

PINE LILY CHAPTER
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

The Lily Pad

January Meeting

We hope all of you had a wonderful holiday and welcome 2012! Pine Lily Chapter resumes regular meetings on Thursday, January 19th at 6:30 p.m. Tentatively scheduled is a team from the Saint John's River Water Management District, Regulatory Services Division, to bring us up to date on the Upper St. Johns River Basin Project. You can check our chapter page at fnps.org closer to the

meeting date to confirm this presentation or see what the alternate program will be.

As in the past, Pine Lily will continue to provide quality, educational programs promoting Florida native plants and conservation of their natural habitats at no charge to Osceola County residents and the general public. We hope you will visit with us often.

January 2012
Volume 6, Issue 1



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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President:

Jenny Welch.....mwelch@cfl.rr.com

1st Vice President:

Mark Johnson

.....mjohnson@ecotonelanddesign.com

Secretary:

Sandy Webb..... slwebbzeit@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Kaitly Storer email pending

Chapter Rep:

..... Apply now

Membership:

Susan Parent sparent20@yahoo.com

Publicity/Newsletter:

Loret..... PinelilyFNPS@aol.com

Florida Arbor Day is January 20th

We're all familiar with National Arbor Day on the last Friday of April, but did you know that many states have their very own day set aside in addition to the national celebration?

Each state's Arbor Day celebration date initiates the signing of an Arbor Day proclamation by local officials and Arbor Day activities related to trees and tree planting. Celebrations are held as early as January and February in some southern states and as late as May in more northern locations. Twenty-eight states have the same date designation as National Arbor Day.

Florida has celebrated Arbor Day since 1886 and has one of the first Arbor Day celebrations in the nation, on the third Friday in January. So, circle January 20th and head to your favorite nursery to buy and plant a nice Florida native tree and join in the festivities.

In Osceola County, the City of St. Cloud is shown on the list of Florida's 'Tree City USA' Cities. Overall Florida has 160 cities with the TreeCity USA designation.

500 tree seedlings of various species will be given away by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Forest Service to help celebrate Florida Arbor Day. This year it takes place across the state in Hernando County at Tom Varn Park, 301 Darby Lane, Brooksville. For more information contact Justin Draft 352/754-6777, Ext. 108, justin.draft@freshfromflorida.com

**Meeting is Thursday
January 19th 6:30p.m.**

First United Methodist Church
101 W. Dakin Avenue, Kissimmee

**A great way to start the new year
is with an annual
Florida Native Plant Society
membership.**

"Since we humans have the better brain, isn't it our responsibility to protect our fellow creatures from, oddly enough, ourselves?"

— Joy Adamson

Pine Lily Members in the News



Pine Lily President Jenny Welch and member Bob Mindick were recently in the news with the opening of Camp Lonesome on December 17th. Camp Lonesome

was a purchase via the Environmental Lands Conservation Program, formally known as SAVE Osceola. It consists of nature trails for hiking or equestrian use. Bob is the Public Lands Director for Osceola County.

From the Osceola News Gazette:

“The property is described as a mosaic of mixed hardwood wetland swamps, wet prairies, cypress ponds and pine flatwood communities. Wildlife on the site consists of deer, turkey, wild hogs, gopher tortoises and a variety of bird species.

“I’ve also seen woodstorks, river otters, barn owls and tree swallows,” [Bob] Mindick said. “For folks who want to get away, it’s a great place to do nature study and eventually, we hope to be able to have it open for those who want to look at the stars.”

“Despite having foot surgery the day before the opening of the area, Jenny Welch, a member of the county's Land Conservation Advisory Board, came out to view the work.

“I wouldn’t have missed it,” she said. “Areas like Camp Lonesome are important not only for those of us here today but for future generations. If we don’t save the plants, birds, insects and animals now, they won’t be here tomorrow. We just don’t know what we are losing until it’s gone.”

For more of Bob Mindick's comments and to read the entire story visit <http://aroundosceola.com/>



Member Kim Duffy was quoted in City of Saint Cloud Press Release # 11-163:

“St. Cloud’s Mt. Peace Cemetery makeover continues

Submitted by City of St. Cloud Public Information Office

St. Cloud, Fla. (December 29, 2011) – The City of St. Cloud was awarded an Urban and Community Forestry Grant from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry, in 2010. The \$8360 matching grant was dedicated to the Mt. Peace Cemetery Makeover Project, a five-year plan that began in June 2010 and continues into the new year.

“The year 2011 was a ‘treerific’ year to play catch-up,” explained Landscape/Beautification Manager and International Society of Arboriculture-Certified Arborist Kimberly Duffy. “Our historical cemetery held a majority of trees that averaged 50 years old. We had few future generations until this grant provided financial support. However, our mission does not stop here. Each year, the Tree Advisory Committee (TAC) will plant trees to create a diverse, yet complete, canopied forest. These trees will continue to maintain land value and host a serene atmosphere.”

The Mt. Peace Cemetery Makeover Project is intended to restore and beautify the city’s historical cemetery. Twenty hazardous trees were removed, with a replacement ratio of more than 262 trees, all planted by the Parks and Recreation Department staff and TAC volunteers since receiving the award.

Mount Peace Cemetery is located at 755 E. 10th St. For more information on this project or details on any Parks and Recreation activity, project, program, or rental facility, please visit the Parks and Recreation at www.stcloud.org, e-mail ParksAndRecreation@stcloud.org, or call (407) 957-7243.”

If you know of any Pine Lily members who are making a difference, please email the details to PineLilyFNPS@aol.com

Hold onto those Balloons!

MyFWC.com For immediate release: December 9, 2011

Holiday celebrations minus balloon releases best for Florida wildlife

As people gather together for occasions that make the holidays bright, remember that releasing balloons may be harmful to wildlife.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) wants event and meeting organizers and other Floridians to be aware of a **law prohibiting the release of more than nine lighter-than-air balloons within a 24-hour period.**

Instead of releasing balloons this holiday season, the FWC suggests groups use more environmentally friendly ways to celebrate events such as New Year's Eve and football bowl games.

The release into the atmosphere of large numbers of balloons inflated with lighter-than-air gases poses a danger and nuisance to the environment, particularly to wildlife and marine animals. Balloons released in Florida almost inevitably end up in the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic Ocean or other water bodies. Wildlife, especially sea turtles, mistake balloons for food, and strings attached to balloons can entangle birds and other animals.

There are exceptions for balloons released indoors, scientific or meteorological balloons released by a government agency or under government contract, or hot air balloons recovered after launching.



Species Spotlight

DAHOON (*Ilex cassine*)

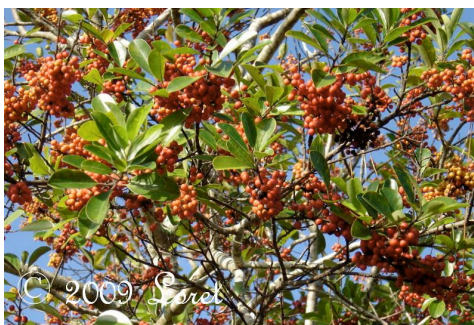


Photo © 2011 Loret

Dahoon is a member of the holly family (*Aquifoliaceae*). This shrub or small tree reaches heights of approx. 26 feet. It has a pyramidal crown. Perfect for small yards; red berries on the female trees are a big hit with wildlife, especially overwintering songbirds; turkey and quail.

source: University of Florida SFRC and IFAS

Adaptable to most light conditions from full sun to deep shade.

Likes light sandy soil; has moderate drought tolerance but may require watering during extremely dry periods. As a native of boggy situations, it is a perfect choice for a low lying, wet area in your landscape. It has fair salt tolerance.

Propagate by seeds and cuttings with cuttings the preference to ensure a known sex of the plant.

USDA Zones 5-10.

Upcoming

February - Beth Jackson
Subject: Ecological Corridors and Land Management within Orange County (originally scheduled for 2011 Conference)

March - TBA

April - TBA

Save the Date

Saturday, January 14
9:00am – 2:00pm
“Don’t Curb It... S.W.A.P. It!”
Peghorn Nature Park & Trail
Saint Cloud, FL
St. Cloud Residents are invited to bring their live Christmas trees to the park and swap them for a new containerized tree and mulch for their yards.

Saturday, January 21
10:00am – noon
Start a Spring Vegetable Garden
Peghorn Nature Park & Trail
Saint Cloud, FL
The City of St. Cloud Urban Agriculture Program will be offering this class. The class is for adults (18 years old and up) and the cost is \$5 per person, which includes all materials.

February 10-19th
<http://www.osceolacountyfair.com>
Osceola County Fair
Osceola Heritage Park
1911 Kissimmee Valley Lane
An affordable 10-day event showcases our County’s agriculture through 4-H and FFA programs. During the fair visitors can enjoy great food, a variety of shows, entertainment and youth/commercial exhibits, along with exciting midway rides.

Volunteers Needed

Osceola County Environmental Fair..... Fri: Feb 24th
 New Beginnings School Wednesdays
 St Cloud Business and Community Extravaganza Mar 3
 Education In The Park Apr 28
 Kissimmee Pots Maintenance ongoing
 Highlands Elementary Wildflower Garden help..... tba
 contact Jenny Welch

Historical Gardens Landscaping 1st and 3rd Sunday each month
 9:30a – 12:30p
 contact Kattya Graham
 407 396 8644 or
 kattya@osceolahistory.org

Before and After – Barred Yellow Butterfly

(*Eurema daira*)

Host Plants: Herbaceous plants—(Fabaceae) including Pencil flower (*Stylosanthes biflora*), Shyleaf (*Aeschynomene americana*) and Sticky Jointvetch (*Aeschynomene viscidula*)



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Extension Services

SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING

Friday, January 27, 2012; 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm or

Monday, January 30, 2012; 10:00 am – noon

Learn the basics of growing vegetables in Florida, different vegetable seasons, common pests and diseases that may attack your crops.

Registration required. Call 321-697-3000.

From the Home Office

Do You Need CEUs?

We're arranging CEUs (Continuing Education Credits) for the 2012 Conference. If there are specific credits that you need and that you think FNPS could help with, please contact marci.wilcox@gmail.com.

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 FNPS also entitles you to membership privileges in the Pine Lily Chapter of the FNPS and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Lily Pad*.

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

The Florida Native Plant Society is registered as a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.

Check pertinent category:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$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"/> Donor \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or household \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$1000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$75 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100 | |

Make check payable to: FNPS
Detach and mail to:
Pine Lily Chapter of
Florida Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 278
Melbourne, FL 32902-0278