



# Sea Rocket



Newsletter of the North / Central Brevard County Sea Rocket Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

August 2008

*The Florida Native Plant Society was organized in 1980 to promote the preservation, conservation & restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida, primarily through education.*

## Plant Rescue - Digging for Tomorrow

Marjorie Holt & Jackie Rolly, Tarflower Chapter, FNPS (Orlando)

Saturday, August 23, 2008 at 10 AM

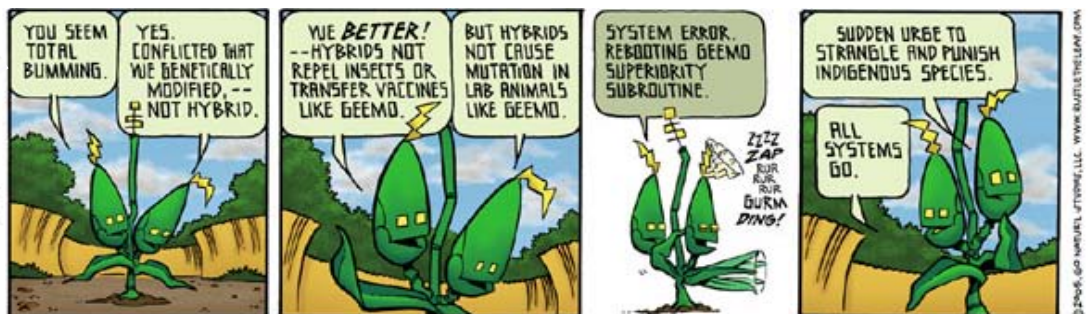
Faith Lutheran Church, Assembly Hall - 280 E Merritt Avenue - Merritt Island

Plant rescues are a great way to learn about native species and get free native plants for your yard. During a plant rescue, plants are taken from native sites that are planned for commercial/residential use. The Native Plant Society takes care of all the necessary permitting for digging on a designated site. All you have to do is dig, plant and water.



This workshop is an overview of the many aspects for saving plants from a future land clearing event that is imminent and assured. It occurs only when the developer has obtained all applicable permits and the Salvage Team has obtained permission and proper permits. The FL Native Plant Society promotes the preservation of existing native plants and does not approve of transplanting natives from natural areas. However, saving plants that would be destroyed is beneficial to the community. By seeing where the plant comes from, relocation to a similar location is the best option. Genetic variability is saved in the community. It adds diversity to the community. In cases of endangered, threatened, or commercially exploited plants, an authorization letter from the landowner is required. The state tracks the locations of endangered plants and needs to be notified.

After discussing legal issues and shortcuts to obtaining proper paperwork, Jackie and Marj will discuss the important reasons to commit to plant salvages. They will share many of their adventures, successes and failures. Endangered and endemic plants can be used in further research and propagation. Buckwheat was salvaged and given to Bok Tower's Research program. Some plants are used in restoration efforts such as Oakland Nature Preserve. Some plants are used in their own gardens, increasing diversity in the urban landscape.



## September 2008 Sea Rocket Program

### Deadly Laurel Wilt in Brevard County

**What:** Are your red bay trees sick or dying? Come and learn about Laurel Wilt, the deadly disease attacking red bay (*Persea borbonia*) and other tree species in the laurel family (Lauraceae).

**Who:** Nicole Perna, Assistant Land Manager  
South Beaches Environmentally Endangered Lands Program

**When:** Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM

**Where:** Cocoa Ag Center, 3695 Lake Drive, Cocoa

Make your plans now to come and hear this enlightening presentation.

For more information, call Paula Berntson (321) 626-3606 or email [jepasm.3@juno.com](mailto:jepasm.3@juno.com).



## October 2008 Sea Rocket Program

### Rain Barrel Workshop

**What:** Learn about the age old practice of harvesting rainwater. This how-to workshop will provide all the answers you need to get started in your own backyard.

\* OPTIONAL - purchase your own rain barrel or rain barrel kit.  
RESERVE NOW - (see below).

**Who:** Elizabeth Melvin, Brevard County Natural Resources  
Management Office

**When:** Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM

**Where:** Cocoa Ag Center, 3695 Lake Drive, Cocoa

### Reserve your rain barrel kit now!

The kits will be available at the presentation for \$40 or you can just purchase one or more barrels for \$25 each. Kits include a food grade 55 gallon barrel, the hardware to turn it into a functioning rain barrel, and an instructional CD. Due to space and travel constraints, there will only be barrels or rain barrel kits available for those who reserve them in advance. Call Paula Berntson (321) 626-3606 or email [jepasm.3@juno.com](mailto:jepasm.3@juno.com) to reserve yours now!



## Upcoming Events

<i>Sat - Aug 23, 10AM</i>	<i>Digging for Tomorrow, Plant Rescue Workshop (see page 1)</i>
<i>Tues - Aug 26, 5PM</i>	<i>Taste of Titusville, BCC Titusville Campus, 267-3036 for info</i>
	<i>Brevard County Election Primaries - VOTE</i>
<i>Aug 31 - Sep 1</i>	<i>NKF (National Kidney Foundation) Pro-Am Surf Fest, Shepard Park,</i>
<i>Sun - Sep 14, 2pm</i>	<i>Brevard Symphony Orchestra Free Family Concert, King Center</i>
<i>Sat - Sep 20, 9AM</i>	<i>Barrier Island Beach Cleanup &amp; Trail Walk, Barrier Island Sanctuary</i>
<i>Wed - Sep 14, 7PM</i>	<i>Sea Rocket Chapter Meeting &amp; Feature Speaker, Ag Center</i>
<i>Every Saturday</i>	<i>City of Cocoa Farmers Market, 11:30am - 3pm, Cocoa Village Gazebo</i>
<i>Every Friday</i>	<i>Brown Bag Jazz Lunch, Cocoa Village Gazebo</i>

If you would like to have an item included in this section, please contact Joanie Regan at [joanie.regan@hotmail.com](mailto:joanie.regan@hotmail.com) / 482-3323



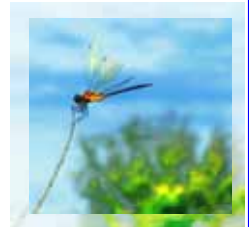
### Very Special Thanks . . .

. . . to Candy & Pat Murphy for organizing such a fun, delicious and well-attended Summer Picnic. Hopefully the "summer games" tradition will continue including Native Plant Crossword Puzzle, Native Plant ID Stumper & Flower Pot Toss. All the potluck dishes were spectacular - thanks to all our great member cooks also!

. . . to Pat Bayer for leading the hike through the diverse maritime hammock forest and dune. Pat developed a Lori Wilson Trail Plant Guide that can be used and reused anytime!



Brevard was called Mosquito County back in the 1880s - hmmmmm. Its a tough summer for evening gardening, but dragonflies are on the prowl - swarming. These predator buddies have been around for 280-380 million years and love munching soft tissue flying insects. Often called mosquito hawks for their appetite - they like areas with water where they lay eggs and places to perch such as tall grasses e.g. muhly & spartina or driftwood yard art. They lay eggs in ponds that become larvae called naiads, which munch on skitter larvae. It's a good time to watch these mosquito hawks & design your backyard for their comfort!



### How 'bout those skitters?



### Not sure where to get some native beauties for your yard?

#### Naturewise

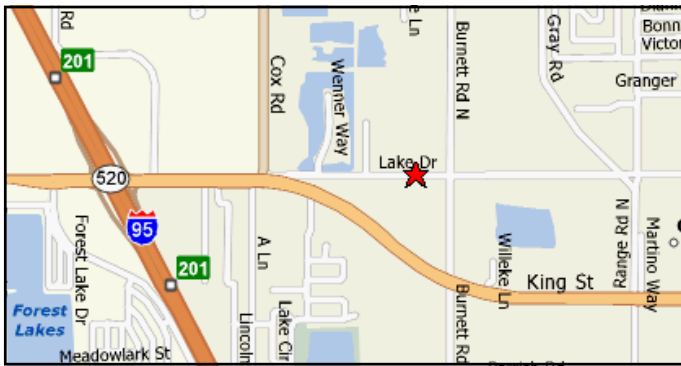
2295 Adamson Road  
Cocoa, FL 536-1410  
[kari@naturewiseplants.com](mailto:kari@naturewiseplants.com)  
[www.naturewiseplants.com](http://www.naturewiseplants.com)  
Tues 2-6pm, Fri 10-6pm  
Sat 9-1pm

#### Maple Street Natives

7619 Henry Ave  
West Melbourne, FL  
[info@maplestreetnatives.com](mailto:info@maplestreetnatives.com)  
[www.maplestreetnatives.com](http://www.maplestreetnatives.com)  
Mon thru Sat 8-5pm

#### Green Images

1333 Taylor Creek Road  
Christmas, FL  
407 568-1333  
[greenimage@aol.com](mailto:greenimage@aol.com)  
Wed & Sat 10-2pm



## CHAPTER MEETING LOCATION

Brevard County Ag Center, 3695 Lake Drive, Cocoa, Florida

- From I-95, go east on SR520 to 1<sup>st</sup> traffic light (Burnett Rd.). Turn left at light and drive one block north to Lake Drive. Turn left & Ag Center is on your left.
- From US 1, go west on SR520 to traffic light immediately after Bob Steele Chevrolet. Turn right onto Burnett Road & go 1 block to stop sign. Turn right onto Lake Drive & Ag Center is on your left.

*Please do not call the Ag Center*

*For questions, contact a member of the FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter board.*

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## Sea Rocket Board of Directors

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**President:** Barbara Venuto: [cvenuto@cfl.rr.com](mailto:cvenuto@cfl.rr.com) / 452-3609

**Vice President:** Paula Berntson: [jepasm.3@juno.com](mailto:jepasm.3@juno.com) / 459-3606

**Secretary:** Ginny Blaetz: [yblaetz@hotmail.com](mailto:yblaetz@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Betty Page: [sioned@digital.net](mailto:sioned@digital.net) / 269-0555

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**Library Chair:** Woody Dierberg, PhD [aquachem1@aol.com](mailto:aquachem1@aol.com) **Chapter Rep & Hike:** Paul Schmalzer, PhD: 268-5473

**Newsletter:** Joanie Regan: [joanie.regan@hotmail.com](mailto:joanie.regan@hotmail.com) / 482-3323

**Membership:** Gail Hill: 453-4865 & Stephanie Phillips: [k4mvo@titustek.com](mailto:k4mvo@titustek.com)

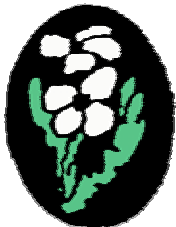


## Florida Native Plant Society

For additional information on membership benefits or changes of address call, write or e-mail FNPS, or visit our website:

<http://nbdb.com/npr/SeaRocket/index.html>

P. O. Box 278, Melbourne, FL 32902-0278



## Sea Rocket

c/o Joanie Regan  
1460 South Atlantic Avenue  
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931

***please contact us if you would like to receive future Sea Rocket newsletters via e-mail***