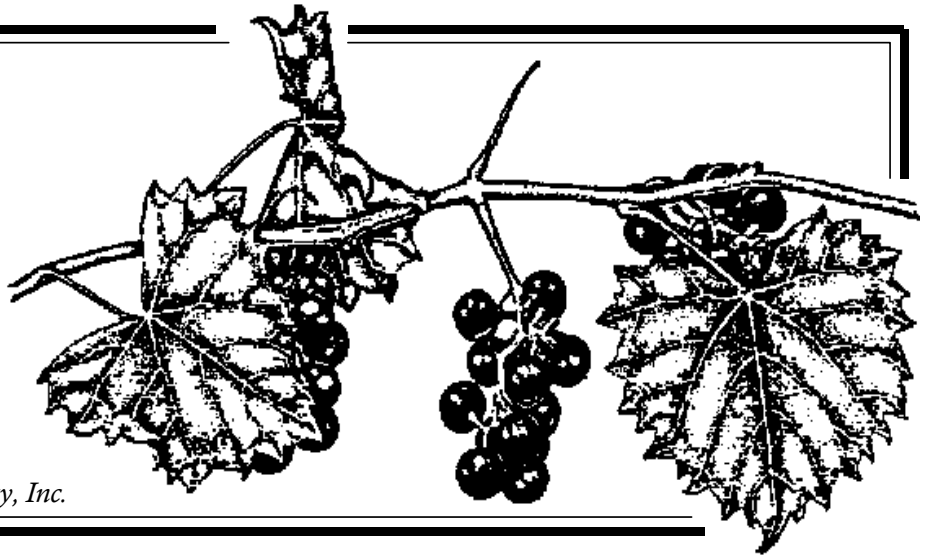


The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 28 Number 1

JANUARY 2011

Living With A Florida Yard

**Presented by Troy Springer
Wednesday, January 19, 2011
Hillsborough County Extension Service**

Troy will be talking about his experience as a landscape contractor using native plants, and how his own garden influenced him in his designs and management of both traditional and all-native landscapes. In this program, you will learn some of the methods that Troy uses to create a garden that is beautiful, self sustaining and preserves the natural character of our community. The program will be filled with many pictures that Troy has taken over the years of his garden, as well as many of his client properties.



Troy started an ordinary landscape maintenance operation in the early 1990s, but became dissatisfied with the operation because of the damaging affects of traditional landscaping to the environment. After about five years of experimenting with native plants, and dreams of having one of the first successful eco-friendly landscape operations, he officially shut down his traditional landscape operations known as Springer Lawn Care in 2004. He created a new business model, and opened Springer Environmental Services Inc. in 2005.

Since Troy had little experience with designing and had a limited knowledge of Florida native plants, he began to experiment in his personal garden. During the next five years, Troy has been developing his garden which is now used as a promotional tool to promote eco-friendly landscaping. His garden has been featured in numerous publications over the years. He has taken techniques in creating and maintaining his garden, and now implements them in his designs and maintenance programs for his clients.

Troy attributes much of his success with being involved with FNPS, and learning from many of the organization's knowledgeable and dedicated members. We hope you join us!

- Submitted by Troy Springer



The Florida Native Plant Society was organized in 1980 to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida. For more information about the Florida Native Plant Society, please visit our web site: www.fnps.org



SUNCOAST NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, INC.

January 1 through December 31, 2010

2010 END OF YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>2010 Budget</u>	<u>2010 Actual</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Revenue:			
Membership Dues	\$1,200.00	\$ 1,495.00	125
Book Sales	\$ 600.00	\$ 502.00	84
Plant Donations	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,070.00	178
Plant Sales	\$8,000.00	\$11,184.70	140
Royalties	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.00	0
Seed Sales	\$ 900.00	\$ 440.00	49
Charitable Donations	-	\$0.00	<i>No Budget Amt</i>
Misc	-	\$0.00	<i>No Budget Amt</i>
Total	<u>\$11,325.00</u>	<u>\$14,691.70</u>	130

Expense:			
Administration	\$1,000.00	\$ 819.21	82
Computer/Software/Projector	-	\$0.00	<i>No Budget Amt</i>
Newsletter	\$1,125.00	\$ 639.71	57
Book Purchases	\$ 250.00	\$ 528.30	211
Plant Purchases & Fees & Supplies	\$5,600.00	\$ 6,751.95	121
Seed Purchases	\$700.00	\$ 184.00	26
Organization Taxes and Fees	\$200.00	\$ 96.25	48
Programs/Meetings	\$1,100.00	\$ 639.71	58
Grants (modified 9/10)	\$1,900.00	\$ 2,400.00	126
Publication Comm (modified 9/10)	\$100.00	\$ 100.00	100
Field Trip Comm	\$200.00	\$ 0.00	
Education/Outreach Comm	\$400.00	\$ 150.31	38
Donations to others	-	\$0.00	<i>No Budget Amt</i>
Library	\$200.00	\$ 111.21	56
Misc (Tshirts)	-	\$0.00	<i>No Budget Amt</i>
Total	<u>\$12,775.00</u>	<u>\$12,420.65</u>	97

Assets:

Cash in Checking Acct	\$ 6,178.13
CD with SunTrust	\$ 6,427.61
Cash in Savings Acct	\$ 4,001.97
Petty Cash	\$ 40.00
Total Cash	\$ 16,647.71

from checkbook 12/31/10
CD comes due 12/02/11

Dell Laptop Computer (2007)	\$ 1,239.31
Dell DLP Projector (2007)	\$ 1,122.43
Outreach Canopy (2009)	\$ 1,647.26

Liabilities: None



SNPS 2011 Budget

	2011 Budget
Revenue:	
Membership dues	\$1,300
Inventory Sales: Books	\$500
Inventory Sales: Seeds	\$350
Inventory Sales: Misc (t-shirts, etc.)	\$0
Special Event Fundraising: USF Plant Sales	\$9,000
Contributions, gifts, grants: Plant donations	\$600
Contributions, gifts, grants: Other Donations	\$0
Other revenue: Royalties	\$0
	<hr/>
Total Revenue	\$11,750
Expense:	
Program Services: Newsletter expenses	\$1,000
Program Services: Grants	\$2,500
Program Services: Education & Outreach	\$400
Program Services: Library	\$200
Program Services: Publication committee	\$500
Program Services: Field Trip committee	\$200
Program Services: Meeting expenses	\$1,100
Management & General: Administration	\$1,000
Management & General: Registration, Fees, Licenses	\$100
Special Event Fundraising: Direct expenses	\$6,000
Inventory Sales: Book purchases	\$250
Inventory Sales: Seed purchases	\$300
Inventory Sales: Misc. purchases	\$0
SNPS Equipment/Furniture	\$0
	<hr/>
Total Expense	\$13,550
	<hr/>
Net Revenue Gain (Loss)	(\$1,800.00)

Board meetings: Any member is welcome to attend board meetings. The board meets monthly, typically in the evening on the Tuesday one week before the monthly meeting. The location varies, so if you would like to attend, please contact Shirley Denton at president@suncoastnps.org for location and time.

November Swamp Walk in the Fakahatchee

A few intrepid souls from the Suncoast NPS and one from the Ixia chapter (Jacksonville) joined us on a discovery adventure in south Florida looking for panthers, hidden lakes, orchids and of course wildflowers and other Florida native plants. We didn't find the panther nor the hidden lake, but we saw some pretty fall native wild flowers and of course orchids in the Fakahatchee Strand.

We started our 2 day weekend on Nov. 6th by hiking the 1.5 mile trails of the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge near I-75 and SR 29. We kept looking for that elusive Florida panther, but he wisely chose to stay hidden. After leaving the refuge we went hiking down a canopied trail with many south Florida native trees, including numerous Royal Palms. Our quest was to find a hidden sinkhole lake, but previous rains had made the last part of the trail impassable so we had to turn back. We ended the day driving Turner River Road, looking for birds and alligators of which we saw many.

Sunday morning we woke up to sunny but cold weather - 50 degrees. So we decided to eat a late breakfast and linger over coffee while the sun warmed the air and water we were about to enter. When we finally entered the Fakahatchee Swamp, it turned out not to be as cold as I was expecting! In fact my feet stayed warm for the whole 3 hour trek. And a bonus- no mosquitoes! We saw blooming clam shell orchid, ribbon orchid, and the night scented orchid among others.

We ended the day with supper at the Linger Lodge on the Braden River in Manatee County. It was a fun filled weekend! Many thanks to Shirley Denton for leading us into the swamp (and getting us back out again!)

- Submitted by Gail Parsons

Ed Note: There are many beautiful photos from this trip that could not be printed due to space and time restraints. PLEASE visit them on our website, www.SuncoastNPS.org. Thank you!

**January Field Trip
Led by Craig Huegel
Organizer: Gail Parsons
Pinellas County Cooperative Extension Office (Largo)
12520 Ulmerton Rd Largo, FL 33774**

Meet in the Westshore Mall JC Penny parking lot facing Kennedy Blvd at 8:30am. Gail Parsons' cell number is 813-928-1412 for farther information.

This demonstration garden was originally installed through a grant provided in 1989 by the Southwest Florida Water Management District to demonstrate the principles of xeriscaping. The Extension staff saw this as an opportunity to create a more diverse landscape around its office as part of its overall educational mission.

Currently, there are about 170 species of native trees and shrubs and approximately 70 wildflower and grass species within the Cooperative Extension landscape. Approximately 90 woody and 50 herbaceous species of these are located within the area originally established as the Native Plant Demonstration Area. Most of the additional species were used in an adjacent pondscape designed and installed in 1991 or scattered throughout the grounds once designed solely with non-natives. The original native plantings have served as a catalyst to expand the diversity of native species throughout the Extension grounds and the current collection is believed to be the largest in Florida accessible to the public for education purposes.

- Submitted by Gail Parsons

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Winged elm

Botanical name: *Ulmus alata* Michx.

Family: Ulmaceae

Zone: 6 - 9

Plant Habit: Medium-sized, upright, deciduous tree

Habitat: Moist to wet hammocks, rich, well-drained woodlands

Size: 40-70 ft. (h) by 30-60 ft. (w)

Leaves: Alternate, lanceolate, double-toothed along margins, asymmetrical at leaf base, 1-2.5 in. long; yellowish leaves in fall

Bloom: Inconspicuous, reddish

Flowering time: Early spring

Fruit: Rounded, winged, hairy samara

Bark: Gray, slightly furrowed, attractive in winter; branches often have corky wings

Distribution: North and central Florida

Growing conditions

Light: Full sun to part shade

Water: Prefers moist but adapts to dry conditions

Soil: Prefers fertile soil; adapts to average soil

Propagation: Seeds

Maintenance: None

Availability: Native plant nurseries

Comments: Excellent shade tree; useful as specimen or street tree; fast growth rate; bark and winged branches provide attractive winter look



References:

Nelson, Gil, 1994, *The Trees of Florida*: Pineapple Press, Inc., Sarasota, Florida.

Nelson, Gil, 2003, *Florida's Best Native Landscape Plants*: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 411 p.

Wunderlin, R.P. and B.F. Hansen, 2003, *Guide to Vascular Plants of Florida*, second edition, University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 787 p.

Wunderlin, R.P. and B.F. Hansen, 2007, *Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants*: University of South Florida, Institute of Systematic Botany (<http://plantatlas.usf.edu/>)

Information compiled by George R. Kish

Photo by Dennis Gerard

Florida Native Plant Society Membership Application

Membership in the Florida Native Plant Society enables you to receive their wonderful quarterly magazine *The Palmetto*. Joining the SNPS also entitles you to membership privileges in the Suncoast Native Plant Society and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Suncoast Grapevine*. Contact the membership chair, Shirley Denton, at 986-6485.

New Member Renewal

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Email _____

Check pertinent category:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Renewal \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit organization \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time student \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business or corporate \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library subscription \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or household \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$75 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$1,000 | |

Make check payable to **FNPS**.

Detach and mail to:

FNPS

P.O. Box 278

Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

Activities & Committee Chairs

Field Trips

Ron Huston 951-0946

Publications

Dick Wunderlin 977-6484

George Kish 920-0853

Librarian

Vikki Sinclair 989-2896

Membership

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Newsletter Editor

Shawna Everidge 659-4298

Mike Fite, Assistant 977-0892

Programs

Troy Springer 967-4538

Publicity

Shawna Everidge 659-4298

Outreach

Ron Chicone 803-603-8912

USF Plant Sales

Troy Springer 967-4538

USF Botanical Garden Liaison

Kim Hutton 974-2329

Chapter Representative

Troy Springer 967-4538

Webmaster

Shirley Denton 986-6485

Conservation

Open

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

FEB 3

Please send articles and original artwork for The Suncoast Grapevine to **Shawna Everidge**, by the **deadline** of this month. Text should be in MS Word; graphics should be in a standard graphic format (.jpg, .bmp, .gif). Previously published artwork should be accompanied by a letter of permission from the original publisher.

Email...

severidge@plantcitygov.com

DIRECTIONS TO:

Hillsborough County
Extension
5339 County Road 579,
Seffner.

Take I-4 to Exit 10 (just East of I-75). Go South for two blocks. The office is at the corner of Old Hillsborough Road and County Road 579.

Meeting Locations

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the **Hillsborough Extension office in Seffner.**

SNPS Web Address:

<http://www.SuncoastNPS.org>



Suncoast Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 1158
Seffner, FL 33583-1158

Please deliver to:

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