



Visit our Website at <http://mangrove.fnpschapters.org/>

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## Florida Native Plant Month Proclamation

A Proclamation recognizing Florida as Native Plant Month will be given to the Mangrove Chapter of FNPS on October 4th at 9:00 am at Punta Gorda City Hall, 326 west Marion Ave. CHNEC and Cocolaba Chapter will be in attendance. All Mangrove Chapter members are invited to attend. Please be at City Hall by 8:45. am. We would like to see a big delegation from the Mangrove Chapter.

On October 10th the Charlotte County Council Chambers will recognize the proclamation also. They meet in [18500 Murdock Circle](#), Commission Chambers, Room 119. The meeting starts at 9:00 am.

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## Message from the President

Lois Cantwell

Having hot weather here, hitting 90 degrees today. Strange for September in the north. We are heading back to FL on Oct 21st. Hope to be back in the CP garden by Oct 30th. Lots of damage to my yard including the huge mango tree behind my house, which my neighbor is taking down with a chain saw. Looks like I have a lot of work to do when I get back. At least the house came through unscathed. See you soon.

Lois

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## Natives Cultivars Nativars by Lois Cantwell

We can go back a few centuries to find men of science who began tinkering with plants from the wild to make them bigger, bolder and more desirable than their native states. By definition, these are cultivated plant varieties with one or more distinct differences from the original species, such as flower color, leaf variation or disease resistance.

In more modern times the industry has taken "cultivation" to a higher level. These days, we see the term "nativar" more and more frequently. With environmental awareness issues at the forefront, nurseries are making "the natives" more appealing to the consumer by advertising them as such (cultivars of native plants) so they can promote them as pollinator friendly, which is a popular hot button.

But, are they really? If you have a mixture of cultivars and natives in your garden, watch them to see where the bees, butterflies and hummingbirds go. The larger concern is how do the native plant societies around the country view the use of native "altered-natives"? Over the last 500 years, Florida flora has been over-run by the myriad of introduced exotic and invasive species and their cultivars. Now the industry is messing with the natives. Do we continue to emphasize the use of "true" natives and such concepts as ecotypes, native plant communities and wildlife habitats from a purist perspective?

Or, so we accept the concept of using "nativars" to attract more people to accepting native plants into their yards? Will they really serve a purpose or just add to the continued dilution of native plants in the

Florida landscape. Do the natives come true to type from seed or revert (hopefully) back to the actual native form? Lots of questions--what do you think?

## October Meeting to Honor Girl Scouts

For their first meeting of the season, the Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society is proud to present a group of local Girl Scouts and their mentors Sue Killion and Barbara Rao. Their subject is "Improving Our Neighborhood, Protecting Our Planet." They will present their work on creating a Native Plant Garden at Broadmoor Park in Rotonda West in Englewood. The meeting will be held at Lemon Bay Park, 570 Bay Park Blvd in Englewood, Florida. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for set-up, conversation, and snacks. Speakers begin at 7 p.m.

Sue Killion and Barbara Rao are co-creators of the program that partners the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and National Garden Clubs with the Girl Scouts. Sue is the current Wildflower Chairman for District VIII of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and past president of the Lemon Bay Garden Club. She has been a member of the Lemon Bay Garden Club for 7 years. Barbara Rao is the state Wildflower Chairwoman and has been a member of the Sarasota Garden Club for 15 years. She has met and worked with Girl Scouts of all ages throughout Charlotte and Sarasota Counties. Sue and Barbara designed the National Garden Club Wildflower Badge that is used throughout Florida. Various members of Lemon Bay Garden Club have also conducted programs with the Sarasota and Englewood Girls Scouts to assist them in earning their Wildflower Badges.

Girl Scouts present will be Abigail Parker and Haleigh Vadala, both Independently Registered; Anne LaVasseur and Reagan Moody, Troop 208; Caleigh Cabral, Bailey Chamberlain and Eva Glover, Troop 538.

To earn this badge, each Scout has:

- learned what plants are native to their area and how to preserve and protect them
- learned the invasive species in their area
- learned about resources and partnerships offered by local National Garden Clubs
- worked with local National Garden Club members who served as mentors and sponsors
- contacted native plant societies, horticultural professionals and county extensions to assist with completion of project requirements

The Scouts have taken action by:

\* interviewing someone about native plants

- establishing a native beauty spot in a public garden, school, church, park, town, or community
- spreading the word about native plants; sharing information with other troops and community groups, newspaper articles, radio, TV spots, or posters, fliers, and booklets.

The girls will receive commendations from the Florida Native Plant Society for their accomplishments in creating the native plant garden. This promises to be an inspiring evening for all.

October marks our 3rd annual Florida Native Plant Month. We encourage Floridians and our early winter visitors to learn more about the importance of Florida's native plants and communities by becoming a member of the Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. The Florida Native Plant Society promotes the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida. To learn more about the Mangrove Chapter or the Florida Native Plant Society, visit [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org). Chapter speaker programs, field trips and special events are free and open to the public.

## Mangrove Chapter Nature Walk Oct 28

The Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society invites the public to join in a nature walk at 9 am on October 28, 2017 at Venice Myakka River Park, [7501 E. Laurel Rd](http://www.venicemyakka.com) in Venice, Florida. The park is ADA accessible and takes great pride in their beautiful walking trails that cover the park's 10 acres.

Join us on a leisurely exploration of this beautiful area. For more information you may contact Al Squires at [941-769-3633](tel:941-769-3633) or email him at [ahsquires@embarqmail.com](mailto:ahsquires@embarqmail.com).

**DIRECTIONS:** Those traveling to the park via Interstate 75 should take the Laurel Rd Exit, turn right, and drive to the end of the road. The park is situated at the eastern end of Laurel Rd.

## Mysteries of Migration” by Florida Master Naturalist Kate Borduas



The Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) is pleased to offer the program “Mysteries of Migration” by Florida Master Naturalist Kate Borduas at 10 AM on Wednesday, October 18 at Bayshore Live Oak Park in Port Charlotte.

What is Migration? Which species Migrate? Why do they migrate? And just how do they migrate? European eels, for example, travel thousands of miles arriving with pinpoint accuracy at a destination they have never been. Monarch butterflies make a multi-generational round trip each year. Birds weighing only few grams can fly thousands of miles over open ocean. Arctic Terns have an annual round trip migration of 25,000 miles.

Kate will focus on the fall and spring migration of birds that we see here in Florida and she will explain how and why birds are able to make these epic journeys.

This program is presented by Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center. Bayshore Live Oak Park is a Charlotte County facility. For information and/registration for this FREE program, call [941-475-0769](tel:941-475-0769).

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## Free programs from CHEC and Charlotte County Natural Resource Department

Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center and the Charlotte County Natural Resource Department will be conducting the following free programs in **October 2017**. All programs can be found at [www.ChecFlorida.org](http://www.ChecFlorida.org)

Unless noted, all walks begin at **9:00 AM**. For directions or further information, call Cedar Point Environmental Park at [941-475-0769](tel:941-475-0769)

**Tuesday October 3** Join **Al Squires** on a guided walk through **Tippecanoe II Mitigation Preserve** in Port Charlotte. This 150 acre preserve is home to several families of the threatened Florida scrub jay. Meet in the parking lot.

**Sunday October 8** Join **Greg Brezicki** on a guided walk through the old growth pine flatwoods and mangrove fringe of 125-acre **Oyster Creek/Ann Dever Regional Park** in Englewood. Meet at the San Casa entrance.

**October 16** Join **Al Squires** on a guided walk through **Tippecanoe II Mitigation Preserve** in Port Charlotte. This 150 acre preserve is home to several families of the threatened Florida scrub jay. Meet in the parking lot.

**Tuesday October 17** Join **Kate Borduas** on a guided walk through the old growth pine flatwoods and mangrove fringe of 125-acre **Oyster Creek/Ann Dever Regional Park** in Englewood. Meet at the San Casa entrance.

**Wednesday October 18** Explore the “**Mysteries of Migration**” with **Kate Borduas** at **10 AM** at **Bayshore Live Oak Park** in Port Charlotte. Kate will focus on the fall and spring migration of birds that we see here in Florida. **Reservations advised.**

**Thursday October 19** Join **Kate Borduas** on a guided walk through the 81-acre **Bill Coy/Buck Creek Preserve** in Englewood. The scrubby flatwoods and mangrove swamp border Buck Creek, which flows into Lemon Bay. Meet in the parking lot.

**Tuesday October 24** Join **Kate Borduas** on a birding walk through 308-acre **Tippecanoe Environmental Park**. Avian species that may be found within this Charlotte County park may include Florida scrub jays, red-winged blackbirds, various wading birds, and American bald eagles. Meet behind the Charlotte County Sports Park. **Meet at 8 AM.**

**Wednesday October 25** Join **Gloria Hansen** on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Cape Haze. Meet in the parking lot at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd.

**Tuesday October 31** Join **Kate Borduas** on a guided walk through the old growth pine flatwoods and mangrove fringe of 125-acre **Oyster Creek/Ann Dever Regional Park** in Englewood. Meet at the San Casa entrance.

[www.checflorida.org](http://www.checflorida.org)

New Member

Please welcome new member Bonnie Moore, from Port Charlotte.

## Field Trips 2017-2018

F2017 – 2018 Native Plant Walks  
Mangrove Chapter, F.N.P.S.

The Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society invites the public to join in the following nature walks during the 2017-2018 season:

October 28, 2017 Venice Myakka River Park, (ADA Access)  
[7501 E. Laurel Rd, Venice](#)

November 25, 2017 Old Miakka Preserve  
[251 Myakka Rd, Sarasota](#)

January 27, 2018 Manasota Scrub, West side  
Bridge St, Englewood

February 24, 2018 Yucca Pens WMA  
Zemel Rd, Punta Gorda

March 31, 2018 Amberjack Environmental Park  
End of Gasparilla Pines Blvd, Cape Haze

April 28, 2018 Myakka State Forest, North end  
E River Rd (off S River Rd), North Port

May 26, 2018 Venice Lemon Bay Preserve  
[6200 Osprey Rd, Venice](#)

Watch your local paper for more detailed information as the date approaches. You may also contact Trail Guide, Al Squires at [941-769-3633](tel:941-769-3633) or email him at [ahsquires@embarqmail.com](mailto:ahsquires@embarqmail.com).

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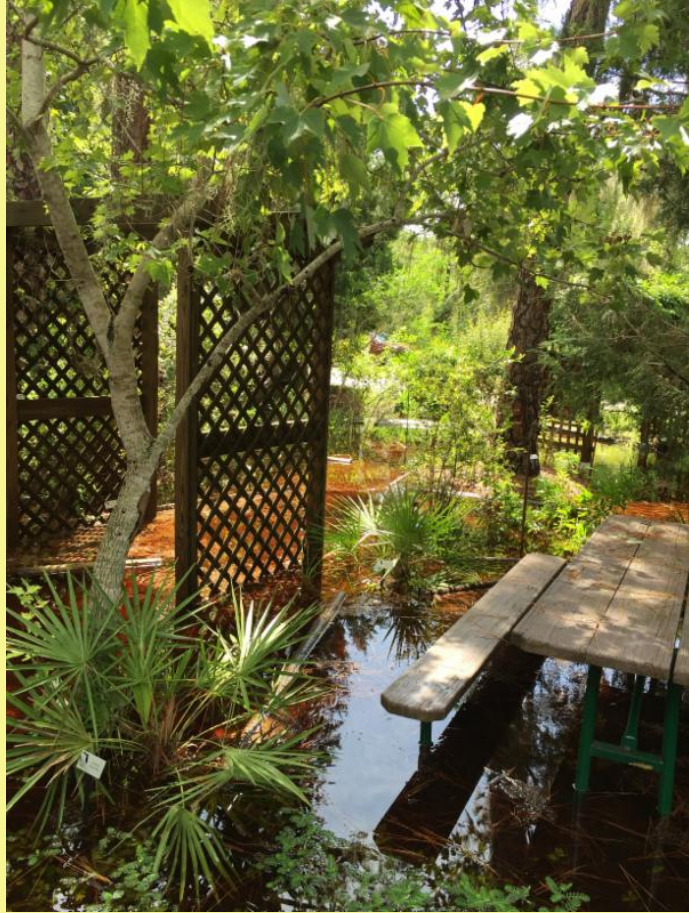
## Demonstration Garden

### Hurricane Irma

Hurricane Irma fortunately spared our Charlotte and Sarasota County areas the worst of her fury.

She did leave us some "gifts" to remember her with. These photographs were taken by

Carolyn Gregsak of our demonstration garden. We think of Irma each Monday from 8 -10 am as we continue to clean up. The Garden Keepers would like to thank the work crew who cleaned up the larger branches and debris. Thanks, Irma, don't come visiting again.



## Volunteer Opportunity

The Mangrove Chapter GardenKeepers are sending out a call for volunteers. If you are interested in learning more about native plants and would like to garden with an interesting and fun group of people, join us at the Cedar Point Demonstration Garden on Monday mornings from 8-10.

Mangrove Chapter Florida Native Plant Society | [Website](#)