

Photos by Bob Peterson



Conradina NEWS

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[Native Butterfly Flowers](#)



October 2024

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Conradina Chapter Meeting Sunday, October 13, 2024 at 3:00 PM Monday, October 14, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Meet us at the First Church of the Nazarene
2745 S Babcock Street, Melbourne FL 32901

"Invasive Alternatives: Winning the Battle Against Invasive Plants in Your Garden"



Florida's unique climate and growing conditions allow for a huge variety of exotic plants to thrive. While some are well behaved in the home landscape, many garden favorites are actually invasive species. These "invaders" pose a threat to our native plants and natural ecosystems. In this presentation on Sunday Oct. 13, Florida Wildflower Foundation Executive Director Stacey Matrazzo will go over some of the invasive species commonly used in home landscapes, and offer suggestions for suitable native plants to use in their place. On Monday Oct. 14, we will share the presentation again.

This event is free although eventbrite tickets are required. We look forward to everyone coming!!

[Register for Info Sessions and Purchase Tickets to Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour](#)

Next Chapter Meeting

Sunday, October 13, 2024
Monday, October 14, 2024

View prior meetings on our Youtube page

<https://www.youtube.com/@conradinachapterfnps5627/streams>



www.conradina.fnpschapters.org



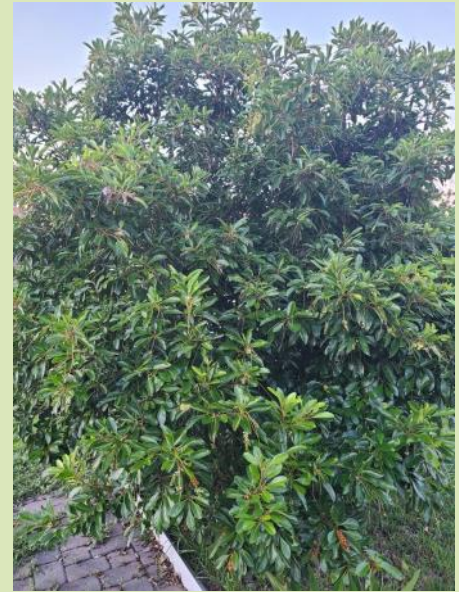
Preserving, Conserving, and Restoring the Real Florida Since 1980.

Carol's Corner: Fiddlewood is always a treat!

By Carol Hebert

Florida Fiddlewood (*Citharexylum fruticosum*) is a great small tree. Brevard County is lucky because it doesn't grow much further north and it goes down to the keys. The natural range extends through the Caribbean Islands into South America. The common name, Fiddlewood, comes from the use of its wood in the making of stringed instruments.

Some even call it a shrub because the average size of the plant is 15 to 25 feet tall and 12 feet wide. It does have multi-stems so when planting one be sure to make room for its beauty and size. It can be such a stunning accent to a sunny spot in your landscape.



The blooms drape over and the fragrance of the small flowers is so sweet! The leaves are usually shiny and evergreen all year long. Male and female flowers are borne on each plant and the female plant bears the fruit. The small round fruits that follow the flowers are orange to brown. It is documented that the fruit is sweet and edible to humans but I have never tasted it. I see mainly Mockingbirds, Catbirds and an occasional Red-Bellied Woodpecker enjoy them.



I have two Fiddlewoods on each side of my driveway and they look wonderful.

I hope you will enjoy how native plants enhance landscapes with attractive plants and wildflowers and are low maintenance!

You will also attract butterflies, bees and birds to your yard. Be sure to buy a ticket to Conradina's "Landscaping With Florida Natives" event. You will be able to enhance your own garden!

Plant natives!
Carol Hebert

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Saturday, October 12	Turkey Creek Art Show 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
Sunday, Oct. 13 at 3pm	Info session: Invasive Alternatives: Winning the Battle Against Invasive Plants Click link to register for meeting
Monday, Oct. 14 at 6pm	Info session: Invasive Alternatives: Winning the Battle Against Invasive Plants Click link to register for meeting
Saturday, Oct. 26	The 15th Annual Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour. All homes are in the Melbourne, Viera and Rockledge areas. Click link to register for Florida Natives Tour
Monday, Nov. 11	General Meeting: Speaker Bill Delucca from Surfrider Topic: Landscaping for Wildlife & Surfrider Initiatives
Saturday, November 16	Turkey Creek Park after Dark, Tickets will go on sale October 1st. 6 pm to 10 pm
Monday, Dec. 9	General Meeting: Holiday Wreath Making with Natives and Natural Materials
Monday, Jan. 13	General Meeting: Speaker TBD
Monday, Feb. 10	General Meeting: Speaker TBD
Monday, Mar. 10	General Meeting: Speaker TBD
April 2nd - 6th 2025	FNPS Conference https://www.fnps.org/conference/2025
Monday, Apr. 14	General Meeting: Speaker TBD
Manday, May 12	General Meeting: Speaker TBD

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 websites for hours, services and plant availability.

Company / Web link	Name / email	Telephone	Comments
Change of Greenery	Brendan Healy	321-536-0655	Native and edible plants, landscape design, installation & maintenance
Four C's Nursery		321-729-0351	Native plants, landscape design & installation
Florida Native Wildflowers	Sharon Dolan		Purchase pots, seeds and Florida Native Plants online
Go Native Landscaping	Nichole Perma	321-795-3111	Native landscape design, installation, consultation and maintenance
	Newsletter Sponsor		
	Tim / Anna	321-626-7386	Native plants and landscape design
Rockledge Gardens	General Information	321-636-7662	Expanding native plant selection
Rosemallow Farms	Tim & Ivoriann Wooley	321-236-1741	Native and Florida-friendly plants for sale to the public
Wild Wet N Wackey	Kiela Frank	321-417-2218	Expanding native plant selection

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

2024 Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour and Events

Tickets are Available!



**Date of the Landscaping Tour:
Saturday, Oct. 26, 2024 - 9am to 4pm**

**Tickets available on Eventbrite at the
QR code**

\$15 per person - add \$5 for printed brochure

**Printed Tickets Available after Oct 5 at:
[Native Butterfly Flowers LLC](#), Melbourne
[Wild Wet N Wacky Florida Native Plants](#),
Merritt Island
[Vision 43 Outdoor Living](#), Palm Bay**

Informational Sessions to Get Ready for the Tour:

FREE education opportunities - **Eventbrite registration is required!** All info sessions are at Melbourne First Church of Nazarene, 2745 S. Babcock St., Melbourne 32901

September Sessions

My HOA Journey to Native Landscape Approval

Unable to attend this amazing presentation? We have posted her presentation material at the link below: [Resources - Conradina Chapter FNPS \(brevardlandscapetour.org\)](#)

And her presentation in audio is on the Conradina YouTube website at this link: [Conradina Chapter FNPS - YouTube](#)

Scan here for
all events!



October Sessions

Invasive Alternatives: Winning the Battle Against Invasive Plants in Your Garden

Florida's unique climate and growing conditions allow for a huge variety of exotic plants to thrive. While some are well behaved in the home landscape, many garden favorites are actually invasive species. These "invaders" pose a threat to our native plants and natural ecosystems. In this presentation on Sunday Oct. 13, Florida Wildflower Foundation Executive Director Stacey Matrazzo will go over some of the invasive species commonly used in home landscapes, and offer suggestions for suitable native plants to use in their place. On Monday Oct. 14, we will share the presentation again.

Sunday, Oct. 13 from 3pm - 5pm
Monday, Oct. 14 from 6pm - 8pm

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/using-florida-native-plants-in-hoa-landscapes-3505029>

Sponsors of the 2024 Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour

Oak tree *Quercus* Sponsors – \$1,000

The Oak tree family is the most powerful Brevard County keystone plant supporting 395 species of insects

[Native Butterfly Flowers LLC](#)



Pine Tree *Pinus* Sponsors - \$500

The Pine tree family supports 171 species of butterflies and moths

[4imprint](#)



Walter's *Viburnum* Sponsors - \$250

The Walter's Viburnum supports 75 species of butterflies and moths

[Florida Native Wildflowers](#)

[Go Native Landscaping](#)

[Rosemallow Farms](#)

[Seman's Tree Service](#)

[Wild Wet N Wacky Florida Native Plants](#)



Goldenrod *Solidago* Sponsors - \$100

The Goldenrod family supports 82 species of caterpillars and 12 species of native bees

[Blackfin Website Design](#)

[Garden Club by the Sea](#)

[Indian Harbour Beach Garden Club](#)

[Melbourne Garden Club](#)

[Susan Hall Landscape Architecture](#)

[Vision 43 Outdoor Living](#)



Sponsorship levels were created based on the Brevard County keystone plants that support the largest number of insects. A full list of Brevard County keystone plants is available [here](#).

Get Involved with Your Local Sustainability Advisory Board!

You can get involved by either being on a Board or attending the meetings to voice your opinion and get involved with local events.

Some cities call it an Environmental Board and some use the term Sustainability – whatever it’s called, there’s an opportunity for native plants and landscapes to preserve our native wildlife. Please check out the listing below or send your city information to us at ConradinachapterFNPS@gmail.com to include on the list.

Indialantic: Call the Town Hall at 321-723-2242 prior to the meeting to make ensure there is a quorum and the meeting is still a Go.

Palm Bay: Check out the Palm Bay website for agenda information and to make sure the meeting is still a Go. (palmbayflorida.org)

City	Meeting Time & Place	Website
Indialantic	5:30 pm on 2nd Thursday of the month in Council Chamber	Boards & Committees The Town of Indialantic Florida Official WebSite
Melbourne	2 pm on 3rd Friday of the month in City Hall Council Chamber	Beautification & Energy Efficiency Board City of Melbourne, FL (melbourneflorida.org)
Melbourne Beach	Melbourne Beach Environmental Advisory Board - Home Facebook	Sustainability Melbourne Beach FL https://www.melbournebeachfl.org/sustainability
Rockledge	6 pm on 2nd Thursday - February, June, and Oct. in Council Chamber at City Hall	The Rockledge Environmental Enhancement Board Rockledge, FL - Official Website (cityofrockledge.org)
Palm Bay	6 pm on 4th Wednesday of the month in Council Chambers, Palm Bay City Hall	Sustainability Advisory Board City of Palm Bay, FL (palmbayflorida.org)
Satellite Beach	6 pm on 4th Wednesday of the month in Council Chambers	Satellite Beach, FL

Palm Bay Sustainability Board Needs You!

Want to make a difference in the environment where you live in Palm Bay?

The Palm Bay Sustainability Board currently has **two openings** that we need to fill and it would be great to fill those spots with folks like you knowledgeable about native plants and the environment.

The primary requirements are:

- Must be a resident of the City of Palm Bay for at least one year OR be the owner of a business located within the City of Palm Bay for at least one year
- Able to attend monthly meetings at 6 pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month
- Willing to work on issues related to improving the sustainability and environment of Palm Bay

For more information, please check out their website here: [Sustainability Advisory Board | City of Palm Bay, FL \(palmbayflorida.org\)](https://www.palmbayflorida.org/sustainability-advisory-board)

Also feel free to contact the three Conradina members already on the Palm Bay Sustainability Board for any questions you may have:

Susan Connally at Sbconnolly@aol.com

Rebecca Ziegler at rebeccarelgeiz@gmail.com

Jane Higgins at janehiggins2016@gmail.com

If you're interested in this opportunity, please fill out the online application here:

[APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP City Boards or Committees for the City of Palm Bay Florida \(palmbayflorida.org\)](https://www.palmbayflorida.org/application-for-membership-city-boards-or-committees-for-the-city-of-palm-bay-florida).

Thank you!!



Turkey Creek Events!

FALL ART SHOW



Saturday, October 12 from 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Located inside the air conditioned **Tony Rosa Community Center**
1502 Port Malabar Blvd NE - Just next door to Turkey Creek Sanctuary

64 Vendors Offering Handcrafted Items



Come and Support Our Local Artisans

Raffle Drawing Every 15 Minutes

Admission is FREE - Plenty of Parking

Turkey Creek's Famous Hot Dog Lunch
will be Available from 10:30am - 1pm



All proceeds go to providing environmental education and improvements to the Sanctuary.

Sponsored by: **TURKEY CREEK SANCTUARY SOCIETY**



Park After Dark

at Turkey Creek Sanctuary

1518 Port Malabar Blvd NE

Saturday, November 16

6 to 10 PM

\$8/person in advance, \$12 at the gate

All Ages Welcome (5 and under are free)

Come experience Turkey Creek Sanctuary after dark. There will be musical entertainment along the boardwalk, and in the park. We will also have food trucks, and vendors. So bring your family, your glo-sticks, and enjoy the park after dark!



Advance tickets available starting Wednesday, October 16 at the Margaret Hames Nature Center. The center is open 9 AM to 4 PM, 7 days a week.

Or purchase online at: turkeycreek.org



For more information or to sign up, please call the Nature Center at (321) 676-6690.

www.PlayPalmBay.org

Officers and Directors

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Vice President

Sara Morrison 2024-2026

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Treasurer

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Chapter Representative

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Richard Blackford 2024-2026

Carol Hebert 2022-2025

Christine Ryba 2024-2026

Christine Bamberger 2024-2026

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Webmaster

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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



**CONRADINA
CHAPTER**

Chapter News

Help Recycle & Reuse Nursery Pots

Members participating in providing native plants for the plant drawing for our monthly meetings are in need of small pots (1 gal or less).

Please bring your extra pots to the meeting.

We will collect and distribute.

All members are encouraged

- to bring native plants to share and
- to bring empty pots to pass along



Thanks!

We need a back-up tech person at our monthly meetings please!

This is an extremely important task to facilitate the awesome presenters coming to our meetings!

We now have documented instructions on how to use the equipment at First Church. If you're a techie and interested in helping us out at the monthly meetings, please contact Jane at janehiggins2016@gmail.com