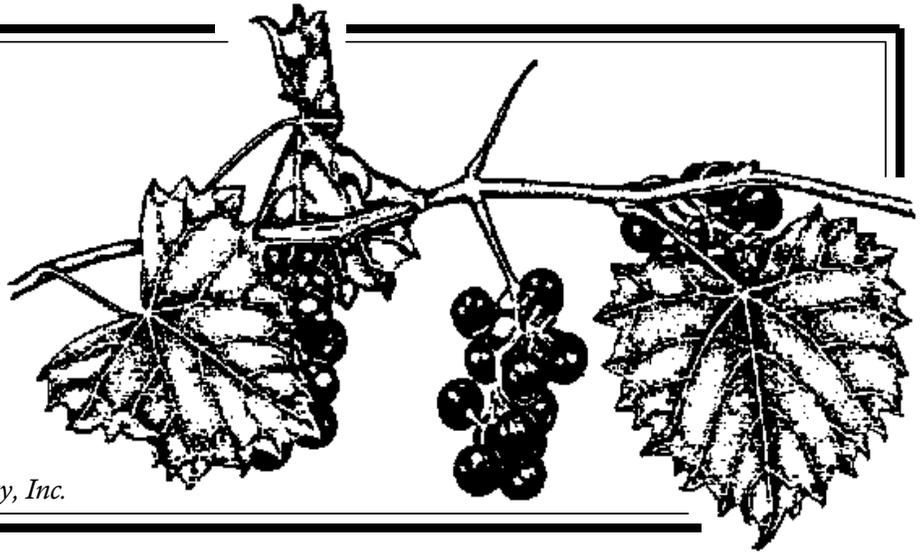


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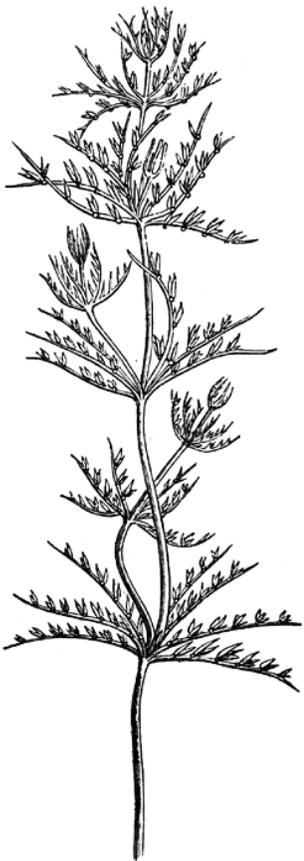
The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 27 Number 10

OCTOBER 2010



Florida's Geology as it Relates to Florida's Native Plants

Presented by John Miller
Wednesday, October 20th @ 7pm
Hillsborough County Extension Service

John Miller is a Florida Licensed Professional Geologist with more than 35 years experience in groundwater contamination investigations, including assessments, monitoring and cleanup of contaminated sites. He also has worked with development of groundwater resources in water-poor regions of the US and Latin America. A former Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic, he is fluent in Spanish. He received his Bachelors Degree in geology from St. Louis University and his Masters from the University of Missouri.

John's talk will briefly introduce you to geology and Florida geology. This will lead into the development of Florida's soil types and how the combination geology/soils/water/topography influences the distribution of our wonderful native plants.

John is a Suncoast Native Plant Society member.

- Submitted by John Miller



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

SNPS Field Trip
Florida Geology and Native Plants
Southern Portion of Withlacoochee State Forest
Citrus County, Florida
October 23, 2010 (Saturday)
Starts at 9:00 AM at the field location

John Miller and Joel Jackson will lead a field trip to the southern portion of the Withlacoochee State Forest to see some of Florida's geology, soils and native plants. There should be a lot of fall-blooming plants.

The trip will be comprised of two short hikes: (1) up an easy trail from Citrus County Road 491 (Lecanto Road) to the Dames Cave area, and (2) south of West Stage Coach Trail along a moderate trail to a large sinkhole and, perhaps, an open field setting. You do not need to go on both.

Bring water, lunch and insect repellent. Hiking boots are best.

The meeting point using Google Map (cut and paste this) is at the following intersection:

[County Road 491 & W Stage Coach Trail, Inverness, Citrus, Florida 34452](#)

For those with a GPS in their vehicle:

Latitude, Longitude: 28.698403699289006, -82.45144307613373

Distance from the north side of Tampa is approximately 60-65 miles, with a travel time of about one hour and 15 minutes. You can go up either Highway 41, or the Suncoast parkway (toll) or up I-75.

Lost? Call John Miller at 813-326-1193

*-Submitted by John Miller, graphic to right, fall Dandelion
illustration courtesy Clipart ETC website @
<http://etc.usf.edu/clipart/>*



USF Botanical Gardens
Fall Plant Sale
Saturday, October 9th 10am – 4pm
Sunday, October 10th 10am – 3pm

Don't miss the best fall plant sale in the area! Admission is \$5 (USF BG members and children under 12 are admitted free). Free parking. We've invited more than 60 local plant clubs, societies and growers to the Gardens to offer you the best plants for your Florida yard. Get expert advice and take home fabulous finds. All proceeds support the mission of the USF Botanical Gardens. For more information, please call the Gardens at 813-910-3274 or visit the Botanical Gardens Website at <http://www.cas.usf.edu/garden>.

Suncoast Native Plant Society Booth Information:

Set up Friday October 8th will start at 9:00 am. Set up on Saturday will start at 7:00 am. Set up on Sunday at 8:00 am. We could still use volunteers Saturday and Sunday! Please call Troy Springer at 813-967-4538 if you are able to volunteer.

Directions:

From I-275: Exit Fowler Avenue. Head east to Bruce B. Downs Blvd./30th Street and turn left. Go north one block to Pine Drive (1st light) and turn right. Go east one block to the first traffic light and turn left. Go north one block to the Garden entrance on left at the intersection with Alumni Drive.

From I-75: Exit Fowler Avenue. Head west to Bruce B. Downs Blvd./30th Street and turn right. Go one block north to Pine Drive (1st light) and turn right. Follow Pine to left and Garden entrance is on left at the intersection with Alumni Drive.

Even if you can't volunteer, please be sure to stop by our booth!

- Event information and directions, USF Botanical Gardens site; SNPS info, Troy Springer

Ask A Native Plant Gardener

Contributors: Shawna Everidge, Carmel Vanboek, Ron Chicone

This is a new Grapevine segment initiated by Shawna Everidge, SNPS Newsletter Editor. Her idea is to help our native plant gardeners by answering gardening-related questions and provide plant identifications. If you would like to submit a question or be a contributor please contact Ron Chicone, SNPS Secretary, at rchicone@yahoo.com.



This month's question and photos come from Shawna Everidge concerning three weedy herbaceous species found in her garden in August 2010. She writes, "I have been removing them from my native beds all summer - but I encourage plant diversity in my yard - so I want to find out what they are."

Well, there's natural diversity and there's what you might call ruderal diversity (ruderal meaning species that typically dominate disturbed areas). I'm afraid Shawna's diversity in these cases are ruderal.



The 1st is a *Richardia*, unknown species. It's one of the Mexican clovers, and they're all exotics. It is in the madder family, or *Rubiaceae*, and related to such diverse species as wild coffee and skunk vine. According to the University of Florida IFAS Extension website, it is an alien weed from South America that has naturalized in the US from Texas to Virginia and throughout Florida on disturbed sites, roadsides, pastures and especially lawns. This could be either *Richardia brasiliensis* which is a perennial and has a thickened woody rootstock, or *Richardia scabra* which is annual. According to Richard P. Wunderlin, *R. brasiliensis* has hirsute (with stiff hairs) fruit while *R. scabra*'s fruit is tuberculate (warty).

The 2nd one is a spurge, *Euphorbiaceae*. It's one of the leafflowers, *Phyllanthus*, in the same family as crotons, poinsettias and popcorn tree. Some are natives, two are endemics and the rest are exotics. Upon further investigation, this one is definitely an alien species that likes disturbed sunny sites and is known for flourishing in container ornamentals and greenhouses. According to the USDA website, *Phyllanthus tenellus* (*Mascarene Island Leafflower*) occurs from Texas to North Carolina. It is an annual weed and can be recognized by its alternating leaflets and the small stalked flowers coming from the axils of the leaflets. It is thought to be from Mascarene Island located east of Madagascar, which is curious because island species are usually the victims of invasive continental species, and not the other way around!



The 3rd one is a native, would you believe! An unattractive plant with the unattractive name of Canadian Horseweed. But, if you look at an individual flower through a hand lens, you'll find it is a diminutive aster. Botanical name is *Conyza Canadensis*; it's in the Aster family, and horses probably like it. Interestingly, the IFAS Extension reports that *Conyza bonariensis* (not native), *Richardia brasiliensis* and *R. scabra* can host root-knot nematodes commonly found in Florida.

Thanks everyone, for taking the time to look over my weeds! I tried to show the horses the Canadian Horseweed, but they weren't takers. Our donkey, ZZ, however, quickly demolished the plant! Looks like I'll have to keep on weeding! - Ed.



Local Food

Get outside and enjoy a Farmer's Market, many of which are reopening now! Click on the website for locations, special notes and vendor lists.

Tampa Downtown Market: Fridays, 10am—2pm: <http://www.tampadowntownmarket.com/>

Lakeland Curbside Market: Wednesdays & Saturdays: <http://www.ldda.org/curbmarket/>

Ybor City Fresh Market: Saturdays: <http://www.localharvest.org/ybor-city-fresh-market-M5840>

Sweetwater Farms Sunday Market, Tampa, returning in November:
<http://sweetwater-organic.org/>

Hydro Harvest Farms, Ruskin: open all days: <http://hydroharvestfarms.com/>

EcoFarm, Plant City: local pickup or Farmer's Market, join their email list:
<http://ecofarmfl.org/>

- Submitted by Shawna Everidge



Native Plants on TV!

SNPS member James Wheeler recently had his garden featured on News Channel 8. Check out his 15 minutes of fame (ok, it's really more like 1 1/2 minutes) online at: <http://www2.tbo.com/video/2010/oct/01/native-florida-plants-18686/>

Fakahatchee Swamp Walk November 6 & 7th

Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park is a linear swamp forest located between I75 (Alligator Alley) and US 41 (Tamiami Trail). This unique tropical swamp is often referred to as the orchid and bromeliad capital of the NA continent with 44 known native orchids and 14 native bromeliads. The only way to find these rare species is to plunge in, shoes and all and start slogging through the swamp.

We'll be staying overnight on Saturday (6th) at the Captain's Table Hotel in Everglades City. Call 1-239-695-2697 or 1-800-741-6430 to make reservations. You can also make reservations on line: www.captainstablehotel.com Mention Suncoast NPS to receive a 10% discount and to have your room adjacent to other SNPS rooms. Regular rates: \$65 w/o porch \$75 w/ porch or \$150 for 2 bedroom apartments (on first floor) with full kitchen and lounge area or porch (sleeps 6).

Trip limited to first 15 people to email or call me with a confirmed reservation at the hotel.

Leader: Gail Parsons gailparl@verizon.net .

Swamp tromp leader: Shirley Denton

Look for more info on website: <http://suncoast.fnpschapters.org/>

- Submitted by Gail Parsons



Are You GoodSearch-ing?

Download the GoodSearch toolbar at www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/florida-native-plant-society-melbourne and help FNPS earn more money. The first 100 organizations that get 100 GoodSearch toolbars downloaded in October, get a \$100 bonus. Help FNPS be one of the first 100! So far FNPS has 5 toolbars downloaded – only 95 more to go. The Suncoast Chapter membership alone can easily get us to 100!

FYI – I (Daphne) use GoodShop to order from Amazon, Ebay, and from Staples (and I still get my Staples Reward points, too!)

-Submitted by Daphne Lambright

Raise money for FNPS with and

\$15,000 GOODSEARCH GIVEAWAY!

GoodSearch is giving away \$15,000 in bonuses this month – and with your help, FNPS could be a recipient!

GoodSearch will award \$1,000 bonuses to each of the 5 organizations with the most toolbars downloaded in the month of October! The first 100 organizations to reach 100 toolbar downloads will be awarded \$100 bonus.

Help FNPS be one of the lucky organizations to receive a \$1000 bonus by downloading the FNPS toolbar at www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/florida-native-plant-society-melbourne. It's that easy!

Be sure to keep checking the \$15,000 GoodSearch Giveaway leaderboard in October to see how we're doing! And spread the word!

This contest begins on Oct. 1, 2010 at 12 p.m. EDT and ends on Oct. 31, 2010 at 12 p.m. EDT. Please note that only one download per IP address will be counted towards the promotion. For complete rules, visit <http://www.goodsearch.com/goodsearchgiveaway/rules>.

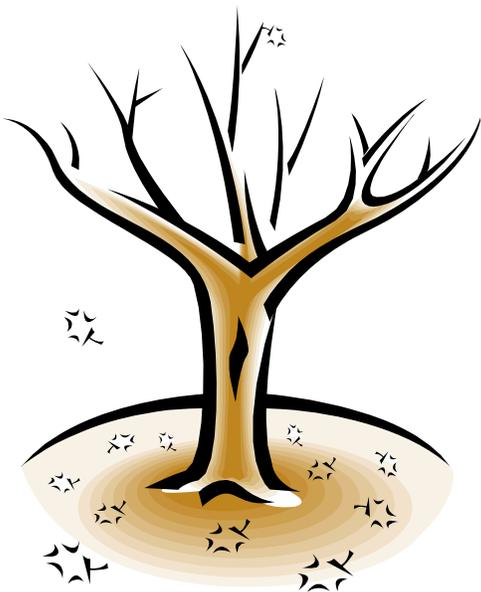
GOODSEARCH and GOODSHOP Pays!

August was a great month for FNPS with GoodSearch and GoodShop. We had 567 searches using GoodSearch amounting to \$5.67 for FNPS. We also had \$13.75 donated from purchases using GoodShop. You can check on our progress by simply going to GoodSearch.com, selecting FNPS and clicking "Amount Raised."

Imagine if all 5000+ FNPS members made 10 searches per day (we have 3000 memberships, but many are family or businesses with multiple people in the household or office). At one penny per search, it would amount to \$500.00/day, \$15,000.00/month. We could get ourselves out of the hole pretty quick! So please continue using it, and spread the word to your chapters and friends!

To search the web using GoodSearch and support FNPS, go to www.goodsearch.com, select or enter *Florida Native Plant Society – Melbourne* and complete your search. GoodSearch will donate a penny per search to FNPS.

To shop online and support FNPS, visit GoodShop.com, select or enter *Florida Native Plant Society - Melbourne* and start shopping. GoodShop will donate up to 20% of each purchase to FNPS!



FNPS 31st Annual Conference, May 19-22, 2011

Patios, Preserves and Public Spaces —

Making Connections

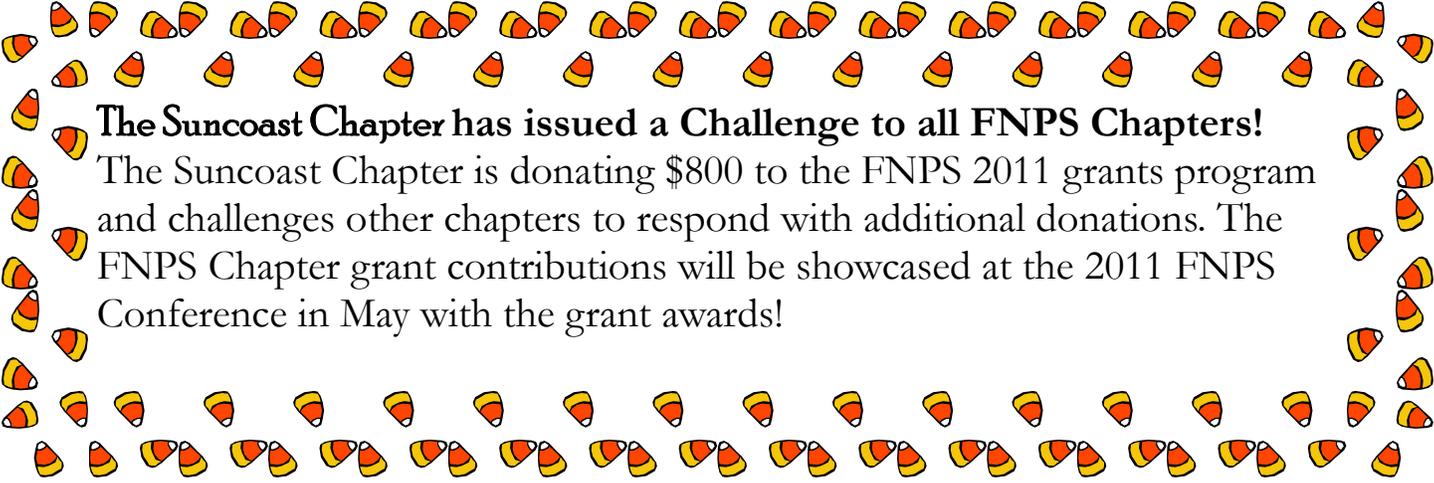
Sheraton Orlando North
600 North Lake Destiny Drive • Maitland, FL 32751

Featuring keynote speakers **Rick Darke**, author of *Wildland Gardening*, and **Rutherford Platt**, author of *The Humane Metropolis: People and Nature in the 21st Century*

Workshops. Field Trips. Breakout Sessions. CEUs.

Registration opens January 1, 2011

Hosted by Cuplet Fern, Lake Beautyberry, Pine Lily and Tarflower Chapters

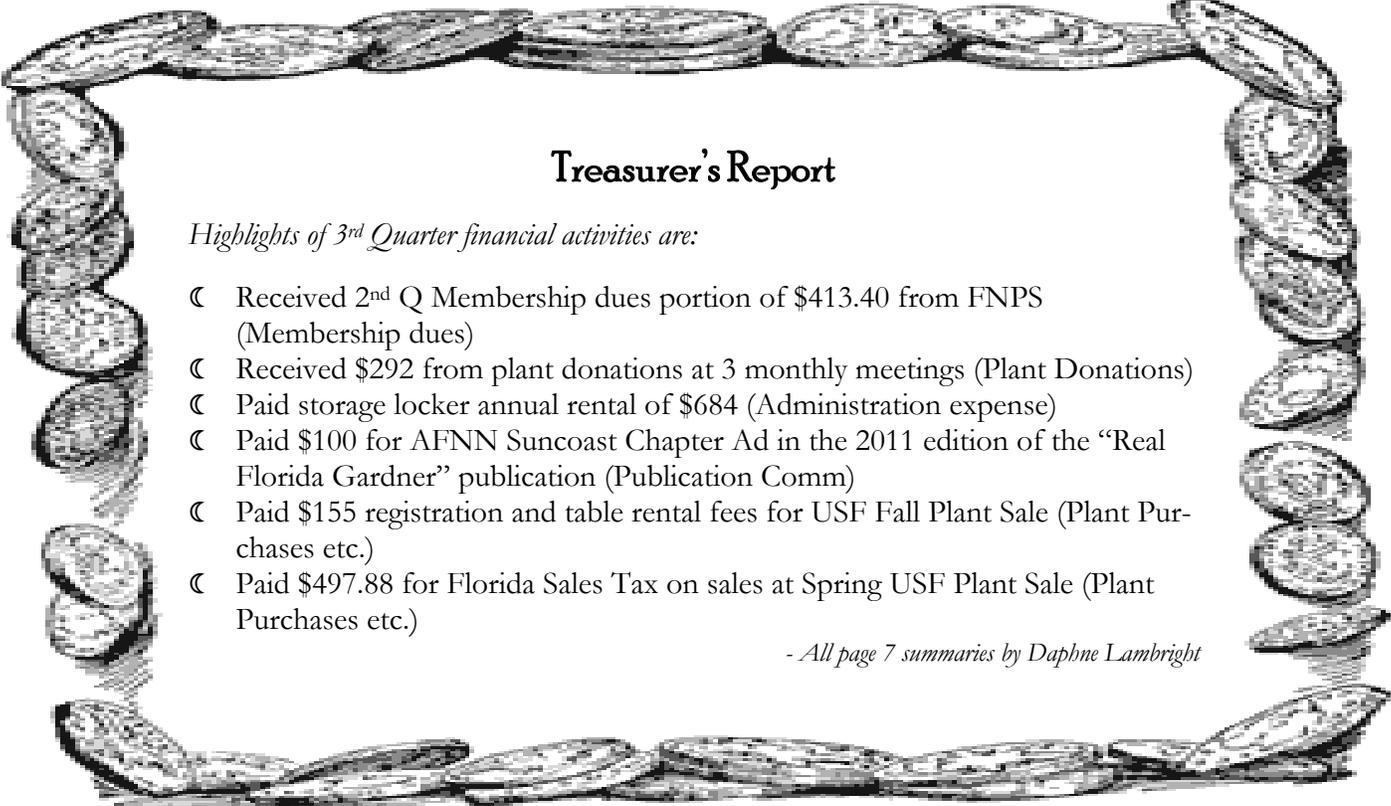


The Suncoast Chapter has issued a Challenge to all FNPS Chapters!

The Suncoast Chapter is donating \$800 to the FNPS 2011 grants program and challenges other chapters to respond with additional donations. The FNPS Chapter grant contributions will be showcased at the 2011 FNPS Conference in May with the grant awards!

September BOD Meeting Grapevine Summary

- Ⓒ A summary of each SNPS Board Meeting will be published each month in the Grapevine.
- Ⓒ A quarterly Treasurers report will be published in the January, April, July, and October issues of the Grapevine.
- Ⓒ SNPS is donating \$800 to support a FNPS 2011 Science or Conservation grant, challenging other chapters to donate too, and SNPS will receive recognition at the 2011 FNPS Conference for the donation.
- Ⓒ USF Fall Plant Sale – October 9th and 10th. **We can always use more volunteers!**
- Ⓒ 2011 Board of Directors election coming up.
- Ⓒ **We need more SNPS Board and Committee members!**



Treasurer's Report

Highlights of 3rd Quarter financial activities are:

- Ⓒ Received 2nd Q Membership dues portion of \$413.40 from FNPS (Membership dues)
- Ⓒ Received \$292 from plant donations at 3 monthly meetings (Plant Donations)
- Ⓒ Paid storage locker annual rental of \$684 (Administration expense)
- Ⓒ Paid \$100 for AFNN Suncoast Chapter Ad in the 2011 edition of the "Real Florida Gardner" publication (Publication Comm)
- Ⓒ Paid \$155 registration and table rental fees for USF Fall Plant Sale (Plant Purchases etc.)
- Ⓒ Paid \$497.88 for Florida Sales Tax on sales at Spring USF Plant Sale (Plant Purchases etc.)

- All page 7 summaries by Daphne Lambright

Calendar of Events

Occasionally compiled by Shawna Everidge, please send submissions to severidge@plantcitygov.com

Upcoming Suncoast Native Plant Society Meetings...

- ☉ November—Shawna Everidge.
Exotic Pets.
- ☉ December—*No meeting.*
- Submitted by Shirley Denton

October 9 & 10: USF Botanical Gardens Fall Plant Sale, see advertisement on page 3 for more details, visit the website for a detailed map of the gardens and more directions: <http://www.cas.usf.edu/garden/visiting.htm>

October 16: 10am—12pm, Junior Butterfly Watching Workshop, Chinsegut Hill Nature Center, Brooksville. Workshop is for kids up to age 16, children age 7 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Directions, more events and preregistration available on the website at: http://www.myfwc.com/CALENDAR/Calendar_Chinsegut.htm
Note: Pioneer Day is on November 6. Download the advertisement on the website!

October 16: 8am—5pm, Boktoberfest @ Bok Tower, Lake Wales. Huge unique plant sale with a great list of daily events! For directions and a complete list of the schedule, please visit the website. You can even preorder the event t-shirt!
<http://boktoberfest.com/blog/about-boktoberfest/>

October 21: 7pm, Tampa Audubon Society, Hillsborough County Extension Service. Monthly meeting will be presented by Mike Mullins, “Sink Holes & Swamps: Florida’s Karst and Park Wetlands”. To download a meeting schedule, visit:
<http://www.tampaaudubon.org/pdfs/programs.pdf>

October 22: 10am, Willow Herbal Delight Gardens, Garden Tour Series. “Healing Herbs.” Alternate date on October 24th, tours at 10am and 1pm. Tour the organic Permaculture beds and meet healing plants who thrive in our Autumn and Winter Conditions in Central Florida. \$10—\$15 donation suggested. Willow Herbal Delight Gardens is an organic herb nursery at the end of Ray Road in Valrico. Ray Road is off of S. Miller Road, 1/3 mile south of Lumsden, Valrico Church of Christ is on the corner. Call 813-643-7285 for more information.

Thank you to the following September Meeting donors!

Harriet Wright
Mary Miller
James Wheeler
Troy Springer
Ruth Worth
Marcia Curl (refreshments)
Susan Watson (refreshments)



PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Pond cypress
Botanical name: *Taxodium ascendens* Brongn.
Family: Cupressaceae (Cypress)
Plant Habit: Medium to large deciduous tree
Habitat: Isolated cypress domes, ponds, wet depressions
Size: 10-50 ft. (h)
Leaves: Small, awl-shaped, appressed to brnachlets
Fruit: Small, round, green to reddish-brown cones
Bark: Grayish to reddish brown, furrowed; pneumatophores
Range: Florida to Virginia; west to Louisiana

Growing conditions

Light: Full sun to light shade
Water: Moist to wet
Soil: Organic or mucky
Propagation: Seed
Motility: None in residential landscapes
Maintenance: None
Availability: Native plant nurseries

Comments: Pond cypress can be found growing in depressional areas of the landscape typically in isolated wetlands. Underutilized in wet, garden locations; Pond cypress is one of two species of *Taxodium* that occur naturally in the Southeast - *Taxodium distichum* or Bald cypress is more common and widely distributed because of greater tolerance to seasonally dry conditions; The FNPS discourages the use of cypress mulch and the Suncoast chapter published a brochure about alternatives to cypress mulch (see <http://www.suncoastnps.org/publications.html>).

References:

Osorio, R., 2001, *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants*: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL, 345 p.
Wunderlin, R.P. and B.F. Hansen, 2000, *Flora of Florida – Volume 1: Pteridophytes and Gymnosperms*: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 365 p.
Wunderlin, R.P. and B.F. Hansen, 2003, *Guide to Vascular Plants of Florida*, second ed.: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL, 787 p.
Wunderlin, R.P. and B.F. Hansen, 2005, *Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants* (<http://plantatlas.usf.edu/>).
Information compiled by George R. Kish
Photos by Guy Anglin, John Kunzer, Bob Upcavage



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.

Check pertinent category:

New Member Renewal

- | | |
|--|---|
| <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 | |

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Email _____

Make check payable to **FNPS**.

Detach and mail to:

FNPS

P.O. Box 278

Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

Activities & Committee Chairs

Field Trips

Gail Parsons

Publications

Dick Wunderlin 977-6484

George Kish 920-0853

Librarian

Vikki Sinclair 989-2896

Membership

Shirley Denton 986-6485

Newsletter Editor

Shawna Everidge 659-4298

Mike Fite, Assistant 977-0892

Programs and Publicity

Shirley Denton

Outreach

Fred Mulholland

USF Plant Sale

Troy Springer 967-4538

USF Botanical Garden Liaison

Kim Hutton 974-2329

Chapter Representative

Troy Springer

Webmaster

Shirley Denton 986-6485

Conservation

Ron Chicone

Daphne Lambright

Bob Upcavage

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

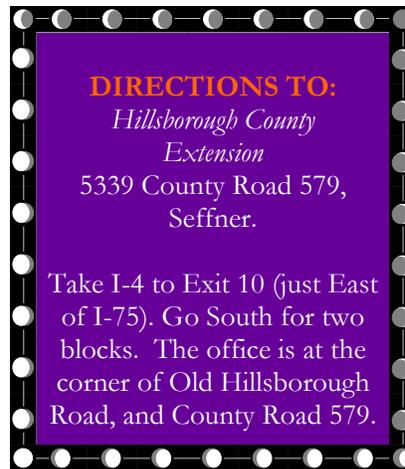
NOV 2

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



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>



Officers & Board of Directors

President

Troy Springer

Vice-president

Shirley Denton

Secretary

Ron Chicone

Treasurer

Daphne Lambright

Board Members

Gail Parsons

Fred Mulholland

The SNPS BOD meets regularly at a variety of locations. If you are interested in attending a BOD meeting, please check the location at a monthly membership meeting or call Troy Springer at 813-967-4538.

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

Please deliver to: