



THE PAWPAW PRESS

Newsletter of the Pawpaw Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society: October 2016

HURRICANE MATTHEW

Assessing trees after the storm

I hope all of you survived the hurricane without too much damage. I have been keeping busy inspecting trees and thought I would pass on a few of my thoughts and observations.

There are never any guarantees with any trees as they all have the potential to fall and cause damage. However, I am sure you noticed, as I did, that laurel oaks did not fare well. If you have

large laurel oaks, inspect them. Look for any signs of root damage or if the roots were pulled up at all. Examine the trunk for cracks and look in the canopy for any dead branches that could fall

and hurt someone. Laurel oaks in decline sometimes have black streaks running down the trunk from cavities or just weeping from the trunk.

The foundation for all tree health does begin with the roots. If you plan on putting trees back into the landscape, make sure the tree is placed in the best location. Look out for overhead power lines, but also make sure the tree has enough space for the roots and spread of the canopy.

The trees that did do well were live oaks, cabbage palms, and magnolias. These were the same trees that did well in 2004 and 2005. The University of Florida completed a study in 2007 that can be found at hort.ifas.ufl.edu/treesandhurricanes/. The site has excellent resources and advice.

—Don Spence

CLEANUP AT PARK OF HONOR

Pawpaw members Sonya Guidry, Sande Habali and Carol Hawkins did a yeoman's job of cleanup at the Park of Honor in South Daytona on Oct. 19, filling five utility-sized bags with weeded or pruned plant material. Lost in the storm were one pruned varnish leaf, one weeping yaupon, one saw palmetto as well as an exotic blue porterweed. Tied upright were a firebush, winged elm and necklace pod.



UPCOMING EVENTS: NOVEMBER

14 Pawpaw meeting: Karen Cole and Cindy Bennington of Stetson on sandhill restoration

4 Field trip to Lake Eaton Trail, Ocala National Forest, contact Peggy: pyokubonus@cfl.rr.com

PROPOSED OFFICERS

The nominating committee proposes the following slate of officers for the coming year.

President: Doug Hunt

Vice-President: Janet Cavuoti

Treasurer(s) Mary Jo Mercier and Carol Hawkins

Secretary: Sande Habali

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendar

NOVEMBER 5 Field trip to Lake Eaton Trail in Ocala National Forest. Contact Peggy at pyokubonus@cfl.rr.com

NOVEMBER 14 Pawpaw chapter meeting, 7 p.m., Piggotte Center, 504 Big Tree Road, South Daytona. Drs. Karen Cole and Cindy Bennington of Stetson University on sandhill restoration

DECEMBER 3 Field trip to Melbourne for a visit to the botanical gardens at Florida Institute of Technology and Maple Street Natives nursery. Sign up at November meeting or contact Sonya at guidy.sonya@gmail.com.

DECEMBER 12 Pawpaw's annual holiday gathering and native plant auction, 6:30 p.m., Piggotte Center, 504 Big Tree Road, South Daytona.

FIELD TRIPS

Matthew reshuffles field trip plans

Previously announced field trips for November and December have been scuttled. Details on the new trips are:

NOVEMBER

Field Trip to Lake Eaton trail, Ocala National Forest

Saturday, Nov. 5

Meet at Ormond Town

Center, corner of Williamson and Granada Blvds. at 8 a.m. in the area on the east end closest to Beall's Dept. Store. We will carpool from there. Our meeting place with our trip leader Dr. Susan Carr will be at Lake Eaton trailhead 9:30 am. There are composting toilets at

the trailhead. After the trip we will have lunch at a nearby barbecue place around 1p.m. Bring water and snacks for the morning, insect repellent, hiking sticks and dress for the weather.

Note: cell phone coverage may not be good in the area.

For details, contact Peggy Yokubonus at 386-316-4085

DECEMBER

Field trip to Melbourne including FIT botanical garden tour, lunch at The Mansion, and buying spree at Maple Street Natives

Saturday, Dec. 3

This trip offers a triple header fun day, beginning with a guided tour of Florida Institute of Technology's 15 acre botanical garden.

Afterward enjoy lunch at The Mansion, a large historic Melbourne home.

Finally, stop by Maple Street Natives to make pre-holiday plant purchases before returning home.

Carpool meets at 8:30 a.m. behind MacDonalds at NSB's Walmart Center, west of I-95 on State Road 44. (3155 State Road 44, NSB 32168)

Reservations needed by Nov 21 for both the tour and lunch.

Contact Sonya Guidry at (386) 690-1797 or guidry.sonya@gmail.com.



TOMOKA FEST

Sharing our mission

Pawpaw members David Anderson, Sande Habali, and Amelia Evans were on hand Saturday, October 22 at Tomoka State Park in Ormond Beach to let others know about the Florida Native Plant Society. Visitors enjoyed a beautiful fall day and a chance to relax outdoors after experiencing the events of Hurricane Matthew. Amelia and Sande talked with visitors who stopped by to

learn more about native plants. David led a group of interested folks along the paths of Tomoka State Park, sharing his love of nature. Many other vendors were on hand that day to educate about birds, bees, crafting, and pioneering in Florida. It is always fun to be with folks who share the same visions.

—Sande Habali/Photo by David Anderson