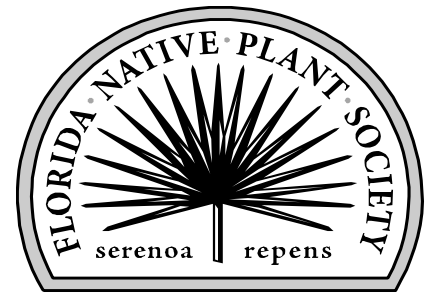




# The Lily Pad

The Pine Lily Chapter of the Florida  
Native Plant Society



FNPS Mission: The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida

## February 2010



On Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, the entire Osceola County community is invited to attend Randall W. Parkinson presentation on climate change. Dr. Parkinson - the administrator of the Space Coast Climate Change Initiative based in Melbourne - will speak about the science of climate change, rising sea levels and will give us his assessment of our best course of action and our options in dealing with the dilemma. Desserts will be served, so come hungry!

## In Bloom: *Sisyrinchium rosulatum* (Annual Blue-eyed grass)



### Family: Iridaceae

The plant is easily identified in the field by its light blue flowers (with a dark center), compressed aerial stems, and ascending stems. The plant is a fast-growing annual which reaches only 15cm (6") in height and has spreading leaves that are only 0.25cm (0.1") wide and 6.5cm (3") long. The violet flowers are only 1cm (0.4") wide. It grows mainly on the coastal plain from North Carolina to Florida and west to Texas.

The genus name *Sisyrinchium* derives from the Greek "sisyrinchi(um)" meaning "an Iris-like plant". The species epithet *rosulatum* means "with leaf rosettes."

Source: Wild flowers of the Southern U.S

**Also in bloom:** Black Eyed Susans, *Rudbeckia hirta*; Bloodberry *Cordia globosa*; Buttonweed *Spermacoce verticillata*; Carolina Jessamine *Gelsemium sempervirens*; Hat pins *Eriocaulon* sp.; Jacquemontia *Jacquemontia pentanthos*; Marlberry *Ardisia escallonioides*; Marsh Fleabane *Pluchea rosea*; Yellow-eyed Grass *Xyris* sp. Trilliums and dogtooth violets bloom in Panhandle ravines. Bald cypress trees leaf out in Big Cypress Swamp.

## 2011 FNPS Conference in the making! Join us!

If you would like to volunteer and have an active role in planning the 2011 FNPS Conference, there are still positions available. Pine Lily Chapter Member Jenny Welch is co-chair of the 2011 conference. Don't miss the opportunity to help organizing this significant event. For more info, please contact Jenny [mwelch@cfl.rr.com](mailto:mwelch@cfl.rr.com) and/or attend any of the Saturday meetings (note location changed as shown below):

March 6, 2009 – 10:00am

May 1, 2009 – 10:00am

**Location:** Orange County Library – Palm Meeting Room  
101 East Central Boulevard Orlando, FL 32801 (407)835-7323

**Day of meeting phone contact:** (321) 388-4781

### Support Proposed Nutrient Standards

The St. Johns RIVERKEEPER is one of five groups involved in a settlement that resulted in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposing **Numeric Nutrient Standards (NNS)** for the state of Florida. The nutrient standards would place limits on the **nitrogen and phosphorous pollution** that is poisoning Florida's rivers, streams, lakes and springs. Here are some things you should know:

- Nutrient pollution and algal blooms hurt our river, economy and quality of life. Economic losses can include a decline in property values, commercial fishery losses, medical costs to treat exposure to algal toxins, costs to treat drinking water, and lost revenues from recreational fishing, boating and tourism.
- The EPA stepped in because the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was not adequately addressing this significant pollution problem. The narrative standards used in Florida provide that "in no case shall nutrient concentrations of a body of water be altered so as to cause an imbalance in natural populations of aquatic flora or fauna." Based on the massive algal blooms we continue to experience on the St. Johns River, this requirement is clearly not being met.
- The proposed Numeric Nutrient Standards (NNS) will provide clear water quality goals and measurable quantitative baselines, making it easier to establish targets and eventually meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act.
- The standards would be phased in over several years, allowing time for industries and communities to sufficiently comply.
- Florida is NOT being singled out by EPA to establish NNS. Nine states have already adopted some or all parameters for their rivers.

**The St. Johns Riverkeeper need your help by supporting the EPA proposed standards. One of the three statewide public hearings will be held in Orlando to gather public comment (see "save the date" section below).**

For more info got to : <http://www.riverhugger.com/2010/02/support-proposed-nutrient-standards.html>

# Save the date

## Birds and Bicycles

Saturday, February 13, 8 am – 1 pm

Emeralda Marsh

Emeralda Marsh is a St. Johns River Water Management District property purchased to preserve the waters of Lake Griffin and the Ocklawaha River. The 7 mile interpretative loop will be dotted with birders, biologists, artists and exhibits celebrating nature. There will be hayride wagons looping the route to give walkers a lift. More more info visit <http://www.troutlakenature.org/>

## Support Nutrient Proposed Nutrient Standards Hearing

Wednesday, February 17 1:00 – 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 –10:00 p.m.

It is imperative that we clean up our waterways. Clean and healthy rivers, lakes, and springs are critical to the future health and sustainability of Florida's economy. The proposed Numeric Nutrient Standards (NNS) are a step in the right direction. The Orlando public hearing will be held at the **Crowne Plaza Orlando Universal - 7800 Universal Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32819**

## Florida Scrub Jay Festival

Saturday, February 20, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Lyonia Preserve Environmental Learning Center

Learn more about the Florida scrub-jay, its unique habitat, and other interesting wildlife. This fun-filled family event will offer guided tours, music, food, environmental displays, presentations, and more. Volunteers are needed to help before and during the event. For more info contact Craig Faulhaber [craig.faulhaber@MyFWC.com](mailto:craig.faulhaber@MyFWC.com) (352) 732-1225 or Kartina Locke [klocke@co.volusia.fl.us](mailto:klocke@co.volusia.fl.us) (386) 377-2331.

**The Lyonia Preserve Environmental Learning Center is located at 2150 Eustace Ave. Deltona, FL 32725.**

## Kissimmee Valley Audubon Society

### All about Wood Storks

Tuesday, February 23 – 6:45pm

Kissimmee Utility Authority Building

Any question you have ever had about Wood Storks is likely to be answered in this program presented by Dr. Rena Borkhataria, post-doctoral research associate at the University of Florida. What do they eat and what habitat do they need for foraging? What are "short hydroperiod wetlands" and why are they so important to this bird? Why have so many Wood Storks come to Central Florida in recent years? How many are there and how can we help them survive?

KVAS monthly meetings are held at KUA (Kissimmee Utility Authority) Building located at 1701 W. Carroll St. in Kissimmee. Free and open to the public!

## Annual Burrowing Owl Festival

Saturday February 27, 2010 from 10:00am - 4:00pm

Rotary Park

Celebrating the official City of Cape Coral bird, the Burrowing Owl, this festival is a nature orientated event suitable for all ages. Live owl presentations, butterfly exhibits, children's corner, guest lecturers, food and arts and crafts, nature tours, owl tours, and native plant sales are available for visitors.

Ticket Info: \$3.00 donation for adults. Children are free

**Rotary Park is located at Rose Garden Road Cape Coral, Florida 33914**

## Kowtown Festival

Toho Square

Saturday, March 20

Celebrating the 127th Birthday of Kissimmee

## The Florida Native Plant Society's 30th Annual Conference

Rooted in History: Forever Blooming

May 20-23, 2010

DoubleTree Hotel

101 S. Adams St. Tallahassee, FL

Join us in May 2010 for the FNPS 30th Anniversary!

Join us in Tallahassee when the Magnolia Chapter hosts the 2010 Annual Conference. This will be a special 30th anniversary conference that honors our Florida Native Plant Society history. Over 400 people are expected to attend the 4-day conference. Celebrate the plants, people and places of Tallahassee and the Big Bend Region.

For more info and details visit <http://www.fnps.org/pages/conference>



## Very special events going on throughout February in Florida

Greater sandhill cranes migrate from Florida northward. Nesting season begins for ospreys in north Florida. Wild turkeys and quail mate in south Florida. Eastern moles and pocket gophers begin breeding, while gray squirrels are delivering their first litters and bear cubs are being born. American crocodiles begin mating and Leatherback sea turtles begin nesting on sandy beaches along the southeast coast. Watch for fireflies.



You can raise money for FNPS with a click when you use the Internet search engine **GoodSearch.com**. From [GoodSearch.com](http://GoodSearch.com), just select **FNPS Melbourne** from the pull down menu and complete your Internet search. Each time you search, a penny is donated to FNPS. Please use **GoodShop.com** when purchasing office supplies, gifts and household goods. All brand name stores are a part of the GoodShop network. First select **FNPS** before you shop online; a percentage of the purchase price goes to FNPS!

We have a diverse constituency and want to make sure we are doing our best at meeting your needs. If you have ideas for program topics, speakers or field trips, please feel free to send an email to [mjohnson@ecotonelanddesign.com](mailto:mjohnson@ecotonelanddesign.com)

Don't forget our Next Meeting is on Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Kissimmee, located at the corner of Dakin Ave. and Church St.

We are always looking for people to help make our chapter everything it can be. If you ever feel you would like to lend a helping hand please just contact any of our

*The Board of Directors, Committee Chairmen, and Contacts*

**President:** Mark Johnson  
[mjohnson@ecotonelanddesign.com](mailto:mjohnson@ecotonelanddesign.com)  
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[kduffy@stcloud.org](mailto:kduffy@stcloud.org)  
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[thelilypad\\_fnps@hotmail.com](mailto:thelilypad_fnps@hotmail.com)

**Florida Native Plant Society Membership Application**

Membership in the Florida Native Plant Society enables you to receive their wonderful quarterly magazine *The Palmetto*. Joining the FNPS also entitles you to membership privileges in the Pine Lily Chapter of the FNPS and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Lily Pad*.

New Member                       Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business name or organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Check pertinent category**

- Individual \$25
- Full time student \$15
- Library subscription \$15
- Family or household \$30
- Contributing \$40
- Supporting \$250
- Not-for-profit organization \$50
- Business or corporate \$100
- Donor \$250

*Make check payable to: FNPS*  
*Detach and mail to:*  
**Pine Lily Chapter of**  
**Florida Native Plant Society**  
**P.O. Box 278**  
**Melbourne, FL 32902-0278**