

Photos by Bob Peterson



# Conradina NEWS

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[Native Butterfly Flowers](#)



## November 2024

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## Conradina Chapter Meeting Monday, November 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM

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

### Landscaping for Wildlife & Surfrider Initiatives presented by Bill DeLuccia

Bill DeLuccia is the Ocean Friendly Gardens Coordinator for Space Coast Surfrider's Ocean Friendly Gardens (OFG) program. He also is the Vice Chair of Indialantic's Sustainability Board and has been a passionate conservationist, native plant gardener, educator and project manager for over two decades.



Atala Butterfly and Chrysalis



Surfrider's OFG program offers simple and beautiful nature-based, native plant solutions to protect clean water and support resilient coasts and communities. OFGs restore the natural functions of healthy watersheds and ecosystems by contouring landscapes for rainwater retention by directing water back into the ground instead of storm drains. The extensive and diverse root systems of our native plants help naturally filter nutrients/pollutants and sponge up excess potential flood water. Lastly and perhaps most importantly by returning native plants to their rightful places we are restoring wildlife and pollinator habitats and bringing biodiversity back into our urban landscapes.

View prior meetings on our Youtube page

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

### Next Chapter Meeting

Monday, November 11, 2024



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



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

## Carol's Corner: Blue Curl

By Carol Hebert

Isn't that a great common name? It is also called Forked Bluecurls. Scientific name is (*Trichostema dichotomum*).

This is a wonderful native wildflower that offers homeowners so much. It has showy fragrant flowers, grows to about 1 to 2 feet tall and reseeds itself each year. It's called an annual but does spread nicely in the garden.

Flowers are two-lipped; the lower lip is white with blueish spots and the tops are blue. The stamens are long, blue and obviously curled.



Picture courtesy of the Florida Wildflower Foundation

Blue Curl also has a particularly long flowering season. It begins in late summer and goes through late fall, although flowering can continue into winter and sometimes even spring, depending on conditions. It tends to flower heaviest as the weather starts to get cooler.

Blue Curl is in the Mint Family, *Lamiaceae* and the flowers have a great smell. They have become quite pretty in my yard. I like the way they reseed similar to the Red Sage (*Salvia coccinea*).

Blue Curl flowers like full sunshine and moderate to sandy soil.

Plant natives!  
Carol Hebert

**Upcoming Events**

Date	Event
Monday, Nov 11 2024	General Meeting: Speaker Bill Delucca from Surfrider Topic: Landscaping for Wildlife & Surfrider Initiatives
Saturday, Nov 16 2024	Turkey Creek Park after Dark, Tickets will go on sale October 1st. 6pm to 10pm. Advance tickets are available at the Margret Hames Nature Center.
Monday, Dec 9 2024	General Meeting: Holiday Wreath Making with Natives and Natural Materials
Monday, Jan 13 2025	General Meeting: Speaker Lisa Ruckman. Topic: "How homeowners can transition
Saturday, Jan 18 2025	Florida Arbor Day, 499 Desoto Parkway, Satellite Beach FL 32937
Monday, Feb 10 2025	General Meeting: Speaker Katherine Booth Topic: Florida Native Tree Maintenance
Monday, Mar 10 2025	General Meeting: Speaker TBD
Apr 2 thru 6 2025	FNPS Conference <a href="https://www.fnps.org/conference/2025">https://www.fnps.org/conference/2025</a>
Monday, Apr 14 2025	General Meeting: Speaker TBD
Monday, May 12 2025	General Meeting: Speaker TBD

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



**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](http://turkeycreek.org)

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

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

## 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="#">Change of Greenery</a>	<a href="#">Brendan Healy</a>	321-536-0655	Native and edible plants, landscape design, installation & maintenance
<a href="#">Four C's Nursery</a>		321-729-0351	Native plants, landscape design & installation
<a href="#">Florida Native Wildflowers</a>	Sharon Dolan		Purchase pots, seeds and Florida Native Plants online
<a href="#">Go Native Landscaping</a>	<a href="#">Nichole Perma</a>	321-795-3111	Native landscape design, installation, consultation and maintenance
	<b>Newsletter Sponsor</b>		
	<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="#">Rosemallow Farms</a>	Tim & Ivoriann Wooley	321-236-1741	Native and Florida-friendly plants for sale to the public
<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 at [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.

## Volunteers Needed to water plants at Ballard Park



### ***We need volunteers to water plants at Ballard Park for new buffer gardens***

*Commitment would be every other day from November--January  
Then once plants are established, once a week for a month after*

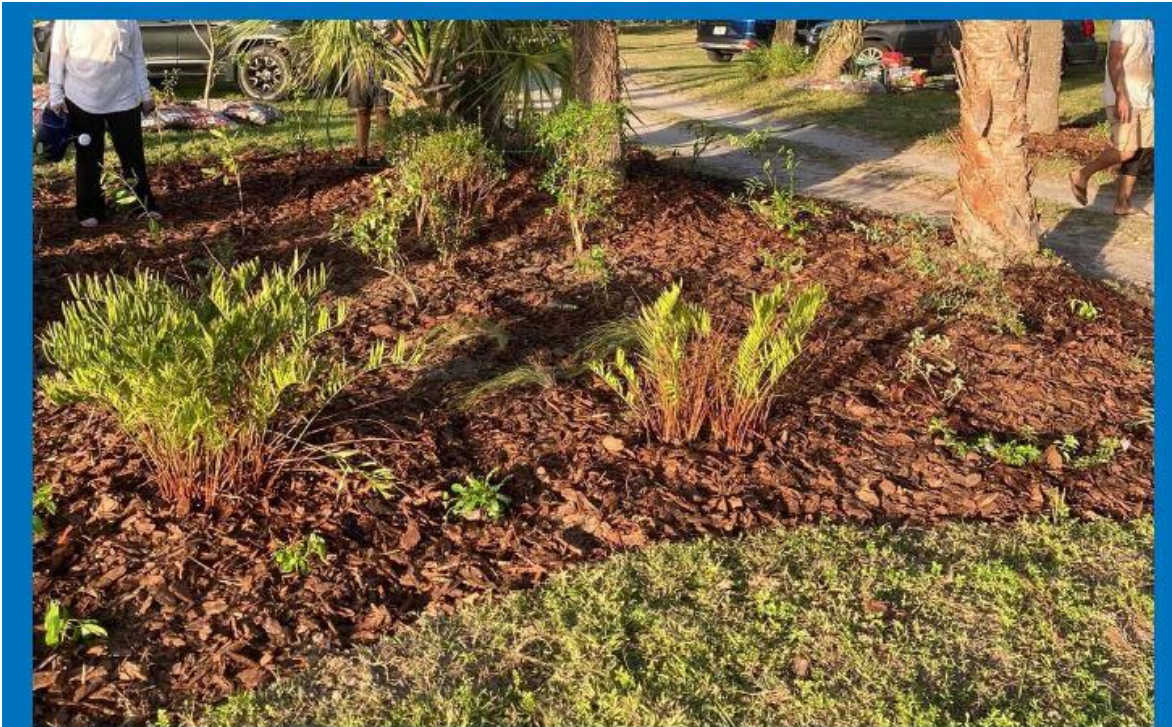
- One buffer garden the hose should reach
- Second buffer garden hose will not reach & will need buckets brought over to west side of park

***City of Melbourne is not willing to help us at all.***

*This is needed for our One Lagoon grant we were awarded.  
If we can't water the plants, we will not be able to help  
the Lagoon with our native plants buffer gardens project.  
Please reach out if you can help!*

***If you are able, I will send you the google doc to sign up,  
the dates will be specific, but flexible if it rains!***

For more information, contact our Kris Baker  
[chair@spacecoast.surfrider.org](mailto:chair@spacecoast.surfrider.org)



**Florida Arbor Day**

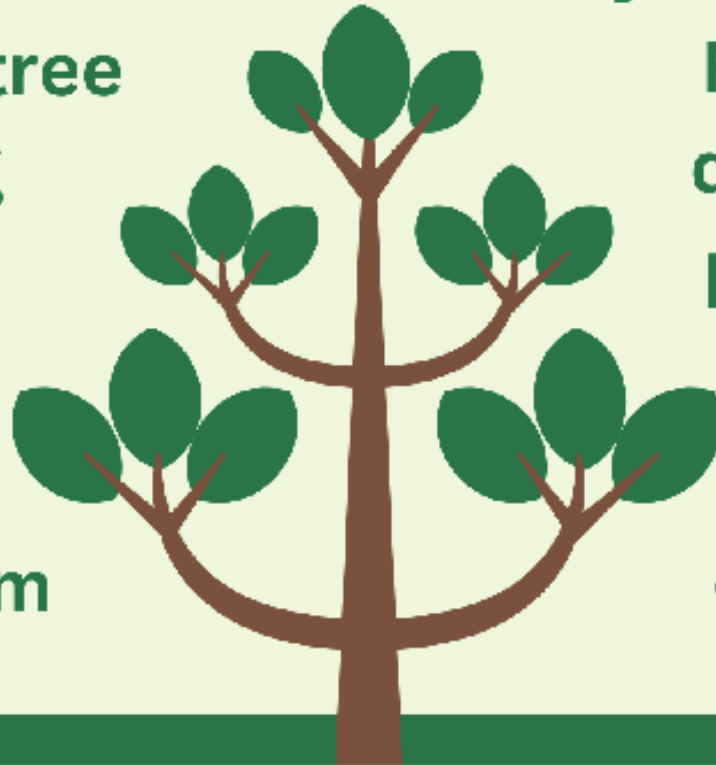
**Save the Date**  
**January 18th 2025**



**FLORIDA**  
**ARBOR DAY**

**499 Desoto Pkwy**

**Annual tree  
planting  
Native  
plant  
sale  
9am-2pm**



**Food and  
drinks for  
purchase  
Plant  
vendors  
and alike**

Funding for this project provided by the Inflation Reduction Act and the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program in partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation.

The City of Satellite Beach and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service are equal opportunity providers and employers.

## Transforming Landscapes Conference Schedule

# 6TH TRANSFORMING LANDSCAPES FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

JANUARY 18, 2025

AT THE EMERSON CENTER

1590 27TH AVENUE  
VERO BEACH, FL 32960

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE



### SPONSORS

Become a conference sponsor and get your name or business listed here!

**\$2,500**

**\$1,500**

**\$1,000**

**\$500**

**\$250**

Conrdina Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society

8:00AM	<b>Online Registration-PelicanIslandAudubon.org-Tickets \$25 &amp; Includes box lunch. \$35 after Jan 12.</b> Native plants on sale from Native Plant Nurseries
9:00-9:50	<b>Dr. Craig N. Huegel</b> , Curator, University of South Florida Botanical Garden, owner and operator of Hawthorn Hill Native Wildflowers, and teaches biology at St. Petersburg College. <i>Native Trees for Birds</i>
10:00-10:50	<b>Troy Springer</b> , Founder & President, Springer Environmental Services, <i>Taking Green Landscaping to the Next Level</i>
10:50-11:10	Break   <b>Native plants on sale from Native Plant Nurseries</b>
11:10-12:00PM	<b>Emily Bell</b> , Communications Coordinator, Florida Wildflower Foundation. <i>Bring on the Butterflies</i>
12:00-1:00	<b>Lunch with Box Lunches included in the \$25 admilssion ticket for those attending in person.</b>
1:00-1:50	<b>Tia Silvasy</b> , University of Florida Residential Horticulture Extension Agent, Hillsborough County, <i>No Mow Lawns in Florida</i>
2:00-2:50	<b>Dr. Lyn Gettys</b> , Associate Professor of Agronomy (Aquatic and Wetland Plant Science) University of Florida/IFAS Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center in Davie, FL. <i>Healthy Ponds Using Native Plants for a Sustainable Future</i>
2:50-3:20	Break   <b>Native plants on sale from Native Plant Nurseries</b>
3:20-4:10	<b>Eric Draper</b> , Retired Florida Park Service Director & Former Audubon Florida Society Executive Director. <i>State Parks and Wildlife Corridors: Strategies for a Sustainable Future</i>
4:10-4:30	<b>Dr. Richard Baker</b> - Discussion and Summary

**LEARN MORE ABOUT PELICAN ISLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY**

**WWW.PELICANISLANDAUDUBON.ORG**

PHONE: 772-567-3520

EMAIL: PIAUDUBON@YAHOO.COM

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



# The 2024 Landscaping with Florida Natives Tour Results

It was another successful year educating people about the importance of native plants! We sold **170 tickets** and absolutely couldn't have done it without our awesome volunteers and homeowners – thank you!! What was unique about the tour this year?

The focus on Homeowner Association (HOA) landscapes and the unique challenges there. All six sites were in HOA's and absolutely stunning examples. A huge thank you to those homeowners!

Information Sessions to help people get ready for the tour:

- Sept info sessions by Saumya on 'My HOA Journey to Native Landscape Approval' which is available along with her handouts here: [Resources - Conradina Chapter FNPS \(brevardlandscapetour.org\)](https://www.brevardlandscapetour.org)
- Oct info sessions created by Stacey Matrazzo on 'Invasive Alternatives: Winning the Battle Against Invasive Plants in Your Garden' posted at the same link above along with the handout on Category 1 and 2 invasives.

The biggest plant giveaway yet thanks to all the awesome plant donations! This year, the vast majority of plants were in 1 gallon pots or larger and very mature plants which pretty much covered the ticket cost. Special thanks to Richard Blackford and his team for putting this huge selection together. We will be donating the leftover plants to the upcoming native garden at the Nazarene church and other projects as well as bringing them to our future meeting for you!

Really cool new QR code plant labels identifying keystone plants and other features based on those used by the local Master Gardeners. Special thanks to Jamie Snider for her efforts on this and Tonya Rainwater for her mentoring. We'll be doing a fundraiser if you're interested in ordering these labels in the future – stay tuned!

Wonderful location at Suntree Rotary Park – what a beautiful park!

And the best volunteers ever – thank you!



# Enjoy the 2024 Florida Native Plant Tour with Pictures



Picking out my free plant at Rotary Park

A Pink Muhly Grass garden

Hi!

Rotary Park  
Welcome booth

Take this one, it's Free!

# 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](#).

## 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](mailto:Sbconnolly@aol.com)

Rebecca Ziegler at [rebeccarelgeiz@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccarelgeiz@gmail.com)

Jane Higgins at [janehiggins2016@gmail.com](mailto: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!!



## 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](mailto: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](http://palmbayflorida.org))

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

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**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)



**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!

**Looking to make a Required Minimum Distribution donation from your IRA?**

The Conradina chapter of the FNPS is a register 501c3 non-profit and would be happy to accept any contributions you'd like to make to further our local efforts for native plant education and conservation.

**THANK YOU** to Heather Elko for recent making a RMD contribution to Conradina!

Please contact our Treasurer:

Jane Higgins at [janehiggins2016@gmail.com](mailto:janehiggins2016@gmail.com)

for any info you need about us or how to contribute.

