

Photos by Bob Peterson



Conradina NEWS

Brought to you by the
following sponsor
[Native Butterfly Flowers](#)



January 2025

Inside this issue:

[Page 2. Carol's Corner](#)

[Page 3. Upcoming Events](#)

[Page 4. Native Plant Nurseries](#)

[Page 5. Transforming Landscapes Conference Schedule](#)

[Page 6. Florida Arbor Day](#)

[Page 7. Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival](#)

[Page 8. Your Local Sustainability Advisory Board](#)

[Page 9. Palm Bay Sustainability Board Needs You!](#)

[Page 10. Wreath Making in December](#)

[Page 11. Chapter Board & News](#)

Conradina Chapter Meeting Monday, January 13, 2025 at 6:00 PM

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

How home owners can transition to Natives by Lisa Ruckman

Lisa Ruckman has been sharing her experience and knowledge for 20 years to gradually make Lagoon friendly lawn and garden designs. She has a passion for sharing with others how to make our lives healthier, simplify our routines, and save money by understanding our interdependence on our ecosystems.



Can't make it to the meeting?

Good news! Join in on our Youtube page.

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

Next Chapter Meeting

Monday, January 13, 2025



www.conradina.fnpschapters.org



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

Carol's Corner: Happy New Year!

By Carol Hebert

Hope everyone enjoyed their holidays and had some free time to take care of their garden. This is the best time to go out and do some yard work when it is not 95 degrees outside!

I have taken some time to put in the edging along my front garden.

It sure is hard to keep the grass out! I think I will be adding another Coontie (*Zamia integrifolia*), a few Stokes Aster (*Stokesia laevis*) and some Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) to the front garden.

I really enjoyed seeing the Dahoon holly in the backyard filled with berries! This is (*Ilex cassine*) and fruit is only on the female plants. Really pretty this time of year.

I went to North Shore Birding Festival in Apopka, FL the first week in December and was just taken by the blooms on the *Baccharis halimifolia*. The common names are Sea Myrtle, Salt Bush and Groundsel Tree. It is a short-lived shrub and likes moist soil and you see it on the side of roads often this time of year when it is blooming.

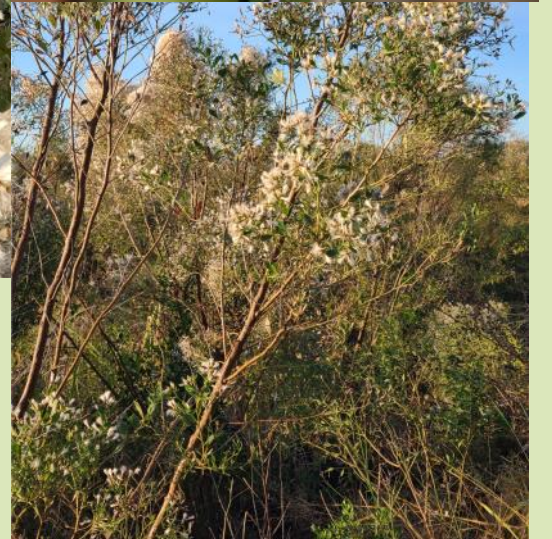
The flowers are beautiful and look like little paint brushes!



Start a new year by enhancing your native garden.

Plant natives!

Carol Hebert



Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Monday, Jan 13 2025	General Meeting: Speaker Lisa Ruckman. Topic: "How homeowners can transition to natives"
Saturday, Jan 18 2025	Transforming Landscapes Conference at the Emerson Center in Vero Beach 8am to 4pm hosted by the Pelican Island Audubon Society
Saturday, Jan 18 2025	Florida Arbor Day, 499 Desoto Parkway, Satellite Beach FL 32937, 9am to 2pm
Friday, Jan 22 to Tuesday Jan 26 2025	Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival at Cape Canaveral.
Monday, Feb 10 2025	General Meeting: Speaker Katherine Booth Topic: Protect the Lagoon by Organic Care of Native Trees
Saturday, Feb 23 2025	Pollinator Fair at Nance Park, 201 N. Miramar Ave., Indialantic 32903
Monday, Mar 10 2025	General Meeting: Speaker TBD
March 2025	Florida Friendly Landscape Seminar Melbourne
Apr 2 thru 6 2025	FNPS Conference https://www.fnps.org/conference/2025
Saturday, Apr 5 2025	Melbourne Beach Sustainability Day 10am to 3pm
Saturday, Apr 5 2025	Indian Harbour Beach Arbor Day
Saturday, Apr.12 2025	The Downtown Botanical Festival, 8am to 4pm
Monday, Apr 14 2025	General Meeting: Speakers: Tim and Anna from Native Butterfly Flowers
Saturday, Apr.26 2025	Turkey Creek Day
Monday, May 12 2025	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 Wacky	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.

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	Online Registration-PelicanIslandAudubon.org-Tickets \$25 & Includes box lunch. \$35 after Jan 12. Native plants on sale from Native Plant Nurseries
9:00-9:50	Dr. Craig N. Huegel , 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	Troy Springer , Founder & President, Springer Environmental Services, <i>Taking Green Landscaping to the Next Level</i>
10:50-11:10	Break Native plants on sale from Native Plant Nurseries
11:10-12:00PM	Emily Bell , Communications Coordinator, Florida Wildflower Foundation. <i>Bring on the Butterflies</i>
12:00-1:00	Lunch with Box Lunches included in the \$25 admission ticket for those attending in person.
1:00-1:50	Tia Silvasy , University of Florida Residential Horticulture Extension Agent, Hillsborough County, <i>No Mow Lawns in Florida</i>
2:00-2:50	Dr. Lyn Gettys , 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 Native plants on sale from Native Plant Nurseries
3:20-4:10	Eric Draper , 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	Dr. Richard Baker - 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



Florida Arbor Day

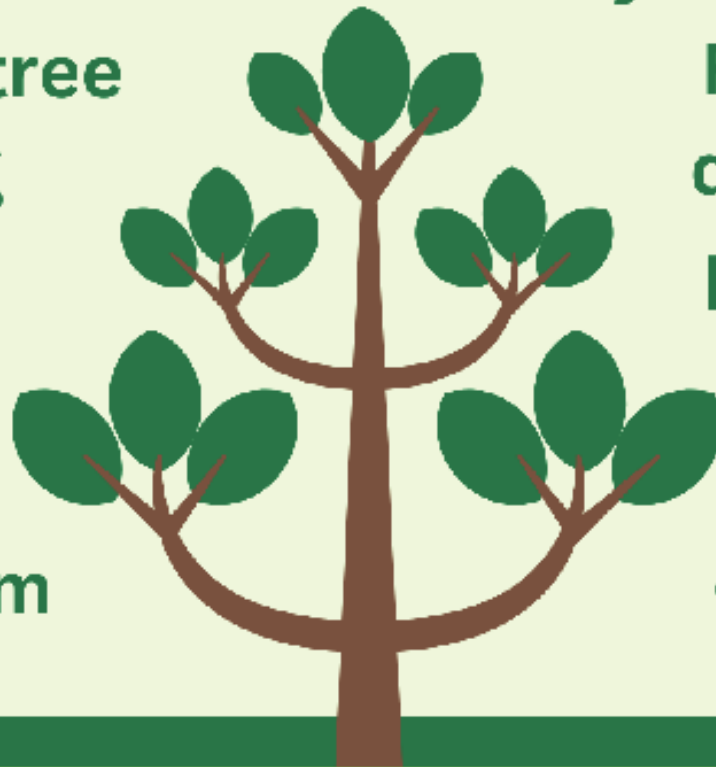
Save the Date
January 18th 2025



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.

Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival

SPACE COAST BIRDING & WILDLIFE FESTIVAL

CAPE CANAVERAL

Painted Bunting, Merritt Island
National Wildlife Refuge.
Photo: Marie-Josée D'Amour



JANUARY 22-26, 2025
[HTTPS://SCBWA.NET](https://scbwa.net)

Located at the Radisson Resort at the Port, Cape Canaveral.

Participate in one of the largest, most comprehensive birding and wildlife festivals in the country!

Check out the Field Trips tab and write down trips that interest you. See the other tabs, for the four wonderful keynotes and presentations (free, more to be added).

Here is [the link to start registration](https://scbwa.net).

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 \(palmbayflorida.org\)](http://palmbayflorida.org/SustainabilityAdvisoryBoard)

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 \(palmbayflorida.org\)](http://palmbayflorida.org/APPLICATION_FOR_MEMBERSHIP_City_Boards_or_Committees_for_the_City_of_Palm_Bay_Florida).

Thank you!!



Wreath Making in December



Officers and Directors

President

Lynda Geraci 2024-2026

Vice President

Sara Morrison 2024-2026

Secretary

Terry LaPlant 2024-2026

Treasurer

Jane Higgins 2022-2025

Chapter Representative

Martha Steuart 2022-2025

Board of Directors At Large

Anastasia Doshna 2024-2026

Richard Blackford 2024-2026

Carol Hebert 2022-2025

Christine Ryba 2024-2026

Christine Bamberger 2024-2026

Karen Moser 2022-2025

David Zeitz 2022-2025

Past President

Carl Winebarger 2024-2026

Membership Coordinator

Chris Ryba

Newsletter Editor

Marilyn Peio

Volunteer Coordinator

Christine Bamberger

Webmaster

Jamie Snider

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!

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

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

