



the Tarpaper

The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

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JANUARY 3 PROGRAM: Learn a Leaf – Tree ID Tip

Confused about how to tell a longleaf pine from a slash pine? Or one oak from another? Learn UF/IFAS Extension Master Naturalist instructors' strategies to recognizing common Florida trees. Jennifer Ramos and Eleanor Foerste, Natural Resources, will provide useful tips and interesting ways to identify these two iconic species of Central Florida. They will share fun, hands-on games and practice activities. Bring your favorite Florida tree and plant ID books for show and tell!

Jennifer Ramos is the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods agent at the UF/IFAS Orange County Extension. She provides education in Florida-friendly landscaping, irrigation, pollution control, pesticide use, Integrated Pest Management, recycling, composting and resource conservation. She is also a Master Naturalist instructor. Jennifer earned a BS in Environmental Science and Growth Management from Rollins College.



Eleanor Foerste is on the Natural Resources faculty at the UF/IFAS Osceola County Extension. She teaches the young and young at heart about the environment and natural resources. Eleanor teaches Master Naturalist modules and conducts Woods Walks at local parks to help the public better understand the ecology of local natural areas. She received her BS in Agriculture in Ornamental Horticulture and Master of Agriculture in Agricultural and Extension Education from the University of Florida.



2012 Budget Vote Postponed Until January Meeting – Please Attend and Vote!

The Tarflower Board has been working diligently all year to come up with our first ever annual budget. **The 2012 budget is posted on the [Tarflower webpage](#) (under the "More Resources" section) for your review.** We hope this will give us all a better idea of what funds are coming and going; in addition, it will allow us to get your approval on our regular expenditures without having to ask you for a separate vote on items that recur each year. **Please come out and vote!**

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

JAN 14 Dog Island

The Tarflower Chapter will head to Dog Island in Lake Maitland for a day of boat riding, cleaning and vine eradication. Dog island is approximately 1.5 acres in size and the cover of invasive exotic plants has not yet reached a point of no return. With the surrounding shoreline of Lake Maitland being well tended by residences, re-infestation chances appear relatively low.



The fellows at Winter Park Boat Tour have agreed to meet us at Dinky Dock by Rollins College at 9am and take 18 of us through the chain of lakes and out to Dog Island. They will return to pick us up around 3pm. The City of Winter Park will pick up our treasure trove of potato vines and skunk vines. By removing the vines that have gotten a toe hold on Dog Island since the hurricanes of 2004 and 2005, we have a great opportunity to make a lasting impact on this little bit of central Florida heaven.

Bring a picnic lunch, some gloves and some water shoes. For more information and to reserve a space on the boat, please call Kay Hudson at 407-432-2364 or Catherine Bowman at 407-761-7109.

FEB 11 Pine Island

We will visit Pine Island on Merritt Island in the morning and have a picnic lunch and afternoon guided tour at the Enchanted Forest in Titusville.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

FEB 7 Shirley Denton: "Exploring the Best of the Best of Florida's Uplands"

MAR 6 Claudia Larson: "Wildflower Propagation for Home Gardeners"

FLORIDA WILDFLOWER FOUNDATION LAUNCHES ONLINE RESEARCH LITERATURE DATABASE

The Florida Wildflower Foundation launched an online research literature database of Florida wildflowers that draws together findings on more than 260 species. Funds for the project were provided by the Florida State Wildflower license plate.

“This new tool provides research sources that can be used to protect and preserve our native wildflower species,” said Lisa Roberts, the foundation’s Executive Director. “Because many Florida species also occur elsewhere in the Southeastern U.S., we expect wide interest in the database throughout the region.”

The collection, found at FlaWildflowers.org/Literature.php, is intended to give researchers, botanists, the nursery industry, conservation scientists, instructors and wildflower enthusiasts a resource that lets them easily find data on specific species. They will be able to tailor searches in a variety of ways, including using key words, authors’ names, and article topic.

Each data entry provides a brief synopsis of the study or article featured, along with links to records in national databases, including the USDA library and scientific journals.

The Florida Wildflower Foundation intends to keep expanding the database, which currently contains fewer than 10 percent of the state’s native plants. To recommend articles or make other suggestions, email literature@FlaWildflowers.org.

The Florida Wildflower Foundation is a nonprofit organization based in Maitland, Florida. Through programs that promote the use, availability and advantages of native wildflowers, the Foundation is helping to curb water use in landscapes, support pollinators that put food on our tables, reduce water and air pollution, provide wildlife habitat, and maintain a healthy environment for all. To learn more about its work, visit www.FlaWildflowers.org.



TARFLOWER CHAPTER NEEDS YOU!

The Tarflower chapter is seeking the following volunteers:

Field Trip Coordinator will select locations for and coordinate monthly field trips, make necessary arrangements (e.g. site access, background information, transportation to and/or around the site, etc.) He/she will attend chapter meetings to announce field trips, provide info on upcoming trips to the *Tarpaper* editor and attend chapter board meetings to discuss upcoming field trips.

Vice President In Charge of Events will coordinate events where Tarflower would have a booth/display and may sell chapter items or provide educational information to the public or other group. He/she will arrange for volunteers, obtain necessary materials, assist with (or arrange for) on-site set-up, coordinate with venues and respond to requests for chapter participation. He/she will also attend chapter meetings to announce events and provide info about events for the *Tarpaper*.

If you are interested in volunteering for either position, if you have questions about either position, or to for a full list of responsibilities, please contact Catherine Bowman at garberia08@gmail.com or see her at a meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 10 – THIRD ANNUAL FUTURE GENERATIONS CONFERENCE: TRUE WEALTH IN A GREEN WORLD

The Center for Earth Jurisprudence will bring together speakers from green business, microlending, law and other fields to examine what makes a society rich and explores methods of creating true wealth for all members of the Earth community.



When: Friday, Feb 10

Where: Center for Earth Jurisprudence
Barry University School of Law
6441 E. Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL

For more information, visit www.earthjuris.org or call 321-206-5788.

Feb 18 – ORLANDO WETLANDS FESTIVAL

Come out and celebrate the Orlando Wetlands Park: an oasis of flora, fauna and feathered friends! There will be games, exhibits, vendors, door prizes, face painting, a rock climbing wall, refreshments, merchandise booths, a Backyard Tree giveaway, a bounce house, hayrides, animal catch and release demo, Out-on-a-Limb kids tree climbing, live wild animals, live entertainment and much more! There will also be many guided hikes, including wilderness, photography, birding and native plant as well as a guided bus tour of the wetlands.



When: Saturday, Feb 18 from 9am to 3pm

Where: at Ft. Christmas Historical Park (1300 North Fort Christmas Road)

This event is sponsored by the City of Orlando, the Orange Audubon Society and Orange County Parks and Recreation. For more information, call 407-568-1706, email orlandowetlandspark@cityoforlando.net or visit www.cityoforlando.net/wetlands.

Volunteers are needed to man the Tarflower Chapter booth. If you are interested, please contact Catherine Bowman at garberia08@gmail.com, or Jackie Rolly at j.y.rolly@att.net.

PELLITORY IS COMING UP!

For the butterfly lovers, pellitory (*Parietaria floridana*) is starting to come up. It's only a couple inches high, although sometimes it's taller in a few spots. Pellitory does not like a lot of direct sunlight so it is often found in shady areas. As the sun starts to rise, pellitory will retreat into deeper shade until spring, whereupon it will disappear until late fall.

Pellitory is also called "clearweed" because of its translucent stems. When crushed, it smells lightly of cucumber. Not only is this "weed" edible as a green for us, it is also the larval food for the Red Admiral butterfly — and they are on their migration south. They have been spotted laying eggs on the pellitory, so don't eat it all, leave some for the caterpillars!



Pellitory (Parietaria floridana)
Photo by Matthew Merrit,
Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants

COUNTDOWN TO HELP THE FLORIDA WILDLIFE CORRIDOR EXPEDITION

On January 17, 2012, a small team of conservationists will embark on a 100 day, 1000 mile trek to increase public awareness and generate support for the Florida Wildlife Corridor project. Their mission is to raise awareness for the important opportunity to protect and connect a corridor of natural lands, water bodies and working ranches and farms throughout interior Florida.



Bear biologist Joe Guthrie, conservationist Mallory Lykes Dimmitt, and photojournalist Carlton Ward Jr. will trek from the Everglades National Park toward Okefenokee National Forest in southern Georgia. The trio will traverse the wildlife habitats, watersheds and participating working farms and ranches that comprise the Florida Wildlife Corridor opportunity area.

The team will document the corridor through photography, video streams, radio reports, daily updates, and a host of activities for reporters, landowners, celebrities, conservationists, politicians and other guests. Award-winning cinematographer Elam Stoltzfus will document the expedition to produce a film about the journey and the Florida Wildlife Corridor.

Please share the Florida Wildlife Corridor cause with friends and please make a donation to support their campaign. Each \$25 donated will sponsor a mile of the expedition. To learn more, visit [Facebook.com/FloridaWildlifeCorridor](https://www.facebook.com/FloridaWildlifeCorridor) and FloridaWildlifeCorridor.org.

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for FNPS t-shirts, mugs, bumper stickers, hats and tote bags as well as original art, photographs and notecards, DVDs, books and more!

Stimulate the economy – shop today!



FNPS 2012 ENDOWMENT GRANT RESEARCH AWARDS & CONSERVATION GRANT AWARDS

The Florida Native Plant Society maintains an Endowment Research Grant program for the purpose of funding research on native plants. These are grants of \$1500 or less, awarded for a 1-year period and intended to support research that forwards the FNPS mission "to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida."

FNPS Conservation Grants support applied native plant conservation projects in Florida. These are grants of \$1500 or less, awarded for a 1-year period. Examples of projects that this grant supports are on-the-ground native plant community restoration, land acquisition and habitat enhancement. To qualify for a Conservation Grant, the proposed project must be sponsored by an FNPS Chapter.

Application guidelines and details are on the FNPS website (www.fnps.org) under 'Awards and Grants.' Application deadline for the 2012 Awards is March 2, 2012. Awards will be announced at the May 2012 Annual Conference in Plant City. Awardees do not have to be present at the Conference to receive award. Questions regarding grant programs should be sent to info@fnps.org.

CALL FOR RESEARCH PAPERS & POSTER PRESENTATIONS FOR 2012 FNPS CONFERENCE

The FNPS annual conference will be held at the John R. Trinkle Center, Hillsborough Community College Plant City Campus, Plant City, Florida on May 17-20, 2012. The Research Track will include presented papers on Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19. Posters will be on display on Friday and Saturday and the poster session will be on Saturday afternoon.

Researchers are invited to submit abstracts on research related to native plants and plant communities of Florida including preservation, conservation and restoration. Presentations are 20 minutes in total length (15 min. presentation, 5 min. questions).

Abstracts of not more than 200 words should be submitted as a Word file by email to Paul A. Schmalzer (paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov) by February 1, 2011. Include title, affiliation and address and indicate whether you will be presenting a paper or poster.

SOCIETY NEWS

Chapter Meetings — Chapter meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at **HARRY P. LEU GARDENS** (1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando. For directions, call 407-246-2620, option 1). The next meeting is **Tuesday, January 3 at 7pm**. See you there!

Executive Committee — The next board meeting will be **Tuesday, January 10, 2011 at 6pm**. For more information, contact Catherine Bowman. Members are welcome to attend.

The Tarpaper Online! — Current and past issues of *The Tarpaper* can be viewed online by accessing the chapter website at www.fnps.org. Click on Chapters -> Tarflower and follow the instructions to *The Tarpaper*!

Contribute to The Tarpaper! — Send your articles, event listings, photos and suggestions to Stacey Matrazzo, Editor, at stacey@impactpress.com. (Please do not reduce or compress photos before sending; a size of 3x4 at 300dpi is preferred.) **The submission deadline for the February 2012 issue is January 23.**

HOLIDAY SHOPPING THAT HELPS FNPS!

As we approach the holidays, many of us will be shopping online for gifts. **Goodshop.com** is a **free and easy** way to make the same purchases you'd make anyway and also raise funds for the Florida Native Plant Society.

GoodShop.com works with more than 2,500 stores (including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's, Barnes & Noble, Apple, PetSmart etc...). Every time you purchase something using GoodShop.com, a percentage will be donated to FNPS!



Make sure you select or enter "Florida Native Plant Society – Melbourne" in the "Favorite Cause" field. Then simply choose the online store you want and start shopping!

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BECOME A MEMBER

Make checks payable to:

Florida Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 278
Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

To join online or for more information, visit www.fnps.org or call 321-271-6702.

\$35	Individual
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\$15	Full-time Student
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\$75	Contributing
\$100	Supporting
\$125	Business/Corporate
\$250	Donor
\$1000	Life



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