



Florida Native Plant Society



2018 Annual Report *Renewal!*

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

A Message from Executive Director Juliet Rynear

When the conference committee picked “Renewal” as the theme for this year’s conference, I don’t think they fully realized that its relevance would extend beyond the conference to our organization as a whole. This has definitely been a year of renewal as we worked to make our Society stronger and rebuild the infrastructure needed to support this growing nonprofit. We hired two full-time staff members, brought our accounting system in-house, and began new conservation projects to conserve **and monitor some of our state’s** rarest species.

Our friends and family in the Panhandle suffered through the devastation of Hurricane Michael that leveled entire forests. This catastrophic event makes the future of *Torreya taxifolia*, the rarest conifer in north America, uncertain and we are committed to doing everything we can to help conserve this iconic tree.

Our committee chairs and members worked tirelessly to fulfill our mission. The Policy and Legislation Committee worked with state and local legislators to increase awareness of the need to continue to acquire, protect and manage natural lands in our rapidly developing state. Our Conservation Committee began new projects to conserve and monitor our rare plant species. The Warea Project took flight as more properties were preserved from development and we worked with the Putnam Land Conservancy on strategies to build upon our success. Our Land Management Partners Committee continued to provide expert volunteers who participated on the required land management plan reviews for state-owned lands, including state forests, state parks, preserves, wildlife management and environmental areas. We awarded four Research grants, one conservation grant, and our Landscape Committee honored three landscape projects that exemplify outstanding landscapes that **utilize Florida’s native plants.**

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On the cover: ‘Red Mangrove and Railroad Vine’ *Rhizophora mangle* and *Ipomoea pes-caprae*. Original digital art by Kevin Shea, kevinshea.net



‘Mangrove Creek’ by Kevin Shea, kevinshea.net

Our Vision

- Residents and visitors know about and value Florida's extraordinary native flora and native plant communities, which are essential to the healthy ecosystems that support wildlife and people.
- Residents and visitors enjoy access to Florida's native plants in natural environments and human-made landscapes.
- The people of Florida and their elected representatives actively support the Society's mission, through education, research, advocacy, land stewardship, conservation and restoration.
- The network of managed lands comprising remaining native landscapes is strengthened and managed for the perpetuation of native flora. Native plant populations and communities are considered in future conservation and public land acquisitions, and laws are strengthened to provide protection for rare and endangered native plant populations.
- FNPS is a leader in maintaining and providing reliable science-based information about Florida native plants, plant conservation and restoration.



'South Florida Native Plants' by Kevin Shea, kevinshea.net



'Pine Flatwoods' by Kevin Shea, kevinshea.net

2018 Accomplishments

- Hired our first full-time employees, Juliet Rynear as Executive Director and Valerie Anderson, Director of Communications and Programming.
- Warea Corridor Project – continued working with the Putnam Land Conservancy to acquire properties, monitor and manage the largest (and least protected) population of the critically endangered plant *Warea amplexifolia* (Clasping warea).
- Brought the volunteer Torreyakeepers project in-house and began fundraising to meet a large unmet need in the recovery plan – the survey and protection of the critically endangered *Torreya taxifolia* (Florida Torreya) on privately-owned lands.
- Began projects to survey and monitor two rare species: *Dicerandra modesta* (Blushing scrub balm) and *Dicerandra cornutissima* (Longspurred mint) to assist public land managers.
- Expanded rare species and rare plant community monitoring.
- Awarded \$8,200 in Research and Conservation Grant funding.
- Supported the Southeastern Chapters Policy Initiative in partnership with Martin, Palm Beach, Dade, and Broward Chapters to coordinate regional advocacy for full funding of Florida Forever.
- Habitat Restoration program - 123 species of plants were grown from seeds or cuttings, or rescued from four sites in central Florida and grown out for restoration work on public lands. Among the species we worked with were 23 Florida endemics, including 10 endangered state and/or federally listed species.
- Members donated 25,000 volunteer hours.
- Board members donated 2,583 hours of in-kind services, worth over \$145,000.
- FNPS members participated in 100% of state land management reviews in fiscal year 2018-2019.
- Increased our social media presence, gaining over 2,000 new social media followers.
- Upgraded ten chapter websites to modern, mobile-friendly designs.

Research and Conservation Grant Awards

Together, these programs have provided more than \$110,000 for research and conservation projects in Florida. In addition, at least 48 peer-reviewed journal articles have been published as a result of projects funded wholly or in part by FNPS grant programs.

Research grants provide funding for research leading to the conservation of Florida native plants. Conservation grants provide funding for applied plant conservation projects that protect, conserve and restore Florida's rare or imperiled native plant taxa and communities.

2018 Research Grants

Assessing genetic diversity of the highly endangered native semaphore cactus *Consolea corallicola* and its potential for breeding programs: Anthony Rossi and Dale Casamatta (University of North Florida, Department of Biology, 2018)

Molecular ecology of *Monotropis reynoldsiae*: Arian Farid and Alan Franck (University of South Florida, CMMB, Herbarium, 2018)

Conservation epigenetics in the highly endangered 'Florida ziziphus' (*Ziziphus celata*, Rhamnaceae)

located at Bok Tower Gardens in Lake Wales, Florida: Brigette Williams (Saint Louis University, 2018)

Belowground nonstructural carbohydrate total contents and concentrations in pine savanna species: Milton H. Diaz (University of Florida, Department of Biology, 2018)

2018 Conservation Grant

Ellen Stewart and the Friends of Jonathan Dickinson State Park
sponsored by the Martin County Chapter

The focal species for this proposal is Dancing Lady Orchid (*Tolumnia bahamensis*), a state-listed endangered orchid limited to two southern Florida counties and the Bahamas. This species is found naturally in two small patches (<100 individual plants) in Jonathan Dickinson State Park and one Palm Beach County property. This rare plant is endangered due to development, poaching and loss of pollinators. This project will collect seed, grow plants, and outplant 1,000 plants into Jonathan Dickinson State Park.



Peer-Reviewed Articles Resulting from FNPS Research Grants in 2018

2007

Grant Awardee: Jennifer Schafer, Department of Biology, Winthrop University

Grant Title: Effects of time since fire on nutrient limitation of plant productivity in Florida scrub ecosystems: Does disturbance shift nitrogen vs. phosphorus limitation?

Resulting Paper: Schafer, J.L. and M.C. Mack. 2018. Nutrient limitation of plant productivity in scrubby flatwoods: does fire shift nitrogen versus phosphorus limitations? *Plant Ecology* 219(9): 1063-1079. (doi.org./10.1007/s11258-018-0859-6).

Summary: Schafer and Mack found that the nutrient most limiting to the plant productivity in a scrubby flatwoods doesn't change in the time since fire.

2014

Grant Awardee: John Schenk, Department of Biology, Georgia Southern

Grant Title: Evolutionary origins of *Paronychia* on Florida's sand ridges.

Resulting Paper: Schenk, J.J., S. Kontur, H. Wilson, M. Noble, and E. Derryberry. 2018. Allopatric speciation drives diversification of ecological specialists on sandhills. *International Journal of Plant Science* 179(4): 325-339.

Summary: Schenk and co-workers found that diversity within *Paronychia* is dependent on the geological appearance of the habitats it is in.

2016

Grant Awardee: Lauren Trotta, Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, University of Florida

Grant Title: Improving analyses of diversity in the imperiled Pine Rockland plant community

Resulting Paper: Trotta, L.B., B. Baiser, J. Possley, D. Li, J. Lange, S. Martin, and E.B. Sessa. 2018. Community phylogeny of the globally critically imperiled pine rockland ecosystem. *American Journal of Botany* 1095: 1735-1747.

Summary: Lauren and co-workers found that the pine rockland flora included representatives of all major vascular plant lineages and most species were native to the New World. There was a strong phylogenetic signal for endemism but not for invasiveness.

Land Management

FNPS provided expert assistance to Florida's land managers through our participation in 5-year and 10-year land management reviews. The FNPS Land Management Partners Committee worked with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to schedule local FNPS members for each review. Each land management review requires between 20-25 hours in preparation and on-site participation. The onsite land management reviews ensure that the each property is being cared for in accordance with approved management plans. In fiscal year 2018-2019 FNPS members participated in 17 reviews, or 100% of all land management reviews for the year.



Florida's second largest Live Oak tree at Lake Griffin State Park is approximately 400 years old.

38th Annual Conference - theme: *Renewal!*



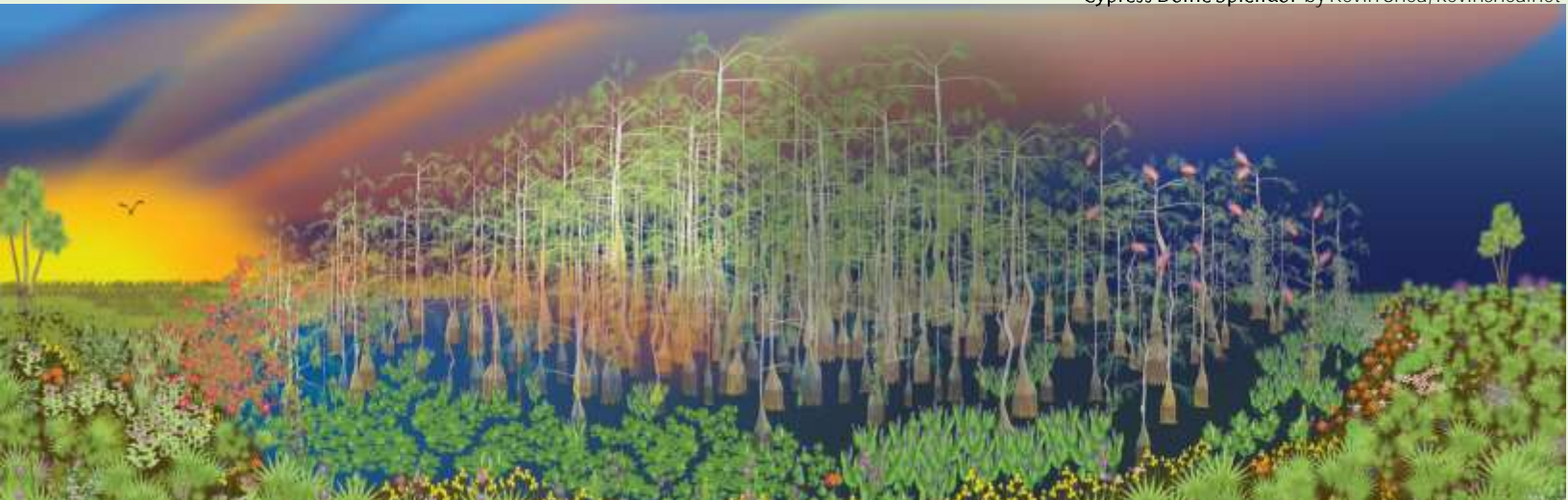
Resurrection Fern (*Pleopeltis michauxiana*) by and in memory of Dr. Marjorie Brown

For the past 38 years, FNPS has hosted an annual conference in every region of the state. The conference attracts a diverse group of people including conservation professionals, researchers, public officials, businesses, landowners, and citizen scientists. These four-day events feature world class speakers, 20 field trips, lectures, workshops, panel discussions, author book signings, FNPS committee and Annual Membership meetings, vendors/exhibitors, a silent auction, a native plant sale, and three breakout-tracks highlighting 1) Conservation & Restoration, 2) Current Issues, and 3) Research.

This year, the conference was held May 17-20, at the Miccosukee Resort in Miami. The schedule and field trips were heavy on Orchidaceae and Apocynaceae, with the Conservation & Restoration track on Friday being wholly dedicated to Orchid Conservation, Restoration, and Citizen Science.

Our four featured speakers were a subset of our local native plant rock stars: George Gann spoke on *The Promise (and some perils) of Ecological Restoration*, Tiffany Troxler, PhD covered *Local and Regional Opportunities for Natural Systems to Benefit Society*, Roger Hammer shared his survival skills in *Exploring the Everglades Backcountry (without dying a horrible death)*, and Craig Huegel wrapped it up in *Sex in the Garden*.

'Cypress Dome Splendor' by Kevin Shea, kevinshea.net



Chapter Highlights

Citrus – continuing to offer a native landscaping full- and micro-grants.

Coccoloba – Milkweed (*Asclepias*) monitoring, Tillandsia rescue, and weekly plant sales at Koreshan State Park.

Cuplet Fern – Native Plant Month and Central Florida Regional Meeting.

Heartland – joint restoration project with Sierra Club at Circle B Bar Reserve in Lakeland.

Hernando – maintaining two public native plant gardens at Spring Hill and Nature Coast Botanical Gardens.

Lake Beautyberry – maintaining Discovery Gardens at UF/IFAS Lake County Extension, heavy participation in the Castle Hill rescue and Lake County restoration projects.

Longleaf Pine – monitoring of the Winter grapefern (*Botrychium lunarioides*) population at Pensacola's St. John's Cemetery.

Mangrove – ongoing phenology study and native plant garden at Cedar Point Environmental Park.

Marion Big Scrub – *Dicerandra* monitoring in the Cross Florida Greenway and heavy participation in the Warea Area project.

Martin County – fielded a representative for the Martin County Agricultural & Natural Resource Advisory Committee and the Rivers Coalition, participated in Southeastern Chapter Policy Initiative, fourpetal pawpaw (*Asimina tetramera*) monitoring at Savannas Preserve State Park

Nature Coast – maintain native plant garden at Nature Coast Botanical Gardens

Palm Beach County, Broward, and Dade – Southeastern Chapter Policy Initiative, spoke at legislative delegations and took legislators and their staff on field trips.

Passionflower – serious involvement in the Castle Hill plant rescue and restoration at Lake Louisa State Park, St. Johns River Water Management District and Flat Island Preserve.

Pawpaw – maintained Park of Honor native plant garden, started new garden at Marine Discover Center, continuing monitoring of **Rugel's Pawpaw** (*Deeringothamnus rugelii*) and milkweeds (*Asclepias* sp.), plant rescues, propagations, and restoration, adopted part of SR-40 as a part of Keep Volusia County Beautiful

Pine Lily – participated in Castle Hill rescue, rare plant survey on Lake Marion Creek WMA, Native Plant Month Central Florida Regional Meeting

Pinellas – maintained two native plant gardens at Florida Botanical Garden and Narrows Community Garden

Sea Rocket – maintained native plant garden at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary

Suncoast – maintained three native plant gardens at Trout Creek, Morris Bridge and Violet Cury Preserves, surveying, collecting, counting and preserving specimens from Tera Ceia and Withlacoochee State Forest

Sweetbay – rescuing and relocating plants within Lynn Haven Conservation Park

Tarflower – assisted other chapters, heavy participation in Castle Hill rescue and associated restorations, Native Plant Month Central Florida Regional Meeting.



Winter Grape Fern (*Botrychium lunarioides*).
Photo by Scott Brady.

Our Business Members

All Native	allnative.biz/	Law Firm of Thomas Tripp	thomastripplaw.com
Allstate Resource Management	allstatemanagement.com/	Life Farms	lifefarms.net/
Anson Nursery	ansonnursery.net/	Love the Everglades Movement	lovetheeverglades.org/
Archbold Biological Station Lib.	archbold-station.org/	Maple Street Natives	maplestreetnatives.com/
Barbara Hoffman	hoffmanarchitects.net	Meadow Beauty Nursery	meadowbeautynursery.com
Bear Warriors United	facebook.com/bearwarriorsunited	Naples Botanical Garden	naplesgarden.org
Bill Hamilton	soho@bellsouth.net	Native Butterfly Flowers	nativebutterflyflowers.com/
Biotechnical Writing Services	biotechnical-services.com	Native Creations	nativebarnett@bellsouth.net
Cali's Grove	dangalyng@aol.com	Native Green Cay	nativegreencay.com
Central Florida Lands & Timber	cflatnursery.com/	Native Tree Nursery	nativetreenursery.com
Change of Greenery	changeofgreenery.org/	Natural Habitats Inc.	naturalhabitatsinc.com
Change of Greenery	changeofgreenery.org/	NFC Landscape Architects	nfclandscape.com
Chary Corp	charycorp@gmail.com	Palm Beach County Public Libraries	pbclibrary.org/
City of Delray Beach Parks and Rec.	delraybeachfl.gov/	Perkins Direct Step	perkinsnursery.com/
City of Titusville	titusville.com/	Quality Matters	qualitymatters.esther@gmail.com
Colony Hotel & Cabana	thecolonyhotel.com/	Quest Ecology	questecology.com/
Deep South Nurseries	floridanativenurseries.org/professionals/detail/28	Raymond Jungles	raymondjungles.com/
Ecolo-G Inc	floridanativeplant@bellsouth.net	Rebecca Wellborn	rebeccawellborn.com
Ecotech Environmental	plantant.com/nursery-availability/1007361/ecotech-environmental	Reflections of Nature	rnlNursery.com
Environmental Consultants LLC	ecollc.biz	Sandhill Native Growers	sandhillgrowers.com/
Festival Park Community Garden	festivalparkcommunitygarden@gmail.com	Sarasota Selby Library	scgov.net/government/libraries
Florida Native Plants	floridanativeplants.com	SCCF Native Landscapes & Garden Center	sccf.org/our-work/native-landscapes-and-garden-center
Four C's Nursery	fourcsnursery.com	St Marks Refuge Association	stmarksrefuge.org/
Gilkey Organization	gilkeyorganization.com/	St. Lucie Co. Environmental Resources Department	stlucieco.gov
Green Isle Gardens Nursery	greenislegardens.com/	Sweet Bay Nursery	sweetbaynursery.com/
Greenscapes	greenscapesrq.com/	The Desoto Beach Dev. Co	thedesoto@gmail.com
Grounded Solutions Inc	groundedsol.com	The Garden at Modern Relics	ginger5015@gmail.com
Hackberry Hammock Wholesale Nursery	hackberryhammock.com/	The Natives	thenatives.net/
Heartwood Preserve	heartwoodpreserve.com/	Todd Olson	avcaquatic.com/
Hickory Hammock Native Tree Farm	floridanativenurseries.org/professionals/detail/141	Tom Hammond	sebastianriverfarms.com
Hort and Soul Landscape Design	hortandsoul.com/	Toms Ponds	tomsponds.com/
Indian Trails Native Nursery	indiantrails.vpweb.com/	True Tree Service	truetreeserviceiami.com/
Institute for Regional Conservation	regionalconservation.org	Two Tired Services	twotiredservices.com/
Jacksonville Zoo	jacksonvillezoo.org	Wilcox Nursery	wilcoxnursery.com
Karens Wildflowers	karenswildflowers.com/	YBE Consulting	ybeconsulting.com/
Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Gardens	keywest.garden/	Zito Landscape Design	johnzito.com/

Our Conservation Partners (A-Ri)

Working with us to conserve and restore our native plants and plant communities and preserve the lands they inhabit.

7 Pines Native Plant Nursery	Enchanted Forest Sanctuary	Lake Sumter State College
AD Barnes Park	Erna Nixon Park	Land O Lakes Community Center
Alderman's Ford County Park	Everglades National Park	Largo Botanical Gardens
Atlantic Center for the Arts	FWC	Lee County
Audubon Park, Deltona	Flatwoods Park	Lemon Bay Park
Audubon, Halifax River	FANN	Lettuce Lake Regional Park
Audubon, Orange	Florida Botanical Gardens	Leu Gardens
Audubon, Southeast Volusia	Florida Caverns State Park	Lilian Place Heritage house
Audubon, Tampa	FDOT	Lindley's Nursery
Audubon, Tropical	Florida International University	Little Salt Springs Preserve
Audubon, West Pasco	Florida Power & Light	Lower Green Swamp Preserve
Baldwin Park	Florida State Parks	Lynn Haven Conservation Park
Balm Boyette Scrub Preserve	Florida State University	Mackay Gardens & Lakeside Preserve
Baptist Hospital Miami	Florida Wildflower Foundation	Mackenzie Park Panama City
Bartow Public library	Gasparilla State Park	Maclay Gardens
Bell Creek County Preserve	Gholson Nature Park	Maple Street Natives Nursery
Bill Frederick Park	Golden Aster Preserve	Marine Discovery Center
Bing House Museum	Graham Swamp Preserve	Mead Gardens
Birdsong Nature Center	Green Isle Gardens	Medard Park
Buchan Family Park	Gulf Coast university Panama City	Melbourne Public Library
Buffer Preserve, Port St. Joe	Habitat of Miami	Moccasin Lake Nature Preserve
Bulow Plantation Ruins State Park	Habitat for Humanity	Mockernut Hill Botanical Garden
Caloosahatchee River Park	Heart Island Conservation Area	Morris Bridge Conservation Park
Canaveral National Seashore	Heartwood Preserve	Munn Park in Lakeland
Cedar Point Environmental Park	Heritage Park and Gardens	Nature Coast Botanical Garden
Circle B Bar Reserve	Hickory Park	Narrows Community Garden
Citrus County	Hillsborough Community College	Oakland Nature Preserve
City of Daytona, Park of Honor	Hillsborough County	Ocala National Forest
City of Lakeland	Hillsborough County Extension	Orange County Governmental Center
City of Orlando, Bill Frederick Park	Hillsborough County Parks	Ormond Beach
City of Port Orange	Hillsborough River State Park	Ormond Beach Library
Clearwater Lake Recreation Area	Indian River Lagoon Park	Panacea Welcome Center
Cotton Club Museum & Cultural Center	Jelks Preserve	Panama City Bay Conservation area
Crystal River Preserve State Park	John Pennekamp Park	Panama City Beach
Dade City	Jordan's Scrub Park	PEAR Park, Leesburg
Daytona State College Campus	Keep Brevard Beautiful	Perico Preserve, Manatee County
Deep Creek Preserve	Keep Volusia County Beautiful	Piggotte Community Center
Deer Lake State Park	Koreshan State Park	Pine Jog Environmental Ed. Center
Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary	Lake Ashby County Park	Pinecrest Gardens
Disney Epcot Flower & Garden Festival	Lake County	Ponce Inlet Preserve
Don Pedro State Park	Lake County Parks & Trails	Ponce Preserve
Doris Leeper Spruce Creek Preserve	Lake County Water Authority	Port St. Joe
Econfina River State Park	Lake Louisa State Park	Rainbow's End Native Plant Nursery
Elaine Gordon Enchanted Forest Park	Lake Marion Creek WMA	Rivers Coalition

Conservation Partners (Ro-W)

Working with us to conserve and restore our native plants and plant communities, and preserve the lands they inhabit.

Rock Ponds Restoration Area	Spring Hill Botanical Garden	University of Central Florida
Rotary Riverfront Park	Spruce Creek High School	University of Florida
Satellite High School	St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge	University of South Florida
Savannas Preserve State Park	Sweet Bay Nursery	USF Botanical Gardens
Schechter Community Center	SWFWMD	University of South Florida Herbarium
Science & Discovery Center of NWFI	Tallahassee International Airport	Vineland School, Englewood
Seffner Extension Center	Tall Timbers Research Station	Violet Cury Preserve
Seminole State Forest	Ted Moorhead Lagoon House	
Shadow Bay Park	Tera Ceia Preserve State Park	Volusia County Agricultural Center
Shamrock Park	Three Lakes wildlife Management	Waste Management
Sierra Club, Central Florida	Tiger Bay State Forest	Wekiwa State Park Youth Camp
Sierra Club, Volusia/Flagler	Timucuan Oaks Garden	Wellington Garden Club
Sierra Club, Greater Charlotte Harbor	Tomoka State Park	Westgate River Ranch Resort & Rodeo
Sierra Club, Manatee/Sarasota	Topsail State Park	Wildflower Preserve, Englewood
Sierra Club, Tampa Bay	Trout Creek Conservation Park	Withlacoochee State Forest
Silver Springs State Park	Trout Lake Nature Center	Withlacoochee Forest Fire Training Center
SJRWMD	Turkey Creek Wildlife Sanctuary	Wolf Creek Trout Lily Preserve
Split Oak Forest WMA	UF/IFAS Lake County, Discovery Gardens	Wuesthoff Park

Palmetto Awards

Silver Palmetto Award

Ina Crawford, Sweetbay Chapter
 Richard Brownscombe, Palm Beach County Chapter
 Paul Schmalzer, Sea Rocket Chapter
 Gene Kelly, Hernando Chapter

Green Palmetto Award for Education

Barbara McCormick, Citrus Chapter

Green Palmetto Award for Service

Loret Thatcher of Pine Lily Chapter

Outstanding Chapters of the year

Coccoloba Chapter and Tarflower Chapter

Mentor Award

Shirley Denton, Suncoast Chapter



Shirley Denton, PhD, accepting the Mentor Award from President Susan Carr, PhD and Past President Catherine Bowman

Landscape Awards

Each year FNPS recognizes exceptional landscapes that showcase Florida's native plants. Applications are received from landscape architects, restoration specialists, government entities, transportation departments, churches, homeowners, and home owners associations. Landscaping award categories are single-family residential, multi-family residential, commercial, institutional, transportation, restoration, mitigation, and wildflower/butterfly garden. This year's awards were presented by the Landscaping Committee Chair, Ron Blair.

Institutional Award of Excellence

Florida Gulf Coast University Main Entrance
Kitching Creek Central Flow Way

Butterfly Garden Award of Honor

Carol Spears Residence

Residential Multi-Family Award of Merit

The Shores of Long Bayou Condominiums
Stormwater Ponds



Butterfly Garden Award of Honor - Carol Spears Residence



Institutional Award of Excellence - Florida Gulf Coast University Main Entrance



The Florida Native Plant Society
PO Box 278
Melbourne FL 32902-0278
(321) 271-6702
www.fnps.org
info@fnps.org

Website: fnps.org
Blog: fnpsblog.blogspot.com
Facebook: [FLnativeplants](https://www.facebook.com/FLnativeplants)
Instagram: [fl_native_plants](https://www.instagram.com/fl_native_plants)
YouTube: [Florida Native Plant Society](https://www.youtube.com/FloridaNativePlantSociety)
LinkedIn: [Florida Native Plant Society](https://www.linkedin.com/company/FloridaNativePlantSociety)
Twitter: [fl_native_plant](https://twitter.com/fl_native_plant)