

# BACKYARD BIODIVERSITY DAY 2023 SCHEDULE

## HIKES

### 9:30AM Edible Plants of Mead Garden

*Did you know many of the "pesky weeds" that pop up in our yards have culinary value? Learn about the edible, medicinal and nutritional properties of some common Florida native plants found in Mead Garden.*

Maggie O'Halloran, Florida Holistic Living

### 10:30AM Creatures of the Swamps and Streams

*Many creatures call swamps and streams home. Join the search for them as we explore these aquatic habitats and see what is hiding in the muck using dip nets. Nets and buckets will be provided.*

Natalie Swanson, Seminole County- Natural Lands Program

### 11:30AM Insect Pollinators of Mead

*Join us for an easy walk through the beautiful Mead Garden as we discover pollinating insects. This walk will follow Dr. Minno's 10:00am presentation - Insect Pollinators in Mead Garden.*

Marc C. Minno Ph. D., Eco-Cognizant, Inc.

### 12:30PM Upland Habitat Restoration and Gopher Tortoise Tour

*Come along for a tour of the 100-year-old longleaf pine trees and gopher tortoise habitat to learn about this rare upland ecosystem and some of the trials and successes we have had reintroducing native xeric upland plants.*

Catherine Bowman, Mead Garden Committee Chair & Florida Native Plant Society

## SPEAKERS

### 10:00AM Insect Pollinators in Florida Gardens

*Flowers offer nectar and/or pollen as rewards to attract insects that then transfer some of the pollen to other flowers. Unless wind pollinated, most plants, including many agricultural crops, must have bees or other insects transfer pollen in order to set fruit. In this presentation we will compare and discuss some common insect pollinators that can be found in Florida gardens ranging from butterflies to tumbling flower beetles and wasps.*

Marc C. Minno Ph. D., Eco-Cognizant, Inc.

### 11:00AM Convert your lawn - Getting started with Natives

*Ready to remove your lawn and introduce native plants to your landscape? Join us for the Do's and Don'ts of getting started, establishing roots and maintaining the beneficial qualities of native plants.* Amanda Martin

Grounded Solutions

### 1:30PM Gopher Tortoises

*Come learn about these keystone creatures and find out why they are important, how to protect them, and why they are so cool!*

Jason Houck, GISP, PWS, Inwood Consulting Engineers