



Hosted by the
Lyonia and
Pawpaw
Chapters FNPS

Growing Partnerships: Preserving Florida's Environment from Backyards to Backwoods

FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
26th Annual Conference ~ May 18-21, 2006

The Shores Resort and Spa
2637 South Atlantic Ave ~ Daytona Beach Shores
1.866.934.SHORES ~ www.ShoresResort.com



Sabal Palm and Palmettos
by Pat Fadden

Preliminary Conference Program and Schedule

For the most up-to-date information, please visit www.fnps.org

Wednesday, May 17

- 3:00pm-10:00pm Vendor Set-up
- 4:00pm- 9:00pm Check-in/Onsite Registration

Thursday, May 18

- Breakfast on your own
- 6:45am-2:00pm Check-in/Onsite Registration
- 7:15am-4:00pm Field Trips (see page 4 for details)
- 10:00am-4:00pm Workshops

Landscaping with Natives Workshop

Stetson University

- 10:00am-noon *Environmentally Responsible Landscaping*, Brent and Sharon Dolan, Owners Maple Street Natives
- Noon-1:00pm Tour of Gillespie Museum Native Landscape. Lunch provided if pre-registered
- 1:00pm-2:30pm *Pest and Disease ID of Native Landscapes*, Ray Jarrett, FDACS, Division of Plant Industry
Earn (1) CEU for Arborists (ISA)
CEU Workshop for Arborists, Landscape Architects and Holders of Pesticide Licenses

Volusia County Agriculture Center

- 10:00am-11:00am *Invasive Plant Identification & Distribution*, Greg Jubinsky, DEP
Earn (1) Core CEU for Pesticide Licenses
- 11:00am-noon *Pruning Techniques*, Erick Smith
Earn (1) CEU for Arborists (ISA)
- Noon-1:00pm Tour of the Extension's native butterfly garden. Lunch provided if you are pre-registered.

- 1:00pm-3:00pm *Environmental Concerns and Pesticide Use*, Dana Venrick, IFAS Volusia County Extension
Earn (2) Core CEUs for Pesticide Licenses
Earn (3) ASLA CEUs

- 3:00pm-4:00pm *Managing Insect Pest in the Nursery*, Dr. Javier Garces, Skinner Nurseries
Earn (1) Category CEU for Pesticide Licenses

- Noon-6:00pm Native Plant Sale in Courtyard

- 5:00pm-9:00pm Check-in/Onsite Registration

- 5:00pm FNPS Board Meeting, onsite
Dolphin Room

- 6:30pm-8:30pm Meet & Greet Beachside Pool Deck Fee: \$15 advance registration required, see enclosed form

Friday, May 19

- 7:00am-8:00am Continental Breakfast Free
- 7:00am-2:00pm Check-in/Onsite Registration
- 7:30am-7:30pm Native Plant Sale in Courtyard
- 8:00am-8:30am Welcome and announcements
- 8:30am-9:30am Keynote Speech
Working Together to Understand and Protect Florida's Precious Natural Heritage
Gary Knight, Director, Florida Natural Areas Inventory
Sponsored by Stetson University
- 9:00am-8:00pm Vendors Open/Hallway Exhibits
- 10:00am-5:30pm Concurrent Sessions

Track One - BACKYARDS

- 10:00am-11:00am *Volusia County's WaterWise Landscaping Ordinance: Saving Water with Natives*, Steve Kintner, Volusia County Environmental Management Director

FNPS has developed partnerships with the Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association (FNGLA), International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), and the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS) to provide Continuing Education Units / Credits (CEUs / CECs) to maintain professional certifications and licenses. See the conference schedule to identify which talks provide CEUs / CECs for your professional association.

FNGLA CEU credits will be awarded on a daily basis. 4 CEU credits can be earned for one full days attendance to the conference. A full registration of Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday will provide 16 CEU credits.

11:00am-noon *DEP's Invasive Exotic Plant Management Program: Killing is Our Business and Business is Good!*
Greg Jubinsky, Florida DEP Bureau of Invasive Plant Management
Earn (4) CEUs (ASLA)

Track Two - BACKWOODS

10:00am-11:00am *Bored to Tears: Non-Native Insect Borers in Native Trees*, Dr. Bud Mayfield, Forest Entomologist, FDACS, Division of Forestry
Earn (1) CEU for Arborists credit (ISA)
Earn (3) ASLA CEUs

11:00am-noon *Scale Insects: Pests of Ornamental and Native Plants*, Dr. Susan Halbert & Dr. Greg Hodges, Entomologists, FDACS, Division of Plant Industry
Earn (3) ASLA CEUs

Track Three - SCIENCE

10:00am-11:00am *Floral Biology and Molecular Phylogenetics of the genus Asimina (Annonaceae)*
Katherine Goodrich, Doctoral candidate, University of South Carolina

11:00am-noon Elizabeth Anne Boughton, University of Central Florida

Noon-1:00pm Beach Park Lunch Free
Concurrent Sessions (continued)

Track One - BACKYARDS

1:15pm-2:15pm *Urban Designs Compatible with Successful Urban Forestry*, Dr. Ed Gilman, University of Florida Department of Environmental Horticulture
Earn (1) CEU for Arborists credit (ISA)
Earn (3) ASLA CEUs

2:15pm-3:15pm *The Value of Trees to a Community*, Chuck Lippi, Owner, Advanced Tree Care, Inc
Earn (1) CEU for Arborists credit (ISA)
Earn (3) ASLA CEUs

Track Two - BACKWOODS

1:15pm-2:15pm *Bridging the Gap Between the Public and Private Sectors in Land Conservation*, Bob Guido, Director, Florida Trust for Public Land

2:15pm-3:15pm *Conservation Land Acquisitions; A County Perspective*, Rob Walsh, Volusia County Land Acquisition & Management, Volusia Forever Program Coordinator

Track Three - SCIENCE

1:15pm-2:15pm Dr. Brandt Henningsen, Sr Environmental Scientist, Southwest Florida Water Management District

2:15pm-3:15pm Ernie Cox

3:15pm-3:30pm **Break** with refreshments

Track One - BACKYARDS

3:30pm-4:30pm Dr Jack Stout, Ecology and Conservation Biology, University of Central Florida

4:30pm-5:30pm *Losing it all to Sprawl: How Progress Ate My Cracker Landscape*, Bill Belleville, Environmental Writer & Documentary Filmmaker, Equinox Documentaries

Track Two - BACKWOODS

3:30pm-4:30pm *Update on the FNPS Public Lands Program*, Charlie Pedersen, Florida DACS Division of Forestry

4:30pm-5:30pm *Pending*

Track Three - SCIENCE

3:30pm-4:30pm *Warea amplexifolia*, Dr. Anne Cox, Owner Ecolo-G Inc.

4:30pm-5:30pm *General Ideas on Plant Nutrition and Fertilizer Use*, Dr. Terrance Fullerton, Vice-President, Agro Services International

5:00pm-9:00pm Check-in/Onsite Registration

5:00pm-6:30pm AFNN Board Meeting - Ocean Deck Restaurant, 127 S Ocean Ave, Daytona Beach

6:00pm-7:00pm Dinner on your own

7:00pm-10:00pm **Book signing, Plant ID Contest, Raffle Drawings, Refreshments, Hors d'oeuvres, Cash Bar**

8:30pm-9:30pm **"Wekiva: Legacy or Loss?" film screening**, Bob Giguere, Filmmaker, Producer & Naturalist, Equinox Documentaries

Saturday, May 20

7:00am-8:00am Continental Breakfast Free

7:00am-3:00pm Check-in/Onsite Registration

7:30am-7:30pm Native Plant Sale in Courtyard

8:00am-5:00pm Vendors Open/Hallway Exhibits

8:00am-8:15am Welcome and announcements

8:15am-9:15am Keynote Speech

- *"Last Child in the Woods: Nature Deficit Disorder"*, Richard Louv, author of six books about family, nature and community. Richard is an advisor to the Ford Foundation's Leadership for a Changing World award program, the Scientific Council on the Developing Child, and a Visiting Scholar at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University.

9:15am-9:30am Break

9:30am-10:30am FNPS General Membership Meeting

10:30-noon Panel session and workshops

- *Natives and Genetics* The goals of this panel discussion is to help the FNPS develop a policy on the use of native plants in landscaping, the affect of cultivars, hybrids and the movement of plants outside of their naturally occurring range.

• *Advanced Plant Identification Workshop*

- *Plant Identification Workshop for Beginners: The secrets of identifying plants and how to use a dichotomous key*, Dr. Cindy Bennington, associate professor of Biology and chair of the Environmental Responsibility Council, Stetson University

noon-1:00pm Lunch on your own

1:00pm-5:00pm Concurrent Sessions & Homeowners Sessions

Track One - BACKYARDS

- 1:15pm-2:15pm *Gardening for Florida's Butterflies*, Pam Traas, author and noted butterfly authority
- 2:15pm-3:15pm *Wild Flowers of the Southeastern Coastal Plain*, Gil Nelson, Ph. D. , Research Associate in Botany at the Robert K. Godfrey Herbarium at Florida State University

Track Two - BACKWOODS

- 1:15pm-2:15pm *Stetson's Native Plant Initiative*, Dave Rigsby, Landscape Architect, Dept of Streets & Grounds Manager, Stetson University
- 2:15pm-3:15pm *Birds, How They Use Native Plants*, David Hargrove, Audubon Society Conservation Chair, Halifax River Chapter

Track Three - SCIENCE

- 1:15pm-2:15pm *Restoration of Coastal Dune Systems*, Robert Barron, Coastal Growers, Inc
- 2:15pm-3:15pm *Flora of Tomoka State and the Bulow Creek State Parks*, John Kunzer, USF Herbarium Assistant

3:15pm-3:30pm Break with refreshments

Track One - BACKYARDS

- 3:30pm-4:30pm *Student Service Learning with Environmental Restoration: The Legacy Project at Rose Bay and other Volusia County Sites*, Louise Chapman with co-presenters Kenneth Butler and Daniel Hayes, Volusia County Schools
- 4:30pm-5:30pm *Landscapes: Beyond the Puritan Mandate*, Dr. Martin Quigley, University of Central Florida Arboretum
Earn (4) ASLA CEUs

Track Two - BACKWOODS

- 3:30pm-4:30pm *Save the Loop Campaign - why it worked and what you can do in your community*, Rick Smith, Vice-Chair The Ormond Beach Scenic Loop Corridor Advocacy Group
- 4:30pm-5:30pm *If Not You, Who? If Not Now, When?*, Sandra Diaz, Dandelion Communita Cafe'. Sandra is a local environmental activist and visionary.

Track Three - SCIENCE

- 3:30pm-4:30pm *Is the exotic Brazilian pepper Schinus terebinthifolius a threat to mangrove ecosystems in Florida?*, Melinda Donnelly, Biology MS candidate, University of Central Florida
- 4:30pm-5:30pm *Developing Water-Wise Native Landscapes: Lessons Learned*, Deborah Green, WAV Water Conservation Coordinator
- 6:30pm-10:00pm Dinner Social/Landscape Award Presentations and the jazz sounds of the Cook Trio overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Casual attire. Fee: \$26, advance registration required, see enclosed form.

Sunday, May 21

7:00am-11:00am Native Plant Sale in Courtyard

8:00am-11:00am Vendors Open/Hallway Exhibits

8:15am-5:30pm – Field Trips (see page 6 for details)

The Shores Resort and Spa - Hotel

www.ShoresResort.com

Conference rate is \$115 plus tax per night (1-4 people per standard room). Conference rate is available until April 17. Call 1-866-934-SHORES and ask for the Florida Native Plant Society rate.

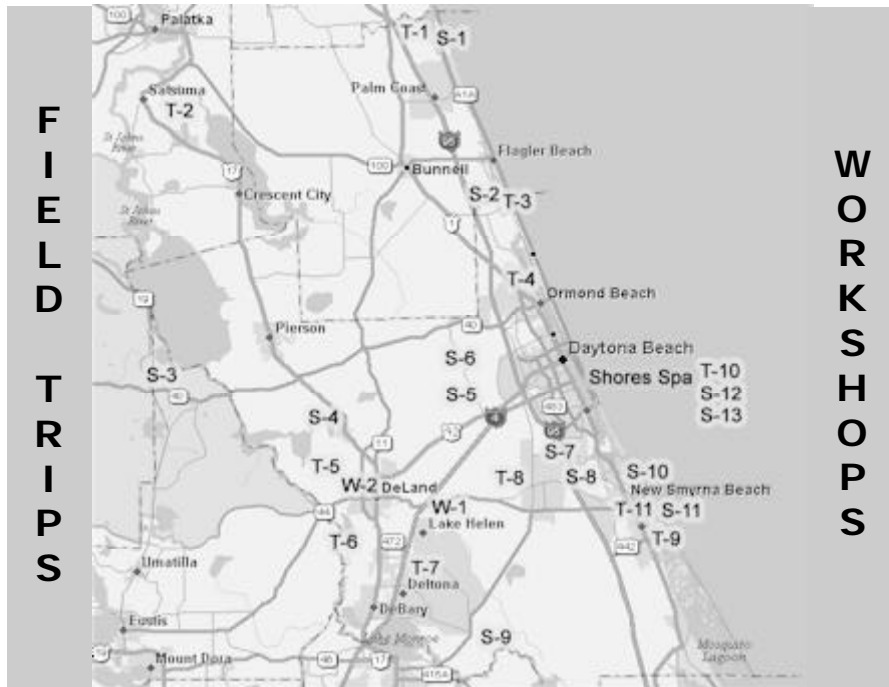
You can't beat this rate for a luxury beachfront resort!

This brand new resort has just opened its doors so you can enjoy the thrills of Daytona Beach Shores and the FNPS conference, then kick back in your lushly appointed oasis. Every guestroom offers a stunning water view. The beachfront pool deck features a Tiki Bar and personal cabanas.

About the Area

Daytona Beach Shores, located in central-east Florida between Orlando and Jacksonville, is an ocean-front beachside area, surrounded by the cities of Daytona Beach, Ormond Beach, Port Orange, and Ponce Inlet.

Volusia County has 23 miles of sandy white beaches and countless water sports, the Daytona area is sure to please everyone! Local area attractions include the Ponce de Leon Lighthouse, The Boardwalk, the Museum of Arts and Sciences, and Marine Science Center. Go sailing or charter a boat for some excellent deep sea or fresh water fishing or experience a drive or bike ride on The Loop.



ABOUT FIELD TRIPS: Times shown are onsite. Please meet at hotel to car-pool to site whenever possible. Some trips have additional fees that must be pre-paid with registration. Select first, second, and third choice trips. **NOTE: Lunches will NOT be provided on field trips.** Plan on bringing your lunch - apples, bananas and water will be available at trailhead, free of charge.

Thursday, May 18

T-1 Princess Place Preserve

Moderate-Difficult 9:30 am 1 hour drive from hotel
 Guides: Carl Swofford, Forester and Parks Administrator for Flagler County and Gail Compton, naturalist and columnist
 Limit: 20

The crown jewel of the Flagler County parks system consists of 1500 acres at the confluence of Pelicer Creek and the intracoastal waterway. Princess Place preserve is part of the Pelicer Creek Aquatic Preserve and the Guana, Tolomato, Mantanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve. Diverse ecological communities make up the preserve, including hardwood hammock, sandhill and oak scrub. All five species of pine native to North Florida can be seen along the trails in the preserve. This trip will be a hike along some of the preserve's trails.

T-2 Dunns Creek State Park

Easy 9:30 am 1-1/2 hour drive from hotel
 Guides: J.B. Miller, Senior Land Resource Planner, SJRWMD
 Limit: 15

Located south of a sharp bend in the St. Johns River, this is one of the newer additions to the state park system. Dunn Creek flows from Crescent Lake to the St. Johns River and is bordered on the southwest by over six-thousand acres of park property. There are **over 20 identified natural communities** that contain a number of endangered and threatened plant and animal species. Participants will ride in provided four wheel drive vehicles and visit a number of the different habitats throughout the park.

T-3 North Peninsula State Park

Difficult 8:30 am 35 minute drive from hotel
 Guides: Danny Young, Director of Environmental Services, Zev Cohen & Associates
 Limit: 20

North Peninsula State Park consists of over 500 acres of land spanning the barrier island of north Volusia County from the Atlantic Ocean to the intercoastal waterway. In addition to a two and a half mile stretch of undeveloped beach, the park is a showcase of coastal strand habitat. Florida scrub jays, indigo snakes and gopher tortoises are among the resident species. This field trip will explore the coastal scrub along the new 2-1/4 mile nature trail through the heart of the park.

T-4 Johns Island, Tomoka State Park

Difficult 8:30 am 25 minute drive from hotel
 Guides: John Kunzer, USF Herbarium Assistant
 Limit: 20

Many know Tomoka State Park from the "tunnel" through the trees on North Beach Street in Ormond Beach, but few people have explored the Johns Island area of the park which borders the Tomoka River at the US 1 bridge crossing. Johns Island has sandy upland habitats, pine flatwoods, oak scrub, and sand pine scrub, surrounded by saltmarsh. There are two man-made lakes at Johns Island, one freshwater and the other brackish. The variety of habitats is represented by a diverse flora and provides a sanctuary for wildlife- white-tailed deer, turkey, bobcats, otter, and alligators- in the middle of the City of Ormond Beach. On this trip you will hike along the dirt roads that grid the area. Our guide John Kunzer has been conducting a vascular plant survey of the area, so he is very well acquainted with the species present.

T-5 Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge

Moderate 9:00 am 45 minute drive from hotel
 Guides: Kristina Sorensen, Refuge Biologist, Lake Woodruff NWR
 Limit: 20

Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge, located about 25 miles west of Daytona Beach, was established in 1964 to provide habitat for migrating and wintering birds, and is included in a corridor of

ecologically sensitive lands along the St. Johns River. The refuge contains 21,574 acres of freshwater marshes, 5,800 acres of Cypress and mixed hardwood swamps, 2,400 acres of uplands, and more than 1,000 acres of lakes, streams, and canals. The biological diversity of the wetlands provides nesting, over-wintering and stopover habitat during migration for neotropical songbirds, migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds and raptors. Three impoundment areas are maintained for waterfowl and wading birds. One managed impoundment creates year round flooded forest habitat, which serves as a "green reservoir" for wood duck and other year round residents. The surrounding uplands include pine flatwoods and hardwood hammocks. Field trip participants can expect to experience a diversity of native flora, ranging from *aquatic salt marsh mallow and scarlet hibiscus to the butterworts, pawpaws and magnolias of the uplands*. Also, attendees will have an opportunity to check out Lake Woodruff NWR latest fledgling project, conversion of an old commercial fernery site into a grassland meadow. Be prepared to get your feet wet on this one.

T-6 St. Johns River, Okeechobee Gourd Pontoon Boat Tour

Easy 8:30 am 47 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Rich Harris, Assistant Park Manager, Blue Springs State Park

Fee required: \$20 per person with registration
Entrance fee: \$5 per vehicle/8 people max, when entering the park

The Okeechobee gourd – *Cucurbita okeechobeensis* - is listed as an endangered species at both the state and federal level and is only found in two locations; around Lake Okeechobee and along a stretch of the St. Johns River in Volusia County. Starting at Blue Spring State Park you will travel up the St. Johns River in a pontoon boat to see this rare plant and enjoy the other flora and fauna along the rivers main and side passages. After the boat trip you can picnic, swim in the spring run, and see Volusia County's only first magnitude spring.

T-7 Lyonia Preserve

Moderate 9:00 am 45 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Dr. Cindy Bennington, associate professor of Biology and chair of the Environmental Responsibility Council at Stetson University and Bonnie Cary, naturalist with Volusia County Land Acquisition and Management
Limit: 20

A 'Great Florida Birding Trail' site, Lyonia Preserve is a *home to over 100 Florida Scrub Jays* and not less than 226 other species of plants and animals. Three main trail loops take visitors through this 400+ acre preserve of scrub, pine forest and scattered wetlands. Volusia County actively manages this site of over 500 acres to provide visitors a chance to see and learn about one of the most unique landscapes found in Florida. This predominately 'scrub' habitat is a remnant of an ancient sand dune ridge that once extended from Ocala to Lake Wales. A major goal in establishing Lyonia Preserve was to restore the scrub plant community to the conditions similar to those that existed here before human intervention, and thereby provide suitable habitat for scrub dependant animals.

T-8 Vargal Tract, Volusia County Conservation Lands

Easy 9:00 am 25 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Gary Schultz, Inventory Ecologist with Florida Natural Areas Inventory and Dr. Eliane Norman, retired from Stetson University and coauthor of *Andre Michaux in Florida*.
Limit: 20

The Participants will take the Volusia County Land Management Eco-Buggy tour through Samsula's pine flatwoods, scrub, and wetlands *in search of Volusia's rare endemic pawpaw species, Deeringothamnus rugelii*. Since 1995 Volusia County and the City of Port Orange have co-managed this 4000 acre tract. Though hunting leases are still permitted, this site is not generally open to the public, and is primarily used as a well field. The field guides for this trip will be Gary Schultz of FNAI, who documented the presence of endangered Rugel's pawpaw on the site, and Dr. Eliane Norman, formerly of Stetson University. Dr. Norman is one of the few experts who can distinguish non-flowering specimen of *Deeringothamnus rugelii* from the other confusing resident pawpaws (*Assimina pygmaea* and *A. reticulata*) by their leaves alone. Other pleasant surprises in the upland scrub habitat may be false pennyroyal and *Conradina grandiflora* in full bloom, as well as an abundance of gopher tortoises. This 3-4 hour covered flat bed tram ride will be punctuated with frequent stops as it traverses the different plant communities.

T-9 Indian River Lagoon Kayak Tour

Moderate 9:00 am 30 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Tracey Jones, Marine Discovery Center
Limit: 10 Fee required: \$30 per person with registration

Explore the Indian River Lagoon by kayak. Glide through the mangroves and quiet back waters of this unique pristine estuary. Become familiar with the three different mangroves species. Find out what exotics are competing with native plants on spoil islands in the lagoon system. Note the vegetation which predominates along the tidal shores and flats. Also observe the wildlife that calls this lagoon system home: shorebirds, Osprey, Oyster Catcher, Hermit Crabs, King's Crown whelks, Porpoise, and maybe even some Manatees. This trip will be a hands-on and feet-wet trip.

T-10 Native Landscape Tour of Volusia County - North

Easy 9:00 am starts at conference hotel
Guides: Marvette Bagwell, Full Moon Natives
Limit: 23 Fee required: \$15 with registration

View landscapes at area homes, parks and business - each with its own unique setting. See how Chapter members have used native plants to accentuate their homes. We'll be visiting homes in a variety of locales from Daytona Beach to Ormond by the Sea in the air conditioned comfort of a bus.

T-11 Marine Discovery Center Wine & Cheese Eco-boat tour

Easy 5:30 pm 25 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Judy Corn and Bruce Jaldagain, Marine Discovery Center
Limit: 38 Fee required: \$20 per person with registration

The Indian River Lagoon is diverse estuary system that stretches 156 miles from Volusia County south down to Palm Beach County. Get an up close experience with some of the estuary's most unique inhabitants while traveling aboard Marine Discovery Center's covered pontoon boat. All seats have great views. From New Smyrna, we will focus on the estuary south into the remote backwaters of the Indian River Lagoon where over 4000 species of animals and plants reside, including all three types of mangroves. If we are lucky we may see dolphins, manatees, or an occasional Oyster Catcher or Roseate Spoonbill. Cruising in the late afternoon, we will be able to watch a variety of birds and mammals as they settle in for the night.

S-1 Washington Oaks State Park

Moderate 9:30 am 1 hour 5 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Gail Compton, naturalist and columnist
Limit: 15 Entrance fee: \$4 per vehicle/8 people max, when entering park

Washington Oaks State Park state park comprises 425 acres stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mantanzas River. Ocean waves have exposed the coquina rock, a rare sight for Florida beaches. The park includes extensive gardens set in a picturesque oak hammock and natural areas that include mature coastal maritime hammock, dense canopied coastal scrub and estuarine tidal marsh. You will be guided through the gardens, then along the trails through the natural areas. After this walk, the group will travel across A1A to see the unique coquina rock outcroppings on the beach.

S-2 Bulow Creek State Park

Difficult 9:00 am 40 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Charles DuToit, Tomoka State Park biologist and Danny Young, Director of Environmental Services, Zev Cohen & Associates
Limit: 20 Entrance fee: \$4 per vehicle/8 people max, when entering park (paybox, have exact change)

Bulow Hammock was once part of a 4,000- acre plantation owned by John Bulow in the 1830s. The present landscape reflects the historic land uses; there are pinewoods and second-growth hammock in former fields and homesites. Some areas of this large plantation were never disturbed, however, and are now preserved in Bulow Creek State Park as remnants of old growth forest. The Hiking Trail starts at the Bulow plantation site and after crossing several small creeks enters a shaded forest of tall live oaks with large trunks and massive limbs. The old moss-covered trees support a variety of epiphytic plants, including several *rare species of polypody ferns* that are related to the common resurrection fern. Although the live oaks are dominant, there are other trees with impressive dimensions along the Hiking Trail, including water hickory, Florida elm, green ash, sweetgum, red maple, laurel oak, basswood, and red cedar.

S-3 Mormon Branch, Ocala National Forest

Difficult 9:30 am 1 hour and 20 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Jim Buckner, Silver River Museum and Environmental Education Center
Limit: 20

Description: Mormon Branch is a spring-fed stream in the Ocala National Forest that has a unique and very diverse plant community along its floodplain. The forest contains the *southern-most stand of Atlantic White Cedar*. Other interesting plants include Florida willow, yellow anise, needle palm, *Pieris phillyreifolia*, *Parnassia grandiflora*, and *Isoetes flaccida*. There is also a wide assortment of wildlife, including black bear and water moccasins, and there are usually a lot of ticks.

S-4 DeLeon Springs State Park, Wild Persimmon Trail

Moderate-Difficult 9:00 am 45 minute drive from hotel

Guides: Dr. Deborah Green, Conservation Coordinator with the Water Authority of Volusia, environmental educator and author of several books on Florida nature from Sabal Press
Limit: 20 Entrance fee: \$5 per vehicle/8 people max, when entering the park

The Wild Persimmon Trail at DeLeon Springs State Park is a treasure of shaded riverine floodplain habitat. Blazed by the Florida Trail Association, this one could have been more aptly named, "the Wild Anise Trail." Trail scouts must have had a real treat as they cut through the large stretches of licorice-scented foliage of anise (*Illicium parviflorum*) on their way up to the upland hammock where one lone wild persimmon grove can be found. The trail is amply shaded various oaks, ash, cypress, loblolly bay, sweet bay, hickories, blue beech, swamp dogwood, maple cherry laurel, elm, magnolia, and cabbage palm. An interesting array of understory plants will also greet visitors...as strange-looking green dragons (*Arisaema dracontium*), surprising pink spikes of wood sage (*Teucrium canadense*), the devil's walking stick (*Aralia spinosa*), ironweed (*Vernonia spp.*), and snow squarestem (*Melanthera nivea*). This is a moderately difficult 3-4 mile round trip trek, due to uneven terrain. Insect repellent is advised. But adventure seekers will be well rewarded if they remember to bring their swim suits to cool off in the springs before having lunch in the Old Spanish Mill Restaurant.

S-5 Tiger Bay State Forest, Buncombe Hill Trail

Moderate 9:00 am 30 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Dr. Shirley Denton, Senior Ecologist, Biological Research Associates
Limit: 20 Day use fee: \$1 per person, paybox at Indian Lake parking area, have exact change

The Buncombe Hill nature trail in Tiger Bay State Forest is a two-mile walk that is part of the Florida State Forest Trailwalker program. Starting near Indian Lake with a wetland ecosystem including loblolly bay, the trail then moves into a primarily sandhill habitat. Along the trail to the site of the Buncombe Hill turpentine camp can be seen sand and slash pine, turkey oak, prickly pear, Florida rosemary, bear-grass, American beautyberry and other flora typical of sandhill ecosystems. After this trial walk a visit is planned to a nearby site of *Rugel's pawpaw - Deeringothamnus rugelii* – an endangered species that is only found in Volusia County.

S-6 Tiger Bay State Forest Butterfly and Habitat Tour

Easy 9:00 am 30 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Dr. Marc Minno, Supervising Regulatory Scientist at SJRWMD Dept. of Resource Management and co-author of several popular butterfly books.
Limit: 20

You will traverse the Rima Ridge part of Tiger Bay State Forest by car beginning at Indian Lake Road off US 92, taking Rima Ridge Road, and ending at State Road 40. We will make stops at Bennett Swamp, Indian Lake, Scoggin Lake and at flatwoods, wet prairie, bay swamp, and sand pine scrub habitats along the way. Tiger Bay State Forest is 23,425 acres in size and includes vast tracks of swamps, wet prairies, and flatwoods. Rima Ridge is a series of scrub islands that run north-south between US 92 and State Road 40 in the eastern portion of the state forest. Much of this area burned during the drought in the late 1990's and the wildflowers have really responded. This guide for this

trip will be Marc Minno, co-author of *Florida Butterfly Gardening: A Complete Guide to Attracting, Identifying, and Enjoying Butterflies and Florida Butterfly Caterpillars and Their Host Plants*.

S-7 Spruce Creek Canoe Tour

Moderate 9:00 am 20 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Georgia Zern, Naturalist and Curator at Gamble Place
Limit: 20 Fee required: \$20 per person

The *Outstanding Florida Waters designation for Spruce Creek will be well confirmed* by those participating in this conference canoe excursion. This dark-tea colored tidal river moves from its mouth where it embraces the tidal waters of the Halifax River and is lined with mangroves, oyster beds, needle rush and marsh grasses. Moving up stream past a huge marshy ox-bow, and surprising great sand bluffs, the winding tidal river, which is sometimes home to breeding manatee, begins to narrow. Marshes of saw grass and salt marsh mallow give way to low creek banks lined with maples, sweet gum, cypress, palms, and giant leather ferns. Gradually the narrow creek is closely enveloped with elms, ash, and stiff cornel dogwood. Its dark swampy inner sanctum speaks quietly to intruders as attempts are made to paddle the narrow tree-covered waterway. If not lost in the meandering upper reaches of the swamp, one can find the twisting narrow way back around a large, low, flat palm-rich swampy island, back toward the light of the open creek. Former Spruce Creek resident, and long time Gamble Place Naturalist / Curator, Georgia Zern, will happily guide folks on at least part of this Outstanding Florida Waters tidal creek.

S-8 Doris Leeper Preserve/Spruce Creek Bluffs

Moderate 9:00 am 35 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Randall Sleister, Manager of Volusia County Land Management
Limit: 20

Participants will hike mixed hardwood forest, along 35-foot high bluffs overlooking the saltwater marsh of Spruce Creek. Volusia County had been inhabited for thousands of years by indigenous peoples who were then called the Timucua. They were highly sophisticated, organized into complex social systems, utilized a calendar, and whose knowledge of astronomy and medical practices were equal or superior to existing European. One of their larger habitations was believed to be nestled around the Spruce Creek basin, as evidenced by the wealth of archaeological sites and resources including the Spruce Creek Mound. The area contains a variety of flora, including pawpaw and hog plum.

S-9 Hickory Bluff, Volusia Conservation Lands

Moderate 9:00 am 50 minute drive from hotel
Guides: Dr. Bill Grey and Bonnie Cary, Volusia County Environmental Naturalist
Limit: 20

Hickory Bluff Preserve is one of Volusia County's newest Land acquisitions in south central Volusia County, near Osteen. This property was purchased with Volusia Forever funds and essentially "has it all". *The terrain shifts from pine flatwoods, to bay head, to cypress swamp, to hammock, to scrub.* A small side creek releases accumulated waters from the swamp, which courses its way to the bigger water. The jewel, of course, is one terrific vista overlooking the swirling dark waters of the St. Johns' River. Another favorite treasure in the preserve is a small cluster of oaks sporting a spectacular display of Tillandsia deep

in the upland heart of the property. As you pass along the road leading to the Bluff you may see three different kinds of Pawpaws. Then, if you are really lucky, you may spot the Rugel's pawpaw in bloom out along a pine flatwoods trail. Dr. Bill Grey and Volusia County Environmental Naturalist, Bonnie Cary, will serve as your guides on this tour of the new, popular land acquisition. It is definitely a Volusia Forever Treasure.

S-10 Smyrna Dunes Park

Moderate 9:00 am 35 minute drive from hotel
Guides: David Griffis, Natural Resource Extension Agent – County Extension Director, UF/IFAS Volusia Co. Extension
Limit: 20 Entrance fee: \$3.50 per vehicle/8 people max, when entering park

Smyrna Dunes Park is located on the south side of Ponce Inlet preserving 250 acres of pristine coastal habitat while providing recreational opportunities for the public. Five different ecosystems – ocean, river, dunes, scrub zone and saltwater marsh – can be seen from the two miles of elevated walkways, pavilions and observation tower. In addition to the coastal vegetation, this park attracts a variety of birds and butterflies.

S-11 Turtle Mound, Canaveral National Seashore, Mangrove Pontoon Tour

Moderate 9:00 am 45 minute drive from hotel
Guides: John Stiner, Park Ranger, Canaveral National Seashore and Dr. Eliane Norman, retired from Stetson University and coauthor of *Andre Michaux in Florida*.
Limit: 15

Participants will hike to the top of Florida's tallest aboriginal midden at 45 feet, with spectacular views of both the Mosquito Lagoon and Atlantic Ocean. The midden is made of oysters and other shells eaten by the indigenous peoples. Climate moderation by the lagoon plus the calcium-rich soils allowed many tropical hammock species to grow here, although several species disappeared after the freezes of the 1980s. Following the visit to Turtle Mound, you will explore the adjacent Indian River lagoon on a pontoon boat.

S-12 Native Landscape Tour of Volusia County-South

Easy 9:00 am starts at hotel
Guides: Marvette Bagwell, Full Moon Natives
Limit: 23 Fee required: \$15 with registration

View landscapes at area homes, parks and business - each with its own unique setting. See how Chapter members have used native plants to accentuate their homes. We'll be visiting homes in a variety of locales from Ponce Inlet to New Smyrna Beach in the air conditioned comfort of a bus.

S-13 Surfing Lessons

Moderate 10:00 am at conference hotel
Guides: Chuck Carter, Nichols Surf Shop
Minimum: 4 Fee required: \$50 with registration

Surfing lessons on the beach in front of the conference hotel. An hour of instruction on the beach, then hit the waves to put what you learned into practice. One instructor per 4-5 students helps keep instruction personalized. Dependent upon surf conditions, so last minute cancellation is possible.



For More Information

CALL FNPS Administrative Service: 321.271.6702

Sponsorship opportunities are still available, contact Don Spence at 386.235.0404

Registration information & questions email:
conference@fnps.org

Local Conference Contact Number: 386.235.0404



PO Box 278
Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

RUSH - CONFERENCE INFO

DEADLINES

APRIL 3 - EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT expires after this date.

APRIL 17 - HOTEL CONFERENCE DISCOUNT RATE expires after this date.

MAY 3 - LAST DAY FOR ADVANCE REGISTRATION, and registration for socials and field trips. After this date, plan to register onsite at the hotel. **All attendees who register by May 3rd will receive a complementary metal 10x hand lens and lanyard.**

Changes/Cancellations

No changes after May 3. Onsite field trip changes accommodated on space available basis. Fees and lunches will not be refunded or transferred.

No refunds for cancellations made after May 3.

FNPS reserves the right to change or cancel any event and refund registered participants.

Visit www.fnps.org, click on Conference for the most up to date conference and field trip information

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