“The wealth of the nation is its air, water, soil, forests, minerals, rivers, lakes, oceans, scenic beauty, wildlife habitats and biodiversity... that’s all there is. That’s the whole economy. That’s where all the economic activity and jobs come from. These biological systems are the sustaining wealth of the world.”

– Gaylord Nelson, Earth Day Founder

Chapter Meeting Tuesday, April 18
Meeting opens at 7pm - Program starts at 7:30pm
A native plant drawing follows the program
Public welcome • No reservations needed • Refreshments • Free admission

SPEAKER PROGRAM: THE ORCHIDS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY
with Chuck McCartney, Journalist/Editor and Naturalist
Twenty-six orchid species have been verified as growing in natural areas, roadsides and lawns in Palm Beach County. Orchid/wildflower enthusiast and amateur photographer Chuck McCartney will discuss and illustrate these in his program. This number includes four non-native species that have become naturalized in the county. Chuck will also talk about a few other species that may be lurking out in the wilds of the county, waiting for some intrepid orchid explorer to discover and verify them.

Chuck McCartney is a fourth-generation South Floridian who has been a life-long orchid enthusiast. He has a bachelor’s degree in English education from Florida State University. However, except for a short stint as a high school English teacher in Miami, he has been a journalist and editor, working for newspapers in his native Homestead as well as in Hollywood, Florida, where he now lives. He retired in 2009 after nearly 19 years as a copy editor with The Miami Herald’s Broward Edition serving the Fort Lauderdale area. In the 1980s, he worked as an editor for the American Orchid Society and has written numerous articles on orchids for AOS publications as well as for California’s Orchid Digest, England’s Orchid Review and publications of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and the Florida Native Plant Society. His special interest is the wild orchids of his native South Florida as well as the Southern Appalachians, and he often speaks on these subjects to orchid societies, native plant groups, garden clubs and natural history organizations.

ORCHIDS AND WILDFLOWERS FIELD TRIP - SAVE THE DATE!
Chuck McCartney will lead us on a field trip through Jonathan Dickinson State Park on Saturday, April 29. Don’t miss this opportunity to learn about native plants in the wild. Several terrestrial orchid species might be in flower, most notably Pogonia ophioglossoides, Calopogon paludis and possibly Calopogon tuberoses. We will also be on the lookout for wildflowers.

Visit us on the web! www.fnps.org

The Florida Native Plant Society promotes the preservation of our native flora through education and conservation. To attract wildlife, promote water conservation and prevent the further introduction of non-native pest plants, the society encourages the cultivation of nursery-propagated Florida native plants and promotes their use as ornamentals in public and private landscapes.
The FNPS PBC Chapter Welcomes our Newest Members

Xavier Burgos and Karen Vidal
Helen and Scott Laurence
Nicolete Asselin

AND THANK YOU to all who recently renewed their memberships

Volunteer Opportunities

Event Coordinator
Are you the one? We are looking for a new education chair/event coordinator. This is someone who will coordinate the several “tabling events” we do with other organizations throughout the year, and also work on the very special events we have planned for 2017. If this is you, or if you want to take this on as a partnership with someone else, please step forward!

Web Assistant
If you are reading this it is a good possibility that you might be interested in helping to update our web site. This job would include “tight” web maintenance and does not require expert skills, only a general level of computer competence and web familiarity. Please contact Susan Lerner if you are interested.

Special Assignment
We need to be keeping track of our volunteers and volunteer hours in order to qualify for grants. Past president Ryan Leavengood and Susan Lerner are working on devising a way to log volunteer hours on our website. We are looking for a someone to be an administrator of our statistics. If interested, talk with Susan.

The Medicinal Native Plant Workshop held in April was a huge success. Pictured above, PBCC FNPS member Mary Young (left) and her sister Paula Forsee, examine the Gotu Kola being passed around the circle at the workshop.

PBCC FNPS PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
April 2017

Dear Members and Friends,

Spring has sprung! The grass is, uh, a dead brown color. It’s true that April showers will bring May flowers, but there are just no April showers! Aren’t you glad your landscape is planted with natives? Sure, many of them are drooping from the heat and wind, and each sprinkle of rain is like manna from heaven. I was sure my plants were off-schedule, so I checked my photos from last year. Much to my surprise (after all, this season has been much drier than last year, right?) the same flowers are budding and blooming! Then and now, Yaupon Holly has buds and small white flowers, Willow Bustin is covered with flower buds, the Iris and Canna are blooming, and Lignumvitae is bursting with new growth and flowers! And, yes, the grass, what little there is in my yard, is brown, and that's fine with me.

We have been working diligently since December to encourage the City of West Palm Beach to include native plants in the revision of the Landscape Ordinance. Although we did not succeed in convincing the Mayor and Commissioners to incentivize natives in the current revision, they did add a definition of natives to the ordinance and a mention of natives in the design options section, plus a ban on the use of cypress mulch. The next revision process will begin almost immediately, and our recommendations are high on their consideration list. We are grateful to PBCC FNPS members & landscape architects Jonathan Burgess and Angela Biagi for authoring those recommendations. Also in the City’s near-future plan is a Landscape Manual to be used to guide architects and developers, which will include native plants. We look forward to working closely with the city as these long-overdue changes are made to the landscape ordinance.

We will need your help to make it happen! In these next stages, the outcry for natives must be louder and more widespread than ever. Educating the public is critical – we need to take every opportunity to teach our neighbors, local business owners, municipal officials and staff, landscape companies and landscape architects, that natives are “the gateway to sustainability”! See Mary Jo’s comments later in this issue about one of the steps we will be taking.

A good way to introduce natives to our friends is to invite them to our 12th Annual Auction on May 16th!! The Live Auction is called: GOING NATIVE! Harmonious Habitats, and there will definitely be plants for everyone’s yard! Rufino Osorio’s introduction of each plant will whet the bidders’ appetites and auctioneer Andrew Burr will press and poke and play for the top dollar for each live auction! It is always a fun night, whether you are bidding or not! Last year our important fundraiser hosted 80 people, with almost as many live and silent auction sales. Advertising postcards will be at the April meeting – please take many and share!

We encourage you also to bring plants or garden-related items or services for the silent auction. Please add your silent auction items on the list here: SILENT AUCTION 2017. The Silent Auction is a very exciting part of the Annual Auction, and is equally as important as the Live Auction. It has raised significant amounts of money for the chapter in the past, and with your help we expect the same this year. All the money we raise helps to further our mission! Thank you for all your help!

Be a native activist – invite your friends to the auction!

Susan Lerner, President
VitalLongevity@gmail.com
561-478-7444
Our chapter officially “adopted” Pine Glades Natural Area in January of this year in partnership with PBC Department of Environmental Resource’s (ERM) Adopt a Natural Area Program. Site manager Harper Carroll presented an overview of the property at our February chapter meeting, and then followed up with a guided tour with emphasis on restoration and current management.

This month we have the opportunity to participate in an ERM volunteer event at Pine Glades and, in doing so, we will be fulfilling one of the requirements of our adoption agreement. The event details are below. This is a weekday event so it may be difficult for some to participate, but we will be scheduling more activities in the future, such as native plant walks and invasive plant removal, that will help to promote and maintain this unique natural area. We will also feature member’s photos from their visits to Pine Glades. The black swallowtail butterfly (Upper left) was captured in this photo by member Karen Lindquist.

**VOLUNTEER EVENT** : Trash removal from recently burned area

**Where:** Pine Glades Natural Area - 14122 W. Indiantown Rd. (approximately 6.5 miles west of the Turnpike)

**When:** Wednesday, April 26, 2017  Time: 9 a.m. to noon

**Directions:** From I-95 exit at Indiantown Rd. (State Rd. 706) and head west for roughly 7 miles – the parking area is on the left – a brown natural area sign is visible from Indiantown Road and is located at the parking lot entrance – look for a white County truck to find designated meeting area.

**Additional Information:** Volunteers should wear long pants, t-shirts, boots or sneakers. Some of the areas we will be cleaning may have standing water – so volunteers should wear clothing they don’t mind getting wet or muddy. Poison ivy is found at this natural area. Restroom facilities are available at the natural area. The Department will supply tools, gloves, and refreshments. Event participation is limited to the first 10 volunteers who register

To Register, call Ann Mathews, PBC ERM, 561-233-2426

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GOING NATIVE! Out LOUD!
by Mary Jo Aagerstoun

Our Going Native! program is an education and advocacy initiative to promote native plants in our neighborhoods, city streets, parks and natural areas across Palm Beach County. An important aspect of GOING NATIVE! is education of, and influence on, our elected officials at State, County and municipal levels.

Experts among us are already working hard to navigate the complicated proposed and existing regulations at various government levels in our state to find where we can make inroads to encourage stronger commitment to native plant usage on public lands, and on private commercial and residential properties.

Starting the GOING NATIVE! Initiative with West Palm Beach has been important because it is the largest city in our county, and the county seat. Creating a strong presence for Florida natives in the WPB ordinance will be a big help as PBCC FNPS seeks to influence the landscape regulations and practices in all 39 Palm Beach County municipalities.

To support this effort to make government ordinances work for natives, YOUR VOICE IS CRUCIAL!

Each month, beginning at our June 2017 meeting, the Advocacy Committee, with the help of the Membership Committee, will inform you of one or more issues our elected officials need to hear from us about.

We will provide suggested language and stamped postcards for YOUR personal message about an important Florida native plant issue that our elected officials can do something about.

Every month, we will let our elected officials know how important their support of Florida Native Plants is to the web of life of which we are all a part!
Conservation Matters
by Chris Lockhart, Conservation Chair

IT’S EARTH MONTH, so DO SOMETHING FOR MOTHER EARTH—A few ideas are: recycle, carpool, conserve water, plant a tree, replace invasive plants with native ones, use energy efficiently, learn something new about our flora and fauna…. Of course, every day should be Earth Day!

Contact your legislators!! The federal Sea Grant program and FL Sea Grant are at high risk of being de-funded, Many programs and research come through that program. It is on the chopping block! Also support SCIENCE!

Saturday, April 22; MARCH FOR SCIENCE will be at 2 locations on Palm Beach County. Critical to show support for science.

Find one near you!
https://www.marchforscience.com/satellite-marches/

Did you miss Senator Nelson and the Field Hearing “Extreme Weather and Coastal Flooding: What is Happening Now, What is the Future Risk, and What Can We Do About It?” on Monday, April 10, 2017. Great news! Check out the webcast and text of this serious issue affecting us now.

Article 7 of the Palm Beach County Landscape Code is being updated for the Unified Land Development Code (ULDC). This differs from the landscape ordinance for the City of WPB. The first meeting is Tuesday, May 20, 9 am at the Vista Center, Room 2E-12. Great opportunity to make a difference! Reviewers are needed and welcome. Contact Chris Lockhart, chris@lockharts.org

Gardening with the Natives by Jeff Nurge

www.FloridaNativeGardening.com

The Cassius Blue Butterfly (Leptotes cassius) is everywhere flying year round in usually abundant numbers in most all types of habitats including the urban garden! Seen but seldom recognized as a butterfly. This small less than one inch beauty flits around in a fast and erratic pattern usually very close to the ground in search for nectar and host plants. It is a true blue color with black borders from above but rarely observed with its wings unfolded. In flight it flashes white and gray zebra-like markings underneath and at rest with its wings folded sports two orange bordered black and blue metallic eyespots.

This "Blue" will host on a wide variety of native plants. Some of the more easily accessible plants in the nursery trade are: Wild Plumbago (Plumbago scandens), Wild Tamarind (Lysiloma latiliquum) and Blackbead (Pithecellobium keyense). Florida friendly non-native plants such as the Blue Plumbago (Plumbago auriculata) are also a popular choice because of the ever present blue flowers.

To seek out a reference for host plants for all your butterflies in south Florida I recommend the book "Florida Butterfly Caterpillars and their host plants published by the University Press of Florida. This is an excellent resource for not only what plants attract our butterflies but the range, habitat and natural history of these butterflies.

In the garden I always recommend a wide variety of wildflowers that bloom at different times of the year thereby providing a year round food source. For those butterflies such as the Cassius Blue it is important to have on hand plants that have tiny flowers. Our small butterflies need this as their proboscis or feeding tube is small and cannot reach the nectar in large or even medium size flowers.

A common word that you hear in the butterfly world is “instars”. An instar is a phase that the caterpillar goes through as it molts. A caterpillars skin must be shed otherwise it would not be able to grow. Very similar to what a snake does as it grows larger. Typically the caterpillar will do this 4 to 5 times before it becomes a chrysalis. The Cassius Blue is no exception. However there is an interesting side note to the caterpillar phase that the Cassius Blue goes through. As it lives out its life as a caterpillar it is tended to by ants that treat it like cattle harvesting the sweet secretions that the caterpillar gives off. The ants do not harm the caterpillar during the process and give it protection against some predators!
Native Orchid Names
from the "I Love Native Plants" Bloggers by Chuck McCartney

Naming conventions - Scientific names of naturally occurring plants (and animals, too) seem to “scare” the average person when they really shouldn’t. In botany, the first part of the italicized name (the genus) is always capitalized. The second part (the species) is always lowercase (in modern usage), even when it’s derived from a proper name. Thus, the Dollar Orchid of Miami-Dade and Monroe counties is Prosthechea boothiana, even though the species is named in honor of William Beattie Booth, the grower for wealthy 19th Century English orchidist Sir Charles Lemon. (The rules for names of man-made hybrids and cultivated varieties are different.)

These seemingly strange-looking plant names are made up primarily of Latin or Greek words, with some names derived from the names of people or places. But if you understand the meanings of these plant names, they might not be so intimidating. Here are the meanings of the scientific names for some of South Florida’s more well-known species of tropical epiphytic (tree-growing) orchids:

**Epidendrum nocturnum**
The name for this largest-flowered Florida member of this genus comes from the Greek words epi (upon) and dendron (tree) and literally means “upon a tree,” referring to the fact that most of the 1,400-plus members of this New World group grow as epiphytes, using a tree as a support.

The species name (epithet), nocturnum, for the Night-Scented Epidendrum comes from the Latin word for “night,” referring to the nocturnal fragrance emitted by the flowers to entice their moth pollinators through the darkness.

**Encyclia tampensis**
This most common of South Florida’s epiphytic orchids takes its genus name from the Greek words meaning “to encircle,” indicating how the side lobes of the lip (the odd petal) of the flower grow around the bloom’s central reproductive structure (called a column) in many species of this New World group. The species epithet denotes the Tampa Bay region from which the first plant of this species was sent to England, where it was described in 1847 (as an Epidendrum). This is the species often commonly called the Florida Butterfly Orchid, although, oddly, it looks nothing like a butterfly and is not pollinated by butterflies.

**Prosthechea cochleata**
This genus name for the Clamshell Orchid may not look familiar to longtime orchid enthusiasts because it previously was placed in Epidendrum and later Encyclia. Prosthechea comes from the Greek for an appendage or addition, referring to the appendage of tissue located on the back of the reproductive column of the flower. The species epithet comes from the Greek word for “shell” (think of marine cockleshells), referring to the upward-pointing, dark-purplish lip of the flower, which has a distinctly clamshell-like appearance.

**Oncidium ensatum**
This species is one of the exceptions to the word “epiphytic.” Most members of this big New World genus, which now numbers approximately 317 species due to recent taxonomic realignments, are epiphytes. However, in Florida, this species is generally found growing on (not in) the ground, even though on rare occasions it has been seen growing epiphytically as well. The genus name comes from the Greek word onkos, meaning a swelling or tumor (also the source for the word “oncologist,” a doctor specializing in the treatment of tumors). For the orchids, the name refers to the callus, or swelling of tissue, near the top of the flower’s lip, which functions in the orchid’s pollination mechanism. This native of Florida, Cuba and the Bahamas has long been known as Oncidium floridanum (named for the state of Florida), but now orchid scientists believe it is the same as the Mexican/northern Central American Oncidium ensatum. That species name comes from the Latin word for a type of sword, referring to the long, sword-like leaves on the large plants of this beautiful yellow-flowered orchid.

**Ionopsis utricularioides**
Both names of this pretty little Oncidium relative compare it to the flowers of other plants. The genus name comes from the Greek words ion (violet) and opsis (having the appearance or likeness of) because to German botanist Carl Sigismund Kunth, who created the genus in 1815, the flowers resemble some of the true violets in the genus Viola. (Remember that so-called African Violets in the gesneriad genus Saintpaulia are unrelated to true violets.) Swedish botanist Olof Swartz’s 1788 species name for what he called Epidendrum utricularioides compares the flowers of this orchid to those of some species of carnivorous Bladderwort in the genus Utricularia. Worldwide, many Utricularia species do have pretty bilaterally symmetrical, orchid-like flowers. The oides suffix on the end of the orchid’s species name is similar to -opsis in the generic name and indicates a resemblance to something else.

**Cyrtopodium punctatum**
This largest of Florida’s tropical epiphytic orchids is commonly called the Cowhorn Orchid or Cigar Orchid because of the shape of the large, elongate pseudobulbs that, when leafless in the winter, do, indeed, resemble either of those well-known objects.

This New World genus takes its name from a combination of the Greek words kyrto (curved) and podion (little foot), referring to the curved “column foot” at the back of the reproductive column that connects it to the lip. The species epithet comes from the Latin word punctatus, meaning “pricked” or “spotted,” alluding to the prominently speckled flowers of the species.

This article was reprinted from the FNPS blog - March 13, 2014
**Florida and Other News**

**Bob Graham writes for the Tampa Bay Times** — “Florida Forever is unassailable because it uses a proven process overseen by scientists and conservation and forestry experts to make land acquisition decisions. In 2013, when the Legislature directed the Department of Environmental Protection to sell unneeded conservation lands, the agency ended the program after nine months without selling a single acre due to the thorough evaluation process the lands underwent prior to purchase...The Florida Conservation Coalition is calling for a minimum of 25 percent of all Amendment 1 funds to be dedicated to land conservation through Florida Forever and Florida Communities Trust and for increased funding for the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program. Tell your state representative and senator to do the will of “we the people” by fully funding Florida Forever.” Read Tell legislators to honor Amendment 1 and Florida Forever

**Isadora Rangel reports for the TC Palm** — “U.S. Rep. Brian Mast said... he’s working on a bill to expedite a proposed reservoir to curb Lake Okeechobee discharges. He also acknowledged he’ll have a hard time drumming up support on Capitol Hill... Mast joined Captains for Clean Water, a group of recreational anglers and charter fishing guides who visited the state capital Tuesday, to lobby for a bill to build the reservoir.... The Army corps of Engineers has told Mast if land for the reservoir was available today, it would take eight to 10 years to build it because of the necessary planning and permitting process... Mast's bill, which he hasn’t filed, would require the Corps to begin planning the reservoir as soon as the state is ready instead of in 2021, as it’s currently scheduled. The proposal is in line with Negron’s plan to force the South Florida Water Management District, the Corps’ state partner in the project, to move the planning date from 2021 to no later than October 2018. Mast’s office also is working on four to five other bills related to Lake Okeechobee, including one to dredge sediment out of the lake to allow it to hold more water. Another bill would require the federal government to help clean water that is polluted by the Corps’ discharges into the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers.”

**What’s Going On in the Florida Legislature?**

The 2017 Florida State Legislature is now halfway through the 2017 session and the FNPS policy committee continues to track bills that are of concern to our membership.

We are asking the Legislature to:

- **Support Senate President Negron's proposal (SB 10)** to acquire land south of Lake Okeechobee to build a reservoir.

- **Restore Florida Forever funding** - We need to let them know that when we voted in support of Amendment 1 several years ago, we intended for a large portion of the funds to be used to conserve land.

- **Support a ban on fracking. (SB 442)** Our unique Florida geology is not compatible with fracking.

Please use the link below to contact your Senators and let them know your thoughts:


**Conservation Legislation Update from 1000 Friends of Florida**

Note: Funding from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund comes from the 1/3 of documentary stamp taxes set aside by the Water and Land Conservation Amendment in 2014.

**Environmental Appropriations** — The Florida House and Senate announced their individual 2017-2018 environmental budget recommendations. Both chambers propose cutting environmental spending, with the Florida House proposing a shocking 25% reduction in the Department of Environmental Protection budget from last year. Equally disappointing, the Florida House defunded the state’s major land protection programs Florida Forever and Rural and Family Lands Protection Program. The Florida Senate’s proposed budget, offered by Sen. Rob Bradley, is equally disappointing. It recommends only $10 million for Florida Forever and no funding for Rural and Family Lands.

**SB 10 Bradley / HB 761 Altman** — Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir Funding

Legislation championed by Senate President Joe Negron authorizing bonding for the purchase of lands in the Everglades Agricultural Area to reduce discharges to coastal estuaries and aid in Everglades restoration. This Legislation was significantly amended in the Senate Appropriations Committee. SB 10 now calls for using existing state-owned lands, along with the possibility of adding additional lands in the future, to create a reservoir capable of holding a minimum of 240,000 acre-feet of water. It authorizes up to $1.2 billion in Florida Forever bonds for the reservoir and allocates an additional $100 million annually for Everglades restoration from Amendment 1. The amendment resolves some of the most significant issues with the previous version of Senate Bill 10. However, concerns still remain regarding the improper use of Amendment 1 funds, including $30 million for the C-51 water supply project, and the 33% reduction in the storage capacity of the reservoir. The amended bill passed the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Senate this week.

**UPDATE: The Senate passed amended SB 10 this week.**

**Trump's budget would eliminate key program testing Everglades water** - Naples Daily News

WASHINGTON - A system that tracks the health of the Everglades is among the environmental programs President Donald Trump wants to abolish.

For more than 20 years, the little-known South Florida Geographic Initiative has been monitoring the threat of phosphorous, mercury and other damaging nutrients seeping into the ecologically fragile region — sometimes with dramatic results.

The data it collected for the Environmental Protection Agency and Florida agencies was key to a massive court-ordered settlement in 2012 to protect the River of Grass from encroaching pollution.

The initiative is now among more than 50 EPA programs the administration has proposed eliminating in an effort to return “the responsibility for funding local environmental efforts and programs to state and local entities, allowing EPA to focus on its highest national priorities,” according to Trump’s budget outline released last month.
### Chapter Events

**All meetings are held at the University of Florida/IFAS Mounts Building Auditorium, 531 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach, unless otherwise noted.**

**Tuesday April 18 | 5:30PM - 7PM**
**CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**
The BoD will meet at the Mounts Auditorium conference room prior to the chapter meeting. All members are welcome.

**Tuesday April 18 | 7-9 PM**
**CHAPTER MEETING: PALM BEACH COUNTY NATIVE ORCHIDS**
Presented by Chuck McCartney - writer, editor and naturalist

**Saturday April 29 | 9 AM - NOON**
**FIELD TRIP: ORCHIDS AND WILDFLOWERS WITH CHUCK MCCARTNEY**
**Location:** Jonathan Dickinson State Park
We will meet at the start of the Kitching Creek Trail at the far-right end of the River Road parking area.

After the walk, those of us who want to stay can gather at that beautiful riverside picnic area to eat our lunch together.

This trip is free for FNPS members, and $10 for non-members. Also, there's a park entrance fee ($6 per vehicle for 2-8 people, $4 for a single-occupant vehicle).

Sign up at the meeting for the field trip, or use the signup genius
[http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084babab28a2fd0-orchids](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084babab28a2fd0-orchids)

**Tuesday May 16 | 5:30PM - 7PM**
**CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**
The BoD will meet at the Mounts Auditorium conference room prior to the chapter meeting. All members are welcome.

**Tuesday May 16 | 7-9 PM**
**ANNUAL RARE & UNIQUE NATIVE PLANT AUCTION AND SILENT AUCTION** with special guest presenter Rufino Orsorio

SAVE THE DATE for this popular event! See the auction flyer on page 9 for event details. Please print the flyer and post it on your community bulletin boards and any other appropriate location.

Also, start preparing your plants and items for the silent auction!

The Silent Auction is a very exciting part of the Auction evening, and is equally as important as the Live Auction! It has raised significant amounts of money for the chapter in the past, and we expect the same this year.

Please bring your item to Mounts by 6:15 pm. If you cannot do that, let us know. Each item will need a bid sheet filled out, with the item name, a description, the donor's name and minimum bid. We will provide the forms. Plant names are important, botanical if you know them, so we can properly introduce the plant to the potential bidders.

You can add your silent auction items to the online list by clicking here:
[http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084babab28a2fd0-silent1](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084babab28a2fd0-silent1)

**Wednesday May 17**
**FOURTH ANNUAL GREAT GIVE**
Great Give Palm Beach & Martin Counties is a 24-hour online giving event led by United Way of Palm Beach County, Achieve, Nonprofits First and United Way of Martin County designed to raise as much money as possible for local nonprofits in a single day. This community-wide event celebrates the spirit of giving and the collective effort it takes to strengthen our community by raising critical funds for local nonprofits.

Support our chapter's mission with your donation!

### Other Events

#### Earth Day Celebration at Palm Beach Gardens

**April 20, 2017 - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Palm Beach State College at Palm Beach Gardens will host its eighth annual Earth Day celebration April 20th. Planned by the Gardens Going Green Sustainability Committee (G3), its mission is to promote an appreciation for the planet while increasing awareness of issues related to the sustainability of the environment.

Join us under the tents at the Amphitheater for fun, food, music, and giveaways to learn more about sustainability!

*The Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society will have a table at this event. Sign up to volunteer!*

**7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. - Explore the night sky with special guests from the South Florida Amateur Astronomers Association**

#### Lake Worth Earth Day Festival

**Hosted by Gray Mockingbird Community Garden**

**Saturday, April 22 at 10 AM - 6 PM**

Featuring family fun, rescue animal interactions, eco-exhibits, and an exciting line up on two stages of live acoustic, Japanese Taiko Drummers, Dance teams and more!

Visit our PBCC FNPS Chapter Booth!

#### March for Science - Palm Beach County

**Saturday, April 22 at 12 PM - 6 PM**

Dreher Park - 1301 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach

Rally will begin at Dreher Park followed by a march towards Mar-a-Lago.

Dress comfortably for the weather. If possible, wear a blue or green shirt, or a white lab coat. Personal drinking water in a re-usable, recyclable container. A sign expressing your solidarity (which you will either take with you as you go or donate for future events)

#### Volunteer Event

**Community Greening - Delray Beach**

Community Grove tree planting at Catherine Strong Park on 4/29 from 8:30 - 11:30. We will be planting 40 fruit and 20 native trees.

#### People’s Climate March

**Saturday, April 29**

2 locations in Palm Beach County: Trump Plaza, Near S. Flagler Drive and Southern Blvd; Across from Bingham Island, West Palm Beach 9 am and MacArthur Beach State Park, 10am. More info:

[https://peoplesclimate.org/sister-marches/](https://peoplesclimate.org/sister-marches/)
Register Now for the Florida Native Plant Society
37th Annual Conference
CONNECTIONS: ABOVE AND BELOW

May 18 – 21, 2017
Westgate River Ranch Resort
just south of Lake Kissimmee

Registration is now open!
http://fnps.org/conference/2017

Original artwork by Linda Conway Duever

Call for Plants - In addition to bringing plants to giveaway at our chapter's monthly meetings, it's time to start thinking about our 3 big plant events - the May Auction, the August Plant Exchange and the (new) October Plant Sale. Pot them up now so plants are well-rooted for those three events!

Florida Master Naturalist Program, Coastal Systems Module
May 2 to June 10 - Registration closes at 10:00am EST on April 26, 2017

Seats are limited so check the agenda and sign up soon at: http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/fmnp/cs17-13.html Multiple field trips, wonderful guest speakers and more! Come get your feet wet (at least one day) and join us!

Florida Wildlife Federation Chooses FNPS as Conservation Organization of the Year!

The Federation chose FNPS because of the conservation work conducted by the organization year after year.

If you would like to attend the award banquet, tickets can be purchased from the Florida Wildlife Federation. Banquet information and accommodations information can be found in the FWF newsletter http://www.fwfonline.org/Newsletters/2016/FFWN_30_2.pdf

Contributions to the Dahoon newsletter are always welcome. Content relevant to the Florida Native Plant Society such as meeting & field trip notes, summaries of recent FNPS activities, local event/meeting announcements, legislative updates, native plant articles/notes, and photos of native plants or native plant enthusiasts in action can be submitted to the editor at: dahooned@gmail.com

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http://palmbeach.fnpschapters.org/

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