



PINE LILY CHAPTER
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

The Lily Pad

July Program

Our speaker this month will be Pine Lily's own member Eleanor Foerste of Osceola County Extension Services. Eleanor's topic will be *Florida Ecosystems- Right Plant in the Right Place* and her presentation will highlight key ways to recognize the places native plants grow, key plants, soils, fire frequency and hydrology for common Central Florida ecosystems. This important information will help enthusiasts recreate ecosystems in the urban landscape. Please join us!

Brainstorming

Pine Lily is signed up for the first event of the 2012-2013 year. Discover Osceola has a Wizard of Oz theme this year, (e.g., follow the yellow brick road "home"). Please contact Jenny Welch if you have suggestions and ideas on creating an exhibit with this type theme that will stand out.

July 2012
Volume 6, Issue 7



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.

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St. Cloud Parks and Recreation Month

St. Cloud Mayor Rebecca Borders proclaimed July as Parks and Recreation Month during a regular council meeting July 12 at City Hall.

For details on any Parks and Recreation project, program, activity, or rental facility, visit the Parks and Recreation web page at www.stcloud.org, e-mail ParksAndRecreation@stcloud.org, or call (407) 957-7243. An interactive multimedia kiosk featuring Parks and Recreation information is also available in the Marina Building's first floor lobby area.

Emergency phone numbers

Report fish and wildlife crimes, boating violations as well as environmental crimes and state park and state forest issues to the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline: 888-404-3922.

DEP's emergency numbers, #DEP or 877-2-SAVEFL should be used to report environmental emergencies, such as oil and chemical spills.

Invasive Notes

Cuban Tree Frogs are BACKKKKK! Capture and humanely euthanize them to stop this annoying pest and prevent future generations which eat our native treefrogs. Visit http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu/cuban_treefrog_inFL.shtml for ID and tips.

Meeting is Thursday July 19th 6:30p.m.

First United Methodist Church
101 W. Dakin Avenue, Kissimmee

New/Renewing Members

Bridget Murdock	R
Richard Diener	R
Jenny Welch	R

"It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment."

— Ansel Adams

Feeling Sluggish

by Loret

Slugs are mollusks similar to snails but without an external shell. Introducing the Florida leatherleaf slug (*Leidyula floridana*), a critter native to our fair state. Initially thought to be endemic to Central and Southern Florida, it has since spread northward and has also been found in Louisiana, Texas and northern Mexico which could indicate that it was found in more areas than the original records indicate or that it was spread via transport of goods from state to state.



This fellow (gal?) was a whopping 3.5-4 inches long and 1.5 inches wide. Slugs are hermaphrodites so I suppose it is a little of both! These critters are said to mostly live in natural, undisturbed habitats and as such are not of economic consequence. They rarely reach pest status although they do eat crops and ornamentals, given the opportunity. They have two pairs of tentacles, with the larger, upper pair bearing visual organs and the lower used for scent.

Their primary job is decomposition so I'm thinking that they are a good ally to have around. Dampness must be their thing and appears to be vital to their habitat needs.

Eaten by ducks, moles and shrews, a few other birds may partake in this <gag> delicacy. Other natural predators would be larvae from some insects, fungi and protozoa. Other species of slugs are eaten by frogs, toads, turtles, salamanders and snakes. Although mostly herbivores, there are some carnivorous species that will dine on other slugs or earthworms. They have their place in the food chain but I'm glad there is a huge gap between the links of slug and man.

Editor Note: This excerpt is from an article originally published at www.beautifulwildlifegarden.com

Master Naturalist Upland Habitats Course

Eleanor C. Foerste, Faculty, Natural Resources, UF/IFAS Osceola County Extension will be teaching UF Florida Master Naturalist Upland Habitats series, Wednesday's September 12 - October 24, 2012, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

Through 40 hours of classroom, field trip, and practical experience, this module provides instruction on the general ecology, habitats, vegetation types, wildlife, and conservation issues of Upland Habitats in Florida - Hardwood Forests, Pinelands, Scrub, Dry Prairie, Rangelands and Urban green spaces. The program also addresses society's role in uplands, develops naturalist interpretation skills, and discusses environmental ethics.

The course fee of \$225 includes: class sessions, field trips, a resource notebook, certificate, pin and patch and there is a discount for families sharing materials.

You can find a copy of the draft agenda on our website (<http://pinelily.fnpschapters.org/>) under the "Documents" tab.

Register online <http://www.masternaturalist.ifas.ufl.edu> Call 321-697-3000 with questions.

City of St. Cloud Goes Green

Excerpt from City of St. Cloud Press Release: City of St. Cloud has completed one of its "greenest" projects to date – the installation of two rooftop photovoltaic (PV) systems that will provide renewable solar energy and cost-savings. To celebrate the project's completion, a Green Day Celebration and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony are scheduled for Wednesday, August 1, at City Hall. The public is invited to attend and learn about solar energy: 8:30-11:30 a.m. – "Solar and You" morning session; 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. – Ribbon Cutting and AAA Solar Source Mobile Training Unit Open House; 1-4 p.m. – "Solar and You" afternoon session

Volunteers Needed – Contact Jenny Welch

New Beginnings School..... Wednesdays
Osceola Schools Welcome Back Event .August 13, 3-7pm
Master Gardener Plant SaleSeptember 28-29

Highlands Elementary Wildflower Garden help.....tba
Discover OsceolaSeptember 6, 4-8 pm



Upcoming

August - Stephen Tonjes
 Senior Environmental Scientist
 Florida Department of
 Transportation, District Five.
 Subject: Wildlife Rescue

September – TBA

October– David Schroeder of
 Evolving Landscapes LLC
 Subject: Nature Preserve Cemetery
 Design

☆☆☆

June Recap

Dick Diener’s presentation “A Contrast of Dissimilar Habitats that Harbor Identical Plant Species” outlined how identical species can adapt to completely different habitats from state to state. Dick focused on those plants that appear in both West Virginia and Florida, highlighting the differences in elevations between the two states. His wonderful photo presentation showed just exactly how adaptable native plants are.

Species Spotlight

PASSIONFLOWER (*Passiflora incarnata*)



Photo © 2011 Loret

Propagate by seed or cutting. Best in a less formal setting, the tendrils will take off in all directions.

Wildlife Benefit: Larval Host for Zebra Longwing and Gulf Fritillary Butterflies. Fruits edible by mammals (including us).

Light: Full to part sun

Moisture: Light, evenly moist soil; mulch well

USDA hardiness zones: 6 through 9 (Dies back to ground in winter but recovers in spring)

A.K.A. Maypop. Fast growing vine that can be trained to a trellis, or left to crawl along the ground as a ground cover. Deciduous, will survive freeze.

source: <http://www.floridata.com/ref/p/passiflo.cfm>

The Institute for Systematic Botany, Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants, lists 12 species of Passiflora. Six are native and six are not. Choose wisely.

YES (Native)	NO (Exotic)
Passiflora incarnata	Passiflora biflora
Passiflora lutea	Passiflora coccinea
Passiflora multiflora	Passiflora edulis
Passiflora pallens	Passiflora foetida
Passiflora sexflora	Passiflora vitifolia
Passiflora suberosa	Passiflora x belotii

What’s Blooming

All of the following Florida Native Plants would work in a rain garden.

ST. ANDREW'S-CROSS (*Hypericum hypericoides*); BROWNE'S SAVORY (*Clinopodium brownei*); WINGED LOOSESTRIFE (*Lythrum alatum* var. *lanceolatum*); STINKING CAMPHORWEED (*Pluchea foetida*); PARTRIDGE PEA (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*); BASTARD FALSE INDIGO (*Amorpha fruticosa*); BLUEHEARTS (*Buchnera americana*); SAVANNAH PRIMROSEWILLOW (*Ludwigia* spp.)

Articles Wanted

This is YOUR newsletter. We always have room for articles of interest to our readership related to native plants, gardening tips and how-to's. Issues of environmental concern to our county and state are welcome as well. Drop an email to PineLilyFNPS@aol.com with your ideas!

Before and After – Zebra Longwing Butterfly

(*Heliconius charithonia*)

Designated the official state butterfly of Florida in 1996, it is found throughout Florida in hardwood hammocks, thickets, gardens, and particularly in the Everglades National Park. Larval host is Passionvine (*Passiflora spp.*) planted in shade.



© Loret



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Extension Services

OSCEOLA COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE

Friday/Saturday, September 28-9, 2012 – 9am –2pm
Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park
1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane

All proceeds are used to support the Master Gardener Horticulture scholarship and other Master Gardener programs in Osceola County. Melaleuca Mulch, Herbs, Vegetables, Annuals, Shrubs, Trees and Florida native plants!

Maple Street Natives

7619 Henry Ave, West Melbourne,
close to I95 and 192

Summer Hours:

Open 9-5 Tuesday - Saturday

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*.

Name _____

Business name or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

The Florida Native Plant Society is registered as a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.

Check pertinent category:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit organization \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time student \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business or corporate \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library subscription \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or household \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$1000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$75 | |
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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**