



# Florida Native Plant Society

## Pine Lily Chapter

News & Notes  
August 2018

### Aug. 23 Chapter Meeting: Native Plant Herbal Remedies



This month's chapter meeting will explore herbal remedies with guest speaker **Deborah Krause** of School of Holistic Living.

The meeting, set for this Thursday, Aug. 23, will also include information on native plants and helpful native plant gardening tips. Please join us!

Call (321) 388-4781 for additional information.

### Last month's speaker



In July, **Krista Stump**, from University of Florida's IFAS, spoke on low impact development and incorporating rain gardens in urban design to increase water conservation, onsite water retention, water quality and habitat for birds and pollinators.

### Upcoming Events

- Aug. 23: Chapter Meeting — Native Plant Herbal Remedies
- Aug. 25: Field trip — Osceola County Welcome Center & History Museum
- Sept. 22: Field trip — Circle B Bar Reserve
- Sept. 27: Chapter Meeting — Speaker information pending
- Oct. 2: Florida Native Plant Month Special Program — "Wildflowers and Serendipity," Harry P. Leu Gardens, Orlando
- Nov. 3: Native plant sale at Great Outdoors Day, St. Cloud

For additional event information, check out our Facebook [events page](#).

### Air-Conditioned Field Trip! Saturday, Aug. 25



It's hot. It's humid. It's August in Florida. While outdoor activities can be fun this time of year, indoor ones can, too. With that in mind, we have scheduled this month's field trip at the beautiful—and air-conditioned—Osceola County Welcome Center & History Museum in Kissimmee.

Here, see just how much nature and history are tied together in Osceola County. A guide in period costume will give us an interpretive one-hour tour of the center, which is comprised of four realistic dioramas showcasing different habitats that you could encounter in Osceola County: swamplands, pine flatwoods, oak hammock, and lakefront.

After the tour, attendees can enjoy an optional activity of paddling Shingle Creek at The Paddling Center, which is adjacent to the Welcome Center. This activity is not connected with our field trip.

Donations for the guided tour are \$5 per person. Please pay through our [Chapter Eventbrite page](#). You may also pay at the entrance. Meet at 9 a.m. for a self-guided tour of the native plants around the building. The tour begins at 10 a.m.

For more information on this and other events, please visit our Facebook [events page](#).

## Split Oak Threat Update

Split Oak Forest Wildlife and Environmental Area, which was set aside as a protected natural space for perpetuity, is under threat from a toll road: the Osceola Parkway Extension.

The current road alignment favored by the Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX) and Osceola County Board of County Commissioners goes through the Osceola County-owned part of Split Oak and takes more acreage from Split Oak than the last approved alignment.

CFX has begun the Project Design and Environmental Study (PD&E) process of further study to the alignment. This will involve public meetings and opportunities for feedback later this fall. Pine Lily Policy and Legislation Committee Chair Valerie Anderson requests that **chapter members attend these meetings and/or submit written comments** opposing any impact to Split Oak Forest for each meeting location.

Osceola County is preparing an application to modify Split Oak's protections, so that CFX can build the road through it. FNPS opposes any roadway or negative impact to any portion of Split Oak, and the Pine Lily Chapter is preparing a letter stating opposition to this modification.

Interested in learning more? Visit [Friends of Split Oak Forest](#) or contact [Valerie Anderson](#) at (386) 852-2539.

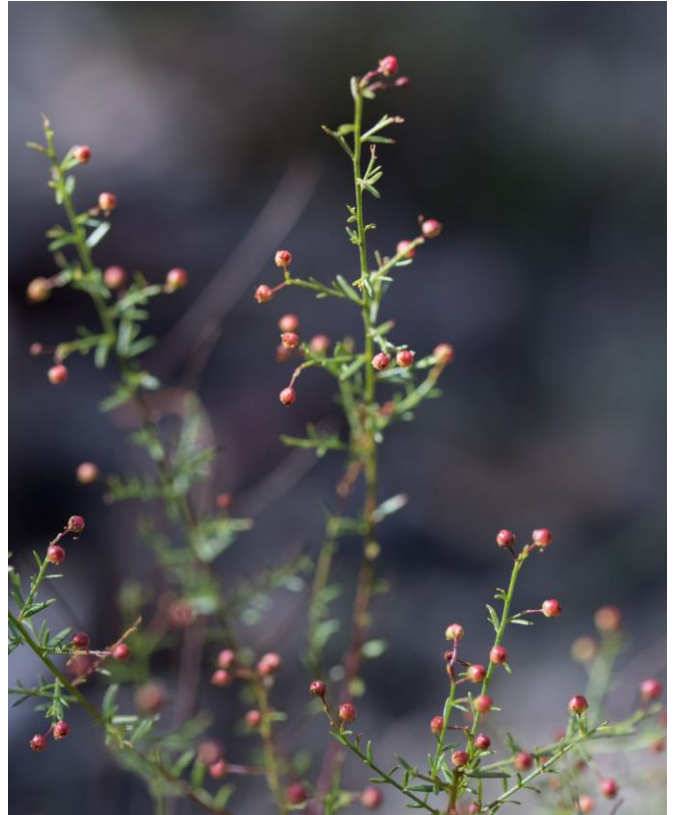
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### Upcoming Events at Split Oak

Want to explore the beautiful Split Oak? Hikes of 2.5 to 4 miles leave from the main entrance, 12175 Clapp Simms Duda Road, unless otherwise indicated. Click [here](#) for more information.

- 🍃 Aug. 23, 4–7 p.m.
- 🍃 Aug. 26, 5:30–8 p.m. – Full moon hike.
- 🍃 Aug. 30, 6:30–9 a.m. – Sunrise hike to Scrub Jay Island.
- 🍃 Sept. 2, 6:30–9:30 a.m. – Sunrise hike.
- 🍃 Sept. 5, 5:30–8 p.m. –Includes the Orange/Osceola county line trail.
- 🍃 Sept. 7, 8:00–11 a.m. The 1A Route hike. Mainly in Osceola County, this hike highlights areas that will be affected if the 1A proposed route is chosen.
- 🍃 Sept. 9, 5–7:30 p.m.
- 🍃 Sept. 13, 9 a.m.–Noon –Includes a visit to *the* Split Oak.
- 🍃 Sept. 16, 7–10 a.m. – **Leaves from Cyril's Drive entrance!**

## Rescuing Plants from Construction



Above: Lechea plants are just one species that's being rescued by volunteers. Photo: Laura Bennett-Kimble

Plant rescue work is once again underway at a beautiful sandhill habitat in Clermont. The location is home to several rare and endangered native plants, and volunteers are needed to help with the project before the bulldozers arrive this fall. Rescue dates are Aug. 23 and 30.



Projects are planned for Osceola County, as well. If you are interested in helping FNPS rescue plants threatened by development—and if you have any plastic pots to donate, please email [Tayler Figueroa](#).

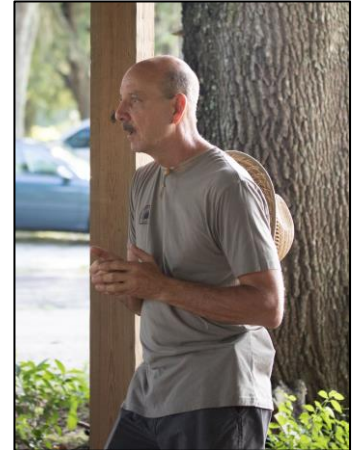
Above: Pine Lily Chapter Vice President Laura Bennett-Kimble removing native plants at the Clermont site in August. Photo: Aimee Krivan

## July Field Trip: Green Isle Gardens Nursery

On July 28, we visited the lovely [Green Isle Gardens](#) in Groveland, a nursery that specializes in Florida native plants and wildflowers. Here are a few photos from our outing.

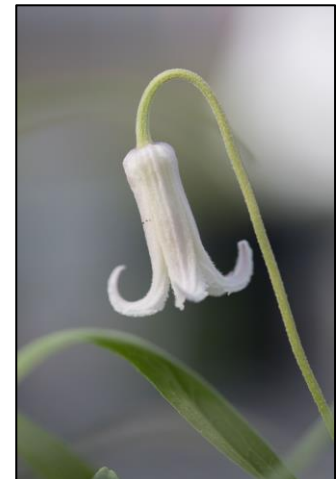


Marc Godts kicked off the tour with a short overview of the nursery and its services.

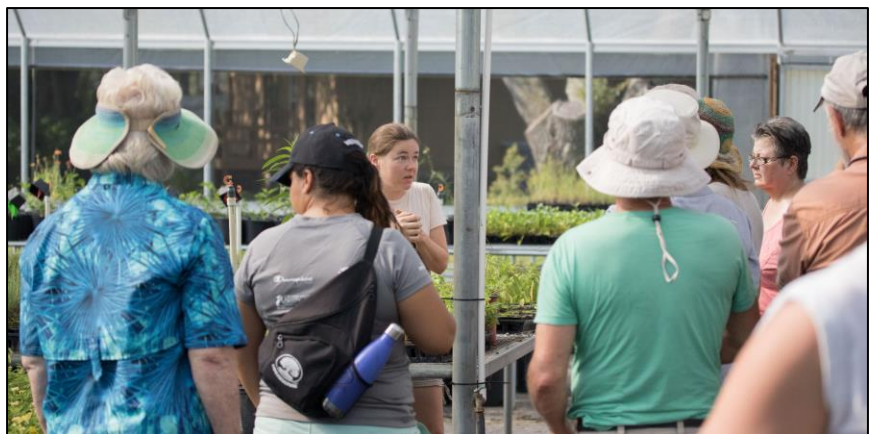


The nursery is home to many pollinators, including numerous species of butterflies and skippers. At left, a long-tailed skipper alights on a giant ironweed (*Vernonia gigantea*) blossom.

*Clematis baldwinii* blooming in the greenhouse.



April McClain, center, led the tour, which included forays into the greenhouses, where attendees learned about native plant propagation.



Photos: Laura Bennett-Kimble

## Gardening For Life:

A book excerpt from Douglas Tallamy, renowned entomology researcher and educator



Chances are, you have never thought of your garden—indeed, of all of the space on your property—as a wildlife preserve that represents the last chance we have for sustaining plants and animals that were once common throughout the U.S.

But that is exactly the role our suburban landscapes are now playing and will play even more in the near future.

If this is news to you, it's not your fault. We were taught from childhood that gardens are for beauty; they are a chance to express our artistic talents, to have fun with and relax in. And, whether we like it or not, the way we landscape our properties is taken by our neighbors as a statement of our wealth and social status. But no one has taught us that we have forced the plants and animals that evolved in North America (our nation's biodiversity) to depend more and more on human-dominated landscapes for their continued existence. We have always thought that biodiversity was happy somewhere out there "in nature"; in our local woodlot, or perhaps our state and national parks. We have heard nothing about the rate at which species are disappearing from our neighborhoods, towns, counties, and states. Even worse, we have never been taught how vital biodiversity is for our own well-being.

### Pine Lily Chapter Board and Committee Chairs

- 🍃 Karina Veaudry-Hindle – President
- 🍃 Laura Bennett-Kimble – Vice President
- 🍃 VACANCIES – Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator \*
- 🍃 Tayler Figueroa – Chapter Representative
- 🍃 Valerie Anderson – Policy and Legislation Committee Chair
- 🍃 Sandy Webb – Conservation Committee Chair
- 🍃 Eleanor Foerste – Education/Outreach Coordinator
- 🍃 Jenny Welch – Native Plant Festival Coordinator

\* If you are interested in serving in one of these roles, please contact Karina at (321) 388-4781.

Newsletter Editor: Laura Bennett-Kimble



## 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](#).

## Monthly Meetings

Chapter meetings held 4th Thursday of the month

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.