



Ixia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

"The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida".

Ixia News

January 2008

Welcome to the January 2008 issue of Ixia News. In this first issue of the new year, you will find helpful information and dates for events & activities you don't want to miss.

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Ixia Meeting Information

The Ixia Chapter meets at 6:30PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Regency Square Library located at: 9900 Regency Square Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32225.
Phone 904-726-5142

Next General meeting will be held Thursday, January 17, 2008

Schedule

6:00-6:30 – Pre-meeting Plant ID session (bring that plant you've been trying to figure out)
6:30-7:00 – General Ixia News and Events
7:00-7:30 – Program TBA for January
7:30-8:00 – Native Plant Swap, Trade, Sale to benefit Ixia Chapter

February 2 - Water Education Festival

Have a splashing good time at MOSH on this free admission day! MOSH has teamed up with the City of Jacksonville's Environmental Protection Board and the St. Johns River Water Management District to present interactive displays, activities, and live performances. Learn about water conservation and more between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

We are looking for someone to represent the Ixia chapter and FNPS at the Jacksonville Museum of Science and History.

Please contact Pete Johnson (904) **536-4806** if you are interested in manning a FNPS Ixia table with info about native plants that conserve water. It should be fun!

FNPS Membership Mega Explosion CHALLENGE!



The **FNPS Membership Committee** has challenged each FNPS Chapter to a membership drive CHALLENGE. The goal is for each and every FNPS member of each chapter to present a gift membership to a friend, colleague, neighbor, family member, ally or foe and then follow up the next year to encourage renewal of the gift membership. Prizes will be given to chapters and individuals. See details on www.fnps.org.

Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference

Estuaries to Uplands: Celebrating Florida's Native Plant Heritage

When: May 15-18, 2008

Where: Manatee Convention Center - Palmetto, FL (Near Bradenton)

Hosted by: The Mangrove, Pinellas, Serenoa & Suncoast Chapters

Purpose of Conference: To provide educational programs to FNPS members and the general public about the planting, preservation, conservation and restoration of Florida native plants and their associated plant communities.

Notable conference activities:

- ✘ Field trips to over 20 locations highlighting native plant communities, native trees, shrubs and wildflowers led by botanists and local plant specialists.
- ✘ Native plant sale providing locally grown trees, shrubs and wildflowers throughout the event. Hundreds of new native plants for home landscapes!
- ✘ Educational exhibit tables; many vendors
- ✘ The latest news in conservation, preservation and restoration of Florida native plant communities
- ✘ Workshops for landscape design, making plant specimens, nature photography, scientific information regarding the "Real Florida" and much more.
- ✘ Social events

See www.fnps.org – "Conference" for complete details

Native Plant Rescue and Salvage Project

Ixia is teaming up with the Riverside Avondale Development Organization (www.radocdc.org) and AmeriCorps to rescue and salvage native plants from approved development sites for use in the landscaping of urban redevelopment projects. These are plants that would otherwise be bulldozed and burned! Upcoming workday dates and times T.B.A.

If you are interested in serving on an **Ixia Plant Rescue Committee**, then please contact **Pete Johnson** at (904) 536-4806.

Crosby Sanctuary Field Trip

February 2, 2008 starting at 8:00 AM (but show up anytime between 8 AM and 12 PM) at **427 Aquarius Concourse, Orange Park, FL.**

Contact Pete Johnson at cell phone number (904) 536-4806

We will meet at the Northwest corner of Blanding Blvd and Aurora Blvd, in VyStar Credit Union Parking Lot. Please don't forget to **carpool** with your friends!

This is a joint fieldtrip with the Duval Audubon Society to their 400-acre sanctuary.

After a few hours of birding and native planting through disturbed uplands, intact mixed hardwood-cypress swamp, open power lines with marsh and forest edge, pine seepage slope, and upland oak hammock, we will convene at the sanctuary entrance for a native landscaping maintenance and work session. We will work for 1-2+ hours on pulling weeds, picking up roadway trash, inspecting the plants, spreading mulch, inspecting/cleaning existing bird nest boxes, and install new bird nest boxes for spring. Stay and work or play as long as you like!

2nd Annual First Coast Air Potato Roundup

Mark your calendars for **March 1, 2008**, to attend this fun and helpful event from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon. Full details (including prizes) and roundup site announcements will be posted on our website soon! Air potato is an invasive exotic plant species that threatens to disrupt and take over many upland native plant communities in Florida. The good news is that it can be kept in check with a little bit of help from us each year!

Conservation News

Florida 2060, An Important Series of Reports FNPS Members Should Know

With close to 18 million residents in 2005, Florida already is overwhelmed with the ramifications of rampant sprawl, rapidly vanishing natural areas, and overcrowded roads. What will Florida look like in 2060, when its population is projected to reach almost 36 million? A recent study from 1000 Friends of Florida, (a nonprofit growth management watchdog organization), found that Florida population and developed land is projected to Double over the next 50 Years!

The first report, "Florida 2060: A Population Distribution Scenario for the State of Florida," projects that, based on current development patterns, the population of Florida will double in the next 50 years - to about 36 million (long since passing New York to become the third-largest state) - and that the amount of urbanized land in the state also will double.

The second report from 1000 Friends, "A Time for Leadership: Growth Management and Florida 2060," builds on the findings of Florida 2060 and offers series of recommendations for state leadership and citizens in Florida, such as expand the Florida Forever Program; adopt new policy on conversion of rural lands to urban use; create a 100 year legacy plan; and identify leaders and galvanize support.

More recently, the University of Central Florida released an **Alternative 2060** that shows how Florida can develop in a less costly and more environmentally sensitive manner. Major Alternative 2060 Recommendations include the following:

1. Protect Florida's Essential Land
2. Invest in Balanced Transportation
3. Plan for Climate Change
4. Don't Waste Land
5. Design With Nature
6. Encourage Compact Development
7. Rebuild to Create Great Places

Many if not all of the recommendations fall in like with the FNPS mission to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida. The Conservation Subcommittee of the Ixia Chapter is working with other partner environmental organizations and FNPS Chapter Conservation committees to support such strategies in Florida. Links to the full studies are available at: <http://www.1000fof.org/planning/2060.asp>

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council 2008 Symposium

The 23rd Annual Symposium of the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council will be held by the St. Johns River in Jacksonville, Florida:

When: April 21-24, 2008

Where: Crowne Plaza Hotel on the Jacksonville Riverfront

This year's symposium will include oral presentations, posters, and science-based field trips to local areas. CEUs will be available for natural areas, rights-of-way, and aquatics. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Bernd Blossey of Cornell University. FLEPPC symposium information will be provided soon at <http://www.fleppc.org/symposium.htm>



Earth, Wind, and Fire

Presented by the Florida Master Naturalist Program

When: January 12, 2008

Where: Trout Creek Park, 6795 Collier Road, Orangedale, Fla.

Time: 8:30 AM until 2:00 PM

Lunch and Refreshments Provided

Speakers:

Keith Ashley, PhD. University of Florida Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology- Archeology of the Timucuan Preserve

Steve Letro, National Weather Service- Tropical Cyclones

Analeesa Winter, Fla. Division of Forestry- Fire in Natural Habitats

This event is FREE

Please Contact **Carol Wyninger** at 220-0232 or wyninger@comcast.net if you are planning to attend.

Upcoming Master Naturalist Programs

Uplands Habitats

February 4, 6, 8, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27, 29, 2008
Yulee County Building, 86026 Pages dairy Road, Yulee, Fla.
Instructors: Steve Gaul, Carol Wyninger, and Christina Nelson

Freshwater Wetlands

February 25, 28, March 1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 17, 22, 24, 2008
Night Classes with Saturday Field Trips
Doctors Inlet Civic Center, 3382 Peoria Road, Orange Park, Fla.
Instructors: Ray Zerba, Lynn Lisenby, Carol Wyninger

Coastal Systems

March 12, 15, 19, 26, April 2, 2008
Whitney Lab, Marineland, Fla.
Instructor: Jose Nunez

Upland Habitats

March 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 2008
Tree Hill Nature Center, Lone Star Road, Jacksonville, Fla.
Instructors: Carol Wyninger, Brad Burbaugh
10 seats open

Freshwater Wetlands

April 2008, Dates TBA
Ft. Clinch State Park, Fernandina Beach, Fla.
Instructor: TBA

Each module consists of: 40 hours of classroom presentations, videos, and field trips covering key plants and animals, ethics, and interpretation. Two volume comprehensive syllabus, patch, and pin.

Course fee: \$225. Advance registration required. Class size limited.

Course requirements: Attendance, Participation, and Enthusiasm!

Teachers may earn up to 40 hours CEUs! For groups of at least 10, classes may be offered at your site!
For registration go to www.masternaturalist.org, for more information contact Carol Wyninger, 220-0232, wyninger@comcast.net.

Don't Miss the

Florida Forever Benefit Concert

**featuring Florida Folk Sensations Amy Carol Webb and The Ashley Gang
Jacksonville · January 21, 2008 · 7PM · Theatre Jacksonville**

[Florida Forever](#) is one of the country's most strategic land conservation programs, acquiring wildlands to benefit Florida's wildlife and people. While the accomplishments of this program are many, its funding officially runs out in 2010. Nevertheless, many parcels remain to be acquired if we hope to protect the most remarkable natural features in Florida's landscape.

Audubon of Florida along with many of the state's other conservation organizations recognize this need for a successor to Florida Forever, to continue the momentum of this essential program. Working together with leaders in the Florida legislature, we are seeking a commitment from the state for funding of land conservation for the next decade.

Florida's leading folk music organization, the [Will McLean Foundation](#), also recognizes the importance of raising awareness and funding to fuel this advocacy, and has pledged its talent to Audubon in a series of concerts to benefit Audubon of Florida's Florida Forever work. The first will be held at [Theatre Jacksonville](#) on January 21, 2008.

This concert will celebrate Florida's special places and demonstrate community support for natural area conservation in Florida. Celebrated Florida folk artists [Amy Carol Webb](#) and [The Ashley Gang](#) are donating their time to the event and all proceeds from ticket sales will be used to support Audubon's Florida Forever and Northeast Florida conservation advocacy.



Prothonotary Warbler
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**Click here to purchase
your tickets online!**

Garden Swap at the 3rd Annual Tangerine Festival

When: January 26, all day

Where: Memorial Park in Riverside area of Jacksonville

Bring extra plants, starts, seeds, pots, and other garden supplies to swap. Especially open-pollinated and organic seeds and any drought-tolerant or native varieties. Come meet other urban gardeners and share ideas. Learn about community garden projects. For more info call 904-657-1177 or email jmccharen@gmail.com.