, landscape design & installation
<a href="#">Change of Greenery</a>	<a href="#">Brendan Healy</a>	321-536-0655	Native and edible plants, landscape design, installation & maintenance
<a href="#">Florida Wildflowers</a>			Purchase seeds and plants online
<a href="#">Go Native Landscaping</a>	<a href="#">Nichole Perma</a>	321-795-3111	Native landscape design, installation, consultation and maintenance
<a href="#">Native Butterfly Flowers, LLC</a>	<a href="#">Tim / Anna</a>	321-626-7386	Native plants and landscape design
<a href="#">Rockledge Gardens</a>	<a href="#">General Information</a>	321-636-7662	Expanding native plant selection
<a href="#">Wild Wet N Wacky</a>	<a href="#">Kiela Frank</a>	321-417-2218	Expanding native plant selection

Additional local sources of plants and services may be found at our FANN partner site: [www.PlantRealFlorida.org](http://www.PlantRealFlorida.org)

Shopping elsewhere? Please always ask for Florida native plants – especially when you see none on the shelf. Popular demand drives availability and can change our community for the better.



# Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour



October 15, 2022

9am – 3pm

## Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour

Tickets on [Eventbrite](#) or  
Visit  
[conradina.fnpschapters.org](http://conradina.fnpschapters.org)

Thank you to our Oak tree *Quercus* Sponsors!



## We Need Your Native Potted Plants for the Landscape Tour!



Last year, we collected a wide assortment of plants and a quantity sufficient that each attendee had a choice of a Florida native plant. The remaining plants were brought to the meetings for our monthly door prize. Thank you for participating!

### Guidelines for growing plants for the Oct 15<sup>th</sup> tour:

- Plants may come from either seeds, seedlings or tip cutting.
- If needed, pots are available, contact Kathryn.
- Start your plants early (1-3 mo) so that they are established.
- Preferably, use potting soil or native soil that's been sterilized.
- Please label your plants.
  - For the tour, Conradina will provide labels with both Scientific and Common name for each plant
  - If you are not sure if your plant is a Florida native, please ask a member for identification.
  - Care of your plants through the summer months?
  - If you are not able to care for your plants, please contact Kathryn.

Donated plants are to be passed along to Kathryn at the Sept & Oct meetings in the Melbourne Library parking lot prior to the meeting or contact Kathryn.

### Recycling of Nursery Pots

Conradina has an initiative to recycle your nursery pots. Benefits for recycling nursery pots (all sized) are:

- It keeps additional plastics out of our landfills
- It provides a resource for our members
- It provides a resource for our native plant nurseries

Contact: Kathryn Merry, 321.537.8806 (C/T) or [kathrynerry205@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynerry205@gmail.com)

## The EEL's Referendum Vote YES!



**VOTE YES TO**

**PRESERVE OUR PARADISE**

**Environmentally Endangered Land & Water Referendum**

Protects natural spaces for wildlife, fish, woodlands and birds

**Good for our economy**

- » Improves property values, increases tourism dollars, attracts new businesses
- » Preserves Indian River Lagoon shorelines

**Enhances Quality of life**

- » More recreation and nature education
- » Preserves natural environment we treasure

**Reduces pollution entering the Indian River Lagoon and St Johns River**

***Your vote on NOVEMBER 8 makes a difference.***

**Vote YES to CONTINUE our Environmentally Endangered Land and Water Areas Brevard Bond Referendum**  
**PLEASE TALK TO YOUR family, friends and neighbors now about the importance of voting YES on this county referendum to continue preserving what is left of natural Brevard.**

## The EEL Program



### **PRESERVING NATURAL LANDS SINCE 1991**

For your family & future generations– *many places you may know and love across Brevard*

Land purchased only from people who want to sell

### **A SUCCESSFUL AND VALUABLE PROGRAM**

- » **28,000 acres** preserved and restored  
(2% of Brevard's total acreage)
- » **Created 75 miles** of public use trails
- » **Protected 35 miles** of Indian River Lagoon shoreline
- » **Created three** educational centers

### **AN AFFORDABLE INVESTMENT FOR VOTERS**

When renewed by voters, this ongoing conservation effort will continue a property tax, costing the average Brevard County homeowner **about \$3.60 a month.**



**Vote NOVEMBER 8 to**

**PRESERVE OUR  
PARADISE**

The people of Brevard initiated and approved the first EEL referendum in 1990 and we need to continue preserving land as our county rapidly develops.

**LEARN MORE & get involved:** <https://preserveourparadise.com/>

**Brevard County EEL Program:** <http://www.brevardfl.gov/EELProgram>

## Officers and Directors

### President

Carl Winebarger 2022-2024

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Lynda Geraci 2021-2023

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Tracy LaPlant 2022-2024

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Sara Morrison 2022-2024

Karen Moser 2022-2024

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David Zeitz 2022-2024

### Past President

Carol Hebert 2020-2023

### Membership Chair

Lynda Geraci

### Webmaster

Cammie Donaldson

### Newsletter Editor

Marilyn Peio

### Conradina Chapter

Florida Native Plant Society

[www.conradina.fnpschapters.org](http://www.conradina.fnpschapters.org)

[YouTube](#) - Conradina Chapter

FNPS

Florida Native Plant Society

[www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)



## Chapter News

How can you help Conradina promote native plants? Volunteer!!

We have many opportunities and need your help.

Contact Lynda Geraci ([slgeraci@att.net](mailto:slgeraci@att.net)) or Lydia Barbour ([lydiabarbour@hotmail.com](mailto:lydiabarbour@hotmail.com)) to help volunteer.

### Sign-up for LagoonLoyal

Need another reason to help the Indian River Lagoon and purchase native plants? Sign up for this website set up by the Brevard County Natural Resource Dept to collect and track points for actions that help the lagoon and redeem for local discounts!

<https://lagoonloyal.com/>

Let's do it!!!

Suzanne Marie Valencia, age 88, passed away August 31, 2022, at her West Melbourne home surrounded by her four daughters.

Suzanne was a past member of the Florida Nurses Association, the Sierra Club (national and the local Turtle Coast Group), the Florida Native Plant Society (statewide and the local Conradina Chapter), and Space Coast Progressive Alliance.



She has held numerous positions on the boards of both the local chapters of the Sierra Club and Florida Native Plant Society.

A celebration of life will likely be held in February 2023, her birth month.

For your reading pleasure: article in Florida Today by Sally Scalera on invasive plants that could be in your yard.

<https://www.floridatoday.com/story/life/2022/09/17/invasive-plants-may-look-pretty-but-they-can-have-dire-consequences/8033574001/>