



An Email Newsletter!



September

Pawpaw Chapter of FNPS

Have You Been to Lyonia Environmental Preserve Lately?



Maybe you only head over to Lyonia in Deltona (adjacent to the Deltona Library) when you want to show off those amazing Scrub Jays to out of town guests! Melissa Hughes of the Lyonia Environmental Center came to our meeting on September 8 to let everyone know there is something for everyone at the center these days. We all need to get over there and check out the photo collections by local artists or get involved in the fascinating “hands-on” exhibits. There is much to see and do at the center and always a need for volunteers. Melissa guarantees the application process for volunteering is painless! There is always something going on there, so check out the web site for more information!

lyoniapreserve.com

Our Rodney Dangerfield (Plant that gets no respect) this month was Snow Square stem, presented by Mike Duggins



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Plant of the Month: *Melanthera nivea* (mel-ANTH-er-uh niv-EE-AH)

Commonly known as Snow Squarestem, Salt & Pepper, or Cat's Tongue, this perennial is a must-have for butterfly gardens. Butterflies, bees, flies, & beetles can't resist its abundant nectar! Mature leaves feel like sandpaper, but deer relish its tender new growth in spring. Blooming begins in late spring ◆ early summer & lasts until frost. It will grow to 6 ft. high & wide, but can be pruned to desired height & width. Plant in full sun or part shade in any well-drained soil. Although drought tolerant, it will flower more profusely if watered occasionally during dry spells. Although it self-seeds aggressively, seedlings (& mature plants) are easily removed & transplant well. Help save the pollinators by passing along transplants to your friends!

Park of Honor



Park of Honor with Butterfly Sign

Where is our Park of Honor? With thanks to Sonya and Carla, our little spot inside South Daytona's Park of Honor is looking better than ever! Come check it out, or lend a hand. It can always use some help pulling out the Dollar Weeds that seem to creep in there. You can find the native plant section of Park of Honor by heading down the street next to the Piggotte Center, then turning left onto Olive Street. Stay on Olive Street until it ends. Walk into the park and bare to your right and follow the butterflies! You can't miss it! If you can't make it during the month, please consider dropping by a half hour or so before our meeting just to enjoy or to weed a bit.

If you decide to stop on your own to do a bit of weeding or deadheading, please let Carla know. We get credit for our volunteer hours with the city of South Daytona. It is our way of paying them back for letting us meet at their beautiful facility known as the Piggotte Center. Contact Carla at : crmc2003@yahoo.com



Take time this fall to do your own Backyard Bee-Watch!

By Sonya Guidry

If you have Spotted horsemint (*Monarda punctata*) no doubt you know why some folks call it Bee Balm. In my yard Eastern Bumblebees arrive daily by 11:00 AM to forage for nectar. A Bumblebee expert from England, Dave Goulson, wrote a fascinating grown-up, Winnie-the-Pooh style saga about the plight of bumble bees in England. *A Sting in the Tale, My adventures with Bumblebees* is a new book in the Volusia County library system, and well worth the backyard gardener's read.

Now I know why FLorida has so few Bumblebee species compared to those in the more northerly states. Bumblebees larger size and hairy coats make them more adapted to cooler climes. Of the 146 species of Bumblebees in North America only 6-7 *Bombus* species are found in Florida. Because they tend to swelter in hot, humid areas, no native Bumblebees are found in the tropics. Another Fact...who knew, tomato blossoms are almost exclusively pollinated by

bumblebees. Some agri-businesses around the world actually import bumblebees to do the job. So when you eat a tomato...thank a bumblebee!
Metallic Green Bees (Agapostemon sp.)



Figure 1: Metallic Green Bee on Rouge Plant Figures 2,3 Metallic Green Bee on Snow Squarestem

Metallic Green Bees (Agapostemon sp.)

In my yard, oddly enough, it is the Wild Poinsettia blossoms that attract female metallic green bees. The females are totally green on their thorax and abdomen. The males are only green on their thorax, sporting the more typical yellow and black stripes on their abdomens. This Fall, as the females go about collecting pollen, about 5 times as many males can be seen to hover and whiz around, making sporadic grabs for a pre-occupied female. (All that I observed were unsuccessful.) Occasionally a pollen-laden female can be seen as she hovers close to the ground searching for her secret earthen nest. Instead of nectar, her larvae need the protein-rich pollen to grow.

In the Spring she produces largely female off-spring. But increases the male ratio in the Fall. Female Metallic Green Bees build up a storage of fat, so that once mated they can over-winter in their nests. The males with less fat usually do not survive the colder winter weather.

The green metallic bees have short tongues so in Summer and Fall they tend to nectar at more open flowers like Snow Square Stem (*Melanthera nivea*) and Dune Sunflower (*Helianthus debilis*), and blanket flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*). In the Spring, Metallic Green Bees can be seen nectaring on the shallow white blossoms of wild coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*).

Here is a link to see the female Green Metallic <http://bugguide.net/node/view/58631>.

This link shows the male Metallic Bee nectaring on *Bidens alba*.
<http://centralfloridacritteroftheday.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/sweatbeabidensju.ly2013.jpg>

Fall Landscaping Tour is Coming Up!!!!

Seaside Gardens 9-12p Hammock Gardens 1-3p

Tickets \$5 for full day of events

Available at Pawpaw Chapter Meetings 904-863-5943
and on the day of the event at:
Full Moon Natives & Herbs – Port Orange (386)212-9923
or contact:

 www.fnps.org	 www.facebook.com/pawpawchapter	 PawpawChapter.Online@gmail.com Guidry.Sonya@gmail.com
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Reminder to Landscape Homeowners: Please have a list of your plants available for referrals by participants. Business cards for Full Moon Natives will also be available, as well as FANN magazines.

Lunch stops list of Possibilities:

Betty's A1A Cafe 1900 Ocean Shore Blvd. Phone 386 441-8131
Genovese's Italian Cafe 183 E. Granada Blvd. Phone: 386 677-3222
La's Bistro 63 W Granada Blvd. Phone: 386 675-5181
Lenny's NY Pizza 1456 Ocean Shore Blvd. Phone: 386 441-8811
Peach Valley Cafe 185 E Granada Blvd. Phone: 386 615-0096
TGI Friday's 24 Ocean Shore Blvd. Phone: 386 672-4121

Monthly Agenda for Pawpaw Business Meeting at Piggotte Center, 2nd Monday of the Month

10-13-14 Agenda

Plant of the Month will be featured before the meeting, with a plant drawing. Tickets: \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Refreshments will be served. Books are available for check-out for members. Plant of the Month: *Hydrocotyle umbellata* or Dollarweed presented by Carolyn West

Agenda for Business Meeting October 13, , 2014 Piggotte Center, South Daytona

Old Business

1. Minutes (Gail Duggins) were delivered by emails. Any amendments or adjustments?
2. Treasure's report (Carol Hawkins) delivered by email
3. Membership (Barbara Kieran)
4. Refreshments : Thanks to Jane Coon for helping with refreshments until Kimberly's return. **Carla, Carolyn Kiel, Sonya**
5. Publicity/ Social Media (Carla, Paul, Stephen, David Anderson (*What's Blooming Now?*))
6. Education/Conservation for Flagler and Volusia (Duggins, Mark, Carolyn)
7. Book Cart : Ellen Nielsen any new additions?
8. Previous Field Trips and Other Activities :
 - ❖ Paddle Trip from JB's Fish Camp, Paul
 - ❖ Coastal Clean up-Sonya
 - ❖ Full Moon Seminars. September 13 and October 4, Carla
 - ❖ Sugar Mill Garden Fall Festival, rescheduled for October 4, Kim
 - ❖ Other activities?
9. Landscape Tour and "Keepsake Booklets"-. We LOVE Copytronics for their donation! Details: Sonya
10. Park of Honor- Carla

New Business

1. Upcoming Speaker: (Carla) November 10. 2014
2. Upcoming Field Trips and Events: Be sure to sign up
October 18 Tarflower Chapter's Backyard Biodiversity Day in Winter Park's Mead Gardens Check <http://tarflower.fnpschapters.org/> for more information. Sonya will organize car pools if there is interest
October 25. Landscape Tour (Sonya) Sign up to help
November 11 Gillespie Museum Tour and Plant ID in Deland Sonya
December 6 Sanford Zoo Dot Backes
December 8 Annual Plant Auction and Pot-Luck dinner-6:30 short meeting first
2016 Conference Chair, Marvette

***NOTE:** 2015 Conference has been tentatively set for May (date TBA) in Tallahassee.

Nominations for the Nominating Committee: The floor is now open for nominations for president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

***NOTE: The by-laws state a new president must be elected after a 2-year term. Elections to be held in December. If you have a nomination or an interest to hold office, please contact a member of the nominating committee:**

Sonya: sonya@gmail.com

Carolyn: mcmcbkiel@gmail.com

Barbara: bkieran386@bellsouth.net

Refreshments for next month??
Anything else?

FUN THINGS TO DO.....

Tarflower Chapter

**2nd Annual Backyard Biodiversity Day and Native Plant Sale
Saturday, October 18, 9a.m.–4p.m.
Mead Botanical Garden**

<http://tarflower.fnpschapters.org> for more information

Check out other fun things from www.volusia.org/outreach and Bonnie Carrie's guided activities:

Guided Hike of Wiregrass Prairie Preserve
Wiregrass Prairie Preserve
1751 Lopez Rd., Osteen., (off Pell Rd.)
Saturday, October 11
9:00-11:00

Take a 3 mile guided hike on Wiregrass Prairie Preserve to see and experience this Volusia County Conservation Lands and learn about the plants and animals that call it home. Wear comfortable clothes that match the weather, hiking or walking shoes. Bring water to drink.

Star Tour of the Night Sky
Wiregrass Prairie Preserve
1751 Lopez Rd., off of Pell Rd., Osteen
Friday, October 17
6:30-9:00 pm

Dr. Hugh Ward, astronomy educator for over 40 years, will lead a celestial tour of the night sky above Wiregrass Prairie Preserve and answer relevant questions. Adults and families will observe via their eyes and telescopes: constellations, bright stars, planets, star clusters, Messier objects, and maybe a Comet!

Due to the ongoing interest in more night sky observations, Dr. Ward has formed the West Volusia Astronomical Society. Members (Adults, middle school students, and high school students) of WVAS are invited to attend this Sky Tour. Please contact Dr. Ward at 386.738.3412 or hcward@cfl.rr.com for more information about upcoming events this Fall.

Bring: Folding chair, insect spray, flashlight and your own telescope, if you have one.
Arrive before sunset. Road conditions are rough.
Please register.

Longleaf Pine Preserve Eco-buggy Tour
Longleaf Pine Preserve -- East Entrance
4551 Pioneer Trail
New Smyrna Beach
Tuesday, October 28
9:00-11:00

Take an eco-buggy tour of Longleaf Pine Preserve. Participants will experience pine flatwoods, cypress domes and swamps on a riding tour with exploratory stops along the way to discuss wetlands and their importance in natural habitats.

Space is limited to 27. Please register.

Register for events:
elm@volusia.org
386-736-5927

I hope to see you out in the woods.
Bonnie

Bonnie Cary
Naturalist
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www.volusia.org/outreach/

Scrub strolls every Friday at Lyonia Preserve. Check out www.volusia.org for more details about Lyonia.

AND our good friends at Full Moon Natives
(Free!)

Birdscaping

Saturday, October 4, 2014

10:00am - 11:30am

Create a bird sanctuary in your yard and embark on America's favorite pastime - birdwatching! Fun, educational and good for our planet.

All About...Bay Laurel

Saturday, October 18, 2014

10:00am - 11:30am

All about Bay Laurel; uses for culinary, tea, aroma, health and the language of herbs. Marvette and Joyce will team up to share everything you want to know, so come prepared to laugh and learn!

Native Landscapes

Saturday, November 1, 2014

10:00am - 11:30am

Embrace our unique Florida lifestyle and brings its natural beauty to your yard. No need for harmful chemicals and pesticides that pollute our precious aquifer. Your yard will come to life with butterflies and birds.