



Florida Native Plant Society

Pine Lily Chapter

March 2018



It may look pretty, but this Japanese honeysuckle is one of many pushy plants that invade native ecosystems. Learn about invasive plants at the March 22 chapter meeting.

Photo: Laura Bennett-Kimble

Next Chapter Meeting: Invasive Plants

If you've ever stood in your yard puzzling over an aggressive plant you didn't recall seeing there in the past, consider attending this month's meeting.

Thursday, March 22, **Cody-Marie Miller**, president of the Osceola County CF CISMA (Central Florida Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area) will offer insights on **Invasive Plants of Osceola County and How to be a Citizen Scientist**. She works for The Nature Conservancy at the Disney Wilderness Preserve and is in charge of Invasive Species Management there.

Curious to learn more? Visit [Central Florida CISMA](#).

The meeting will also include information on 10 native plants and helpful native plant gardening tips.



Split Oak Forest Bioblitz!

May 4–6, local experts, enthusiasts and nature lovers will be joining forces at Split Oak Forest Wildlife and Environmental Area to document as many species

as possible over a 48-hour period. Would you like to join this adventure at a natural site currently threatened by development? Visit the [Bioblitz](#) website for more information and to register as a volunteer or team leader.

Upcoming Field Trips

- March 24: Lake Kissimmee State Park
Field Trip Leader – Eleanor Foerste
- April 28: Forever Florida Swamp Buggy Tour
Park (reservations required)

See page 2 for more information.

For additional information, including driving directions, on these and other upcoming events, please visit our Facebook [events page](#).



Earth Day Native Plant Festival

St. Cloud's Chisholm Park
April 21

Looking to add some beautiful Florida native plants to your landscapes? If so, be sure to visit the Florida Native Plant Society Pine Lily Chapter table at the St. Cloud Earth Day event at Chisholm Park.

We'll be there from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Don't miss this chance to stop by and say hi—and pick up some lovely plants!

Call for volunteers

Please contact [Karina Veaudry-Hindle](#) via email or phone, (321) 388-4781, if you're interested in helping us with this event.

We need helpers to unload plants in the morning, set up and take down the tent, sell plants, talk to attendees about the awesomeness of native plants, and more. Thank you!

Experts Speakers Share Their Knowledge at Monthly Meetings

January and February speakers shared a wealth of information with attendees at Pine Lily Chapter monthly meetings.



In January, Osceola County Urban Forester **Chris Kincaid** offered insights and information about the new Urban Forestry division, tree protection and tree mapping programs. The division is undertaking an extensive inventory of trees in Osceola County, starting with a tree cover analysis. Chris said the department has a commitment to native species, and he is looking forward to having data to share with us at a future meeting.

February speaker **Jackie Rolly** shared her knowledge and transplant techniques for plant salvages.



Plant salvages, or rescues, are planned with proper permitting when an area with notable native plants will be destroyed for development.

Sadly, some native plants cannot be salvaged at all, because they can't survive outside their native soil and micro-climate conditions.

The Pine Lily Chapter is planning its own plant salvage, and Jackie's information has aided us to make the correct decisions and ensure transplantation success. More information will be coming soon.

Pine Lily Chapter Board and Committee Chairs

- 🍃 Karina Veaudry-Hindle – President
- 🍃 Laura Bennett-Kimble – Vice President
- 🍃 VACANT – Secretary *
- 🍃 Sandy Webb – Treasurer
- 🍃 Tayler Figueroa – Chapter Representative
- 🍃 VACANT – Membership Coordinator *
- 🍃 Eleanor Foerste – Education/Outreach Coordinator
- 🍃 Jenny Welch – Native Plant Festival Coordinator

* If you are interested in serving as Pine Lily Chapter Secretary or Membership Coordinator, please contact Karina at (321) 388-4781.

Newsletter Editor: Laura Bennett-Kimble

Join Us March 24! Field Trip to Lake Kissimmee State Park

Ready to explore natural Florida? Join Pine Lily members March 24 for a guided hike through the uplands found within [Lake Kissimmee State Park](#).

The park includes 12 distinct natural communities from lake edge to high uplands, such as floodplain marshes, flatwoods and shady hammocks. The park's botanical bounty includes delicate mosses, butterfly orchids, sawgrass, cutthroat grass, fetterbush and gallberry, with expansive fields of lotus and pickerelweed at the marshy lake edge. Pine and scrubby flatwoods found in the park are host to long leaf pines, scrub oaks, Florida scrub jays, Sherman fox squirrels, gopher tortoises, white-tailed deer, turkeys, bobcats and the grey fox.

Lake Kissimmee State Park hosts over 200 species of birds, making it a great birding area in central Florida. An observation tower is located in the picnic area and provides views of Lake Kissimmee and its marsh lands.

Contact Eleanor Foerste at (407) 908-4379 by March 23 to reserve your spot.

April Field Trip to Forever Florida

April 28, 9:30 a.m. to noon, Pine Lily members are invited to join Forever Florida's swamp buggy tour.

Open to the public, the event is available through other venues, which means seats may fill quickly. There is an admission fee, and [reservations](#) are required. Call Eleanor Foerste at (407) 908-4379 with any trip-related questions.

Forever Florida is a preserve located at 4755 N. Kenansville Road in St. Cloud. The ride includes a tour of this property, as well as the adjoining Allen Broussard Wildlife Conservation Area.

For more information, visit our Facebook [events page](#).



Monthly Meetings

Chapter meetings held 4th Thursday of the month

April 26: Native Trees of Osceola County by Dana Sussman, Florida Division of Forestry

6:00 to 6:30 p.m. – Social and Refreshments

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. – Meeting

Kissimmee Utility Authority Building

1701 W. Carroll Street, Kissimmee, FL

We hope to see you there!

Let's keep in touch!

Click the icons below to visit Pine Lily Chapter Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages.



The Pine Lily Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society serves Osceola County and surrounding communities.



Florida Native Plant Society Mission

Promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

The Society fulfills this mission through:

- Support for conservation land acquisition.
- Land management that enhances habitat suitability for native plants.
- Education.
- Public policies that protect our native flora, especially rare species.
- Research on native plant species.
- Encouragement of local landscaping practices and policies that preserve Florida's native plant heritage.

For information on FNPS activities in Central Florida and beyond, check out the [FNPS blog](#).

Don't Split Split Oak!

Earlier this month, the Central Florida Expressway Authority decided to move ahead with a study on putting a new road through or around Split Oak Forest Wildlife and Environmental Area.

There is still hope for the forest, however! A kickoff fundraiser for the Split Oak Forest Legal Defense Fund will be March 29, 6:30–8:30 p.m. at Mead Botanical Garden in Winter Park. The group also is accepting donations for the silent auction. Register for the event [here](#).

FNPS opposes any proposed route for the Osceola Expressway Extension that would traverse any portion of Split Oak. This land serves many purposes as a natural space and should remain as such for perpetuity.



Interested in learning more about this issue? Visit [Friends of Split Oak Forest](#), contact [Valerie Anderson](#) at (386) 852-2539, and check out these articles:

- Orlando Sentinel, [March 8, 2018](#) and [March 16, 2018](#)
- [Florida Politics](#)



Photos: Danny Goodding