

## Message From the President

by Lois Cantwell

You know how it goes when the subject of growing native plants in your yard is met with negative comments about “those weeds” that some folks equate with wildflowers. Before Christmas I read a story about a plant of unknown origin that at least restored my faith in humanity. It was just an overgrown “weed”, about 4 feet high, jutting out from the edge of a traffic island in Toledo, Ohio. Someone decorated it to spread some Christmas cheer. And it went from there—folks adding tinsel and garland, others added lights, candy canes, glass ornaments, and so forth.

All of this decorating morphed into people adding canned goods, blankets, clothes and wrapped gifts for the needy. A guy showed up in a Santa Claus suit, waving to passing traffic. So many donations accumulated that the city brought in bins to handle the overflow. The contributions were directed to local charities. All of that started out with a scraggly weed.

So, where am I going with this? It just seems that, with the right perspective, a “weed” can be a beautiful thing. We are challenged with shedding the right kind of light on our native wildflowers, so that they are more acceptable to those who are resistant to planting them in their yards and gardens. Tinsel anyone?



### Native Plants in the Local News

As I mentioned in our last newsletter, I always enjoy reading the daily newspaper to find the latest articles and photos about what’s happening in the wild.

Thursdays are my favorite days, since a lot of “nature stuff” shows up in the WaterLine magazine and in “Our Town: Outdoor Living” sections of the “Sun”.

Bill Dunson’s “Wild World” always offers his unique perspective on what’s happening in our local ecosystems. Tom Zinneman’s latest contribution was an article on Groundsel bush, *Baccharis halimifolia*, also known as eastern baccharis, saltbush, sea myrtle and silverling. The fluffy, silky white female shrubs

are such beautiful accents to the countryside as you are out driving on a sunny day in late fall or early winter.

I have also been following the columns written by another local columnist, Becky Copenhaver. She is a Charlotte County Master Gardener, certified Horticulture Professional, certified Landscape Designer, and owns/operates Becky’s Garden Shoppe (6450 Elliot St., Punta Gorda, 941-621-8551, or

**BeckysGardenShopper@comcast.net**. So far, I have read about edibles, epiphytes, groundcovers, and when to trim your shrubs.

Her latest column, “Inviting native plants into your garden” was so refreshing! She nailed all the reasons why we should be growing native plants. At the end of each of Becky’s articles, she sums up her topic by saying “so, here’s the gig”, and in this instance she stated that “if we want to preserve the natural beauty of this wonderful paradise, we have to begin to protect native flora and fauna both in natural environments and our own suburban areas”. Perhaps the next Program Chairperson could invite her to speak at one of our meetings next season.

### **Florida Arbor Day**

This observance is on the third Friday in January, which is the 18<sup>th</sup> in 2019. There will be a proclamation at the County Commission Administration Building in Murdock on Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM in observance of the week of January 20<sup>th</sup> through 26<sup>th</sup> as Native Tree and Shrub Preservation Week. One of our chapters’ founding members, David Wilson, serves on the Parkside Urban Forestry and Waterways Committee and Charlotte Harbor Native Plant Advisory Council. He will be there to accept the proclamation and is hopeful that some of our Mangrove Chapter members will also attend. If you attend, try to be there by 8:30 AM to be seated.

### **Archaeologist to reveal what lies beneath Little Salt Spring**

Steven H. Koski, archaeologist for the Sarasota County Department of Historical Resource, will speak at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice church, 1971 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Topic: “Our Local Treasures: Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring”. Both are sinkholes and springs, visited by Florida’s earliest inhabitants and have yielded findings which date back as far as 13,000 years. Our chapter has supported the Friends of Little Salt Spring. I encourage you to attend this fascinating program.



#### **Volunteer Opportunities**

1. Offer to share your yard for a membership outing, or organize 2 or 3 yard visits during the remainder of the season. (I was contacted by someone in the “old Englewood” area who may be willing to host a visit. So, that could get you started).
2. A small “committee” can do a tour of local nurseries as a means of updating our



#### **A Fun Project for “Plant Native” Day (and beyond)**

Our Chapter participated in the Wildflower Open House last February. We couldn’t help noticing the “selfie spot” that the Coastal Wildlife Club had created for display at their booth. There were turtles painted on wooden stands

handout list of those nurseries, which may or may not carry any number of native plants. Combine the mission with lunch and have a good time!

3. We will need a member (not on the board) who can audit our treasurer's reports for 2018.

Very easy to do, as Linda keeps excellent records and can share them with someone to give them a look-see. This is just a formality, so not a big deal.

4. We need a new Chairperson for Speaker Programs and Publicity. These 2 categories go hand in hand so we have combined them to simplify the process. Carolyn Gregsak is stepping down from her current position at the end of April. She has superbly organized these responsibilities, so the next person to follow her can easily step into her shoes.

5. We are in need of a new President to lead our Chapter for the 2019-2020 season and beyond. It is a 3-year term, and Al Squires has one more year as Vice President. We have both served as Past President several times, so plenty of support is right at hand.

that people could stand behind for photo-ops. Since imitation is a sincere form of flattery, we thought we could copy the idea using something like a sunflower with a hole in the center for your face. So, if anyone out there who is creative with a paint brush, plus someone who can assemble a wooden stand, we could have our own version for our March event. Contact Lois, Al, or Bobbi if you have an interest in helping with this project.

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## January 8, 2019 Mangrove Chapter FNPS Meeting



January 8 Meeting, Mangrove Chapter FNPS  
For their first meeting of the 2019 winter season on January 8, The Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society has the pleasure of welcoming Lee Amos, Land Steward with Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast. This evening's presentation will correspond with Lee's walking tour of Bay Preserve at 400 Palmetto Ave in Osprey, Florida on January 26, presented at the request of the Mangrove Chapter. Lee specializes in plant propagation and conservation. He has worked with the Florida Native Plant Society, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, and Sweet Bay Nursery,

encouraging the widespread use and enjoyment of Florida's stunning plant life. At Conservation Foundation, Lee is responsible for parks & preserve stewardship, map making and geographic analysis, and assisting with the acquisition of new preserves. Currently, he is restoring and planning public recreation on 230 acres of Pine Island, as well as monitoring & maintaining ten conservation properties from Manatee County to Lee County. Lee is looking forward to a future study of the populations of The Beautiful Pawpaw (*Deeringothamnus pulchellus*), a rare, endemic native plant found in several

preserved areas in Charlotte, Lee and Orange Counties. His goal is to use genetic testing to identify high-risk populations, subsequently involving conservation partners who might intervene to prevent extinction. Lee earned his BA in Biology from Tennessee Wesleyan College. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoys camping, kayaking, hiking, and sharing his knowledge of our extraordinary environment. Mangrove Chapter meetings are held at Lemon Bay Park, 570 Bay Park Blvd. in Englewood, Florida with speakers beginning at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6 pm. The evening promises to be informative and inspiring with plenty of time for comments, questions, lots of good discussion, and snacks. (Photo by Bruce Holst, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens)

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## **FNPS, Mangrove Chapter Tour of Bay Preserve with Lee Amos Planned for January 26**

On January 26, Lee Amos will lead a Florida Native Plant Society tour of Bay Preserve at 400 Palmetto Ave, Osprey, FL. Lee is an avid outdoorsman, and the Land Steward & Staff Biologist at Conservation Foundation of SW Florida located at Bay Preserve.

The Preserve is a 4.2 acre waterfront oasis located next to Historic Spanish Point on Little Sarasota Bay. It is a community park, owned and operated by Conservation Foundation, a private non-profit. The Preserve was purchased from the Matson family in 2006 using a Florida Communities Trust grant to create public access to the bay and provide headquarters for Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast. The historic home on the property is known as the Burrows-Matson House for its prior owners, both of whom conserved their land for future generations: Elsa Scherer Burrows donated her family's land to create Oscar Scherer State Park in honor of her father, and the Matsons helped create Bay Preserve at Osprey.

### **DIRECTIONS:**

Bay Preserve is located at 400 Palmetto Drive, Osprey, west of US-41. From US-41, turn west on Webb St. or W. Oak St., then north on Palmetto Drive. Take Palmetto Drive to its terminus at the shelled parking lot of Bay Preserve.

The Florida Native Plant Society encourages Floridians and our 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. For more information about Mangrove Chapter activities and events, please visit [mangrove.fnpschapters.org](http://mangrove.fnpschapters.org).

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## **FNPS Grant Available from Local Mangrove Chapter**

The Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society has made available \$250 per Grant application “to create a public wildlife garden; to rehabilitate or enhance an existing garden; to replace invasive, exotic species with Florida native plants; to enhance a clubhouse, business, or non-profit entryway with Florida native plants; to plant native habitat around retention ponds; to add native plants to preservation areas; and/or for any educational planting.”

Planting must be in a public place, or in the case of gated communities or other areas with restricted access, in a place open to that community. No private yards will be supported. The Grant Committee will supply a list of possible vendors.

Those eligible to apply for the grant must live within the boundaries of the Mangrove Chapter: Charlotte County, all of Boca Grande, and Southern Sarasota County, including Englewood, North Port, and Venice. Awardees will be required to provide a final report with photos to the Grant Committee, as well as a short “before and after” presentation at a Mangrove Chapter monthly meeting. Notice of the award, with photos, will be submitted to local media.

Grant applications can be accessed online through the Mangrove Chapter website [mangrove.fnpschapters.org](http://mangrove.fnpschapters.org) by clicking on “Newsletters” at the top of the Home page.

“Grant Application” will appear in the drop box below “Newsletters.”

Applications are also available at Cedar Point in Englewood at 2300 Placida Rd. or at monthly membership meetings at Lemon Bay Park, also in Englewood.

Applications are being accepted through April 30, 2019 and must be mailed to: MCFNPS Grant Committee PO Box 1153 Englewood, FL 34295-1153. If you have any questions, please call Al Squires at 941-769-3633.

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## Mangrove Chapter of FNPS Speaker List for 2019

The Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society has the pleasure of welcoming the following speakers to their 2019 season of monthly meetings:

January 8, 2019 - Lee Amos, Land Steward & Staff Biologist at Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast - “Land Conservation in SW Florida”

February 12, 2019 - Roger Hammer, Professional naturalist and survivalist instructor for Discovery Channel’s reality television show *Naked and Afraid* - “Wild Orchids of Florida”

March 12, 2019 - Eva Furner - “The Restoration of Wildflower Preserve.”

April 9, 2019 - Kate Borduas, Environmental Activist, Florida Master Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide, -

“The Wonderful, Wacky World of Lichens”

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## What's Up in my Garden

The weeds are no longer “up” in my yard. Manual weeding, no chemicals and perseverance did the trick. In the last newsletter, you saw photos of a newly planted area created last spring, and what it looked like in October after over 5 months of weedy growth comingled with and overpowered the new plantings. Here is a very recent photo taken after some serious rehabilitation. I am including the photo of the weedy overgrowth for comparison. Accumulated leaves raked from another section of my yard are being repurposed here as mulch. Monitoring and adding more natural mulches will be done the rest of the season, hopefully to provide a certain amount of control. I am still looking for someone who can do some weeding at my house during the summer months. My aging back and arthritic hip can use some relief!



# CHEC Free Programs

Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center and the Charlotte County Natural Resource Department will be conducting the following free programs in January 2019. 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

**Wednesday January 2** Join **Carolyn Gregsak** 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.

**Friday January 4** Get wild & wet! Join **Eileen Gerle** at **Cedar Point Park** on a **Seagrass Adventure Wading Trip** into Lemon Bay in search of marine organisms such as sea horse, crabs and juvenile fish. **Registration required.**

**Saturday January 5** 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 January 8** Join **Nancy Clayton** on a guided birding walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Rotonda. Meet at the end of **Gasparilla Pines Blvd.** Walk begins at 8 am.

**Wednesday January 9** Join **Kate Borduas** on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Rotonda. Meet at the end of **Gasparilla Pines Blvd.**

**Thursday January 10** Join **Ruth Ward** 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.

**Friday January 11** Join **Bob “Coop” Cooper** on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Rotonda. Meet at the end of **Gasparilla Pines Blvd.**

**Friday January 11, 18, 25** Take a tour of the historic “**Cookie House**” at Cedar Point Environmental Park from **1 – 4 pm** with Charlotte County Historical staff. Formerly known as the Bass Biological Laboratory, the scientific studies from this facility is linked to the world-renowned Mote Marine Laboratory. Cedar Point Park’s Visitor Center will be as well.

**Saturday January 12** Join **Dave Clayton** 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.

**Sunday January 13** Join **Ruth Ward** on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Rotonda. Meet

at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd.

**Monday January 14** Join **Jean Leavitt** on a guided walk through 308-acre **Tippecanoe Environmental Park**. This Charlotte County park includes habitats such as scrub, pine flatwoods, marsh and wetlands. Meet behind the Charlotte County Sports Park.

**Tuesday January 15** Get wild & wet! Join **Diane Drewry** at **Cedar Point Park** on a **Seagrass Adventure Wading Trip** into Lemon Bay in search of marine organisms such as sea horse, crabs and juvenile fish. **Registration required.**

**Tuesday January 15** Join **Bob “Coop” Cooper** 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 January 16** Join **Carolyn Gregsak** 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.

**Thursday January 17** Join **Al Squires**, Mangrove Chapter Florida Native Plant Society, for **“Invaders From Afar”** at **10 AM** at **Bayshore Live Oak Park** in Port Charlotte. Al will show examples of Florida’s non-native, invasive plants & discuss how and why to remove them. Free literature, including limited copies of, “Identifying & Controlling Invasive Exotic Plants in SW Florida: A Homeowners’ Guide”, will be available. **Reservations are advised.**

**Saturday January 19** 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.

**Saturday January 19** Take a tour of the historic **“Cookie House”** at Cedar Point Environmental Park from **10 am – 2 pm** with Charlotte County Historical staff. Formerly known as the Bass Biological Laboratory, the scientific studies from this facility is linked to the world-renowned Mote Marine Laboratory.

**Sunday January 20** Join **Dave Clayton** 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 January 22** Join Historian **John McCarthy**, Historic Spanish Pint Director, for a lecture by on “The Manasota Key Off-shore Burial Site” at **Cedar Point Environmental Park** from 5 - to 6:30 PM. This CHEC fundraising event includes complimentary wine and hors d’oeuvres, as well as the lecture, for a \$12 entrance donation (\$8 for Friends of CHEC). Space is limited so **reservations are mandatory** for this program.

**Wednesday January 23** Join **Kate Borduas** on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Rotonda. Meet at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd.

**Wednesday January 23** Join **Bob “Coop” Cooper** 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.

**Thursday January 24** Join **Tom Becker**, UF/IFAS/Charlotte County Specialist II, discuss, “**The Right Plant in the Right Place,**” and how they can lower maintenance costs, attract wildlife, and provide beauty to your landscape, at **Bayshore Live Oak Park** in Port Charlotte at **10 AM**. Learn to choose shrubs wisely before you plant. Attendees will receive a free University of Florida/IFAS Florida-Friendly Landscaping Design and Plant Selection Guide. Reservations advised.

**Friday January 25** Join **Cindy Christel** and **Phyllis Cady** on a guided walk through **Charlotte Flatwoods Environmental Park**, a 487-acre Charlotte County property of mature pines, dry prairie, marsh wetlands and freshwater ponds. Its location adjoining state lands make it an important wildlife corridor. Meet at the parking lot on US 41 at **8:30 am**.

**Friday January 25** Join **Bob “Coop” Cooper** 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.

**Sunday January 27** Join **Denise Hart** 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.

**Monday January 28** Get wild & wet! Join a **CHEC Naturalist** at **Cedar Point Park** on a **Seagrass Adventure Wading Trip** into Lemon Bay in search of marine organisms such as sea horse, crabs and juvenile fish. **Registration required.**

**Tuesday January 29** Join **Ruth Ward** 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 January 30** Join **Denise Hart** 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.

**Thursday January 31** Join **Ruth Ward** on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre **Amberjack Environmental Park** in Rotonda. Meet at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd.

Venice Area Historical Society (VAHS) has planned five free lectures for the 2019 season. The topic is “Southwest Florida’s Native Americans” presented through the sponsorship of the Betty Intagliata Lecture Series, which is permanently funded by the Bill Jervey, Jr. Charitable Foundation.



The first lecture will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at 7 PM at the UUCOV Sanctuary, 1971 Pinebrook Rd., Venice, Florida. Steven H. Koski, archaeologist for the Sarasota County Department of Historical Resource will speak about “Our Local Treasures: Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring.” He will explain findings from both Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring, some of which date back as far as 13,000 years. These findings have led to many questions about the early inhabitants of what



is today North Port, Florida.

For more information go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/283222925712721/>

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## "Designing Your Yard for Wildlife"

The Rotonda West Wildlife Sub-Committee will be presenting "**Designing Your Yard for Wildlife**" on **Wednesday, January 9th, 2019 at 1:00 PM**. Guest Speaker is Tom Heitzman, Horticulturist and Co-owner of Sweet Bay Nursery in Parrish, FL. The presentation will be held at the Rotonda West Community Center, 646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947-2000. Free Admission, open to the public.

The community center is located in Broadmoor Park, which used to be one of the golf courses and is now in the process of conversion to a sort of multi-use, wildlife-friendly park, with ponds and walking trails. A few of our members have done a bit of consulting on the project. If you want to hear Tom speak to the subject of planting for wildlife, please join us!

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## *2019 Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Series*

*2019 Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Series presented by UF/IFAS Charlotte County Extension Service at Cedar Point Park in Englewood, Florida.*

*A healthy, properly maintained lawn and landscape can absorb and/or filter storm water runoff and protect our coastal waters while attracting various backyard wildlife. Filtering rain through your landscape protect canals, creeks and local preserves that lead to Charlotte Harbor and the Gulf of Mexico. Three different, Florida-Friendly Landscaping sessions will be presented by staff with UF/IFAS/Charlotte County Extension Service. Each session will review Florida-Friendly landscape designs that incorporate many popular Florida natives.*

*Location for each session is Cedar Point Park, 2300 Placida Rd., Englewood 34224. The dates are **Jan. 22, Jan. 31 and Feb. 5, 2019**. Times are from **9AM-11AM**. Each session explores in some detail the nine Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principles and the practices gardeners can adopt that make a difference for the environment. Pre-registration is recommended. Cost is \$5 per session. **Call 941-764-4351**. Visit the on-line calendar at <http://charlotte.ifas.ufl.edu>.*

### *January 22, 2019*

*This session introduces Florida-Friendly Landscaping™, its key principles and practices. How does the environment and water quality benefit by adopting one or more of them? The session explores what are the right plants for the right places and steps you can follow to renovate or retrofit existing yard or shared community space using Florida native plants. What are popular coastal natives for yard borders, accent plants and landscape beds, what prohibited invasive plants to avoid and ways to lower maintenance by irrigating less and using fewer landscape and turf fertilizers.*

### *January 31, 2019*

*Learn more factors doing a Florida-Friendly site design and analysis and choosing the right native plants as low maintenance groundcovers. Explore what alternatives work best in place of turfgrass. This session looks at mostly native plant choices for mass planting or plants for the front of a landscape border. How can you fit different types of*

*bunchgrasses, wildflowers, perennials and small shrubs together to create low maintenance areas? This session also looks at designing and planting low area, drainage areas and rain gardens.*

### **February 5, 2019**

*Learn the best ways to attract backyard wildlife to your yard. What habitat factors are used to design natural areas into your landscape? This session looks at principles of butterflyscaping and ways to create canopy layers in small backyards. What are the right native plants used in combination to attract 'local' wildlife like gopher tortoises, birds, butterflies and hummingbirds? What vines work best as host and nectar plants for butterflies and pollinating insects? A wide range of native trees and shrubs will be discussed that fit into smaller urban spaces that feed and shelter birds.*

Attendees will receive a copy of the **'Florida Friendly Landscaping™ Guide to Plant Selection & Landscape Design.'** The nine, Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principles include: *right plant right place, water efficiently, fertilize appropriately, use mulch, attract wildlife, managing pests responsibly*

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## **“A History of Conservation: A Bird’s Eye View,”**

Join Us for 17 Jan 2019 Visit to Tampa Bay History Center! The Tampa Bay History Center and Audubon Florida’s Coastal Islands Sanctuaries have teamed up to present “A History of Conservation: A Bird’s Eye View,” a new exhibit highlighting birdlife in Florida and the conservation movement in the Tampa Bay area. This exhibit traces birds from pre-civilization through early Greek and Roman cultures; Audubon’s revelation of North American bird life; the plume trade, the creation of the Audubon Society, Theodore Roosevelt’s time in Tampa and contributions to conservation there; and takes us through conservation efforts to the present. We will leave VAAS center mid-morning and arrive in time to have lunch at the TBHC’s Columbia Café with Audubon Florida’s Ann Paul, who then will guide us through the exhibit. Suzanne Cooper who was a key collaborator in the exhibit creation will also join us for lunch and as a second docent. Group is limited to 30 people. If you wish to attend, please email Ann O’Leary at [annoleary9@icloud.com](mailto:annoleary9@icloud.com) and provide your name and phone number. Please mention TBHC exhibit in subject line. Details regarding carpooling, parking, costs, etc. will be provided when you register. Or if you have any questions contact Ann O’Leary at 941-786-7684.

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