



# Sea Rocket



Florida Native Plant Society ~ Sea Rocket Chapter ~ Serving North & Central Brevard County

**JANUARY 2011**

*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.*

## ~ Sea Rocket ~ Board of Directors

### President

**Suzanne Meyer**

321-264-4922

meyermenagerie@cfl.rr.com

### Vice President

**Debbie Springer**

321-745-2192,

rspringer29@earthlink.net

### Treasurer

**Betty Page**

321-269-0555

sioned@digital.net

### Secretary

**Ginny Blaetz**

321-412-5649

vblaetz@hotmail.com

## Chapter Representative

**Paul Schmalzer, PhD**

321-268-5473

## ~ Committees ~

### Membership

*Volunteer Needed!*

### Education / Outreach

*Volunteer Needed!*

### Nursery

**Suzanne Meyer**

321-264-4922

### Hike Leader

**Paul Schmalzer, PhD**

321-268-5473

### Newsletter

**Shari Blissett Clark**

321-454-6849

Wednesday, January 26, 2011 ~ 7:00pm

## Water Conservation in the Landscape

*presented by Will Hobson*

Plan to attend Sea Rocket's January meeting featuring Will Hobson, Brevard Regional Education Contractor for the St. Johns River Water Management District (the District).

Will's program will center around outdoor water conservation, including discussion on how to use Florida's native plants. The newly revised Waterwise Plants List published by the District will also be highlighted. This list can be viewed online at

<http://www.sjrwmd.com/waterwiselandscapes/index.html>

Will has a BS in Environmental Science from USF and has done outreach and education for the District for the past three years. Previously Will worked with Volusia County's Environmental Management Department where he conducted hazardous waste inspections. Will currently resides in Volusia County.

Plan to attend this informative program and learn techniques for conserving Florida's most precious natural resource ~ fresh water!

All of Sea Rocket's programs and events are free and open to the public ~ call 321-264-5185 for more information.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS & THINGS TO DO

Every Thursday	Sea Rocket Nursery Workday, 9:30am, Contact Suzanne Meyer at 321-264-4922 for information
Wednesday, 01/05	Florida Trail Association Hike, Cruickshank Loop Trail , 9:00am Contact Jim Escoffier at 321-453-1586 for more information
Saturday, 01/08	Sea Rocket Hike, Pine Island Conservation Area, 9:00am ~ 12:00pm Call 321-454-6849 form information
Tuesday, 01/11	Scottsmoor Flatwoods Plant Survey, 10:00am, call 321-264-5185
Wednesday, 01/12	Florida Trail Association Hike, Doris Leeper Trail, 9:00am Contact Jim Escoffier at 321-453-1586 for more information
Sunday, 01/16	Forest Funday for Children, <i>Trees!</i> , Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, Activities between 2pm & 4pm, call 321-264-5185 for information
Tuesday, 01/18	<i>Enhance Your Home Landscape with Florida Native Plants</i> , 6:00pm Harry T. & Harriett V. Moore Cultural Center, 2180 Freedom Ave., Mims, Call 321-264-2477 for information
Tuesday, 01/18	Lunch with Nature, <i>Northern Right Whales</i> , Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 12noon, call 321-264-5185 for information
Wednesday, 01/19	Florida Trail Association Hike, Soldier Creek Trail, 9:00am Contact Jim Escoffier at 321-453-1586 for more information
Wednesday, 01/19	Make Oyster Mats, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 12noon ~ 2pm Call 321-264-5185 for information
Thursday, 01/20	Friends of the Enchanted Forest Meeting, <i>Northern Right Whales</i> , Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 6:30pm, call 321-264-5185
Tuesday, 01/25	Scottsmoor Flatwoods Plant Survey, 10:00am, call 321-264-5185
Wednesday, 01/26	Florida Trail Association Hike, Bulow Creek Trail, 9:00am Contact Jim Escoffier at 321-453-1586 for more information
Wednesday, 01/26	Sea Rocket Meeting, Water Conservation in the Landscape, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 7:00 pm, call 321-264-5185
January 26 ~ 31	14th Annual Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival, Brevard Community College, Titusville Campus, website for registration and program info: <a href="http://www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlifefestival.org">www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlifefestival.org</a>

### ~ SPRING PROGRAMS ~

Don't miss these interesting meetings!

February 23, 2011 ~

Chapter Elections & *THE ART OF PRUNING*

March 23, 2011 ~ Dr. Craig Huegel

*NATIVE PLANT LANDSCAPING FOR FLORIDA WILDLIFE*



**Florida Native Plants,  
Edible Plants, Fresh Produce,  
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The **Green** Marketplace  
at Adamson Rd.

2295 Adamson Road, Cocoa

Visit our website,

[www.naturewiseplants.com](http://www.naturewiseplants.com)

for our newsletter, hours and  
location, plant lists, upcoming events  
and more! **536-1410**

## MYSTERY PLANT



**Can you ID this Florida native plant?**

**Me neither...another unusually cold winter  
has frozen our Florida landscapes!**

**But unlike many popular exotic species,  
our native plants will rebound.**

**Proper pruning in early spring  
helps ensure plant re-growth,  
so the February program  
will focus on the  
*Art of Pruning!***

### January Field Trip

### Pine Island Conservation Area

**Saturday, January 8th ~ 9:00am ~ 12:00pm**

Pine Island Conservation Area is a joint project of the  
St. Johns River Water Management District and the  
Brevard County Environmentally  
Endangered Lands (EEL) Program.  
Vegetation is primarily flatwoods and  
marshes. It is the site of a major wet-  
lands restoration project.



We plan to check out the wetlands  
restoration area and hike some of the trail through flat-  
woods. After the hike, there will be an option to visit  
the Sams House, a restored historical homestead  
which serves as the Management and Education Cen-  
ter for the EEL Program's Central Region.

#### Directions:

- (1) SR 528 East to Merritt Island, exit on SR3 and go North for  
about 5 miles, turn left on Pine Island Road and proceed  
West about 2.5 miles to entrance gate at end of road, OR
- (2) SR 405 East to Merritt Island/Kennedy Space Center, turn  
right on Space Commerce Way (new road) to SR 3, turn  
South (right) on SR 3 to Pine Island Road, then right on Pine  
Island Road and proceed West to entrance gate.

**Bring hat, sunscreen, water, and insect repellent.**

### Maple Street Natives



Sharon & Brent Dolan

7619 Henry Ave.

West Melbourne, FL 32904

ph: 321-729-6857

e: [info@maplestreetnatives.com](mailto:info@maplestreetnatives.com)

[www.maplestreetnatives.com](http://www.maplestreetnatives.com)

RETAIL  
M-Sat 8-5

FLORIDA NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS, WILDFLOWERS, GRASSES

### green images

*Florida Native Landscape Plants*

1333 Taylor Creek Road  
Christmas, Florida 32709

407-568-1333

[greenimage@aol.com](mailto:greenimage@aol.com)

## The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival January 26 ~ 31, 2011

Plan to attend the 14th Annual Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival (SCBWF). Artisans, craftspeople, educators, organizations, businesses, and government agencies specializing in conservation, wildlife, birding, and eco-tourism will be exhibiting at the Festival, including the FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter!

Festival attendees come from all over Florida, the United States, and the world to participate in this unique event. The Festival is headquartered in the Gymnasium (Building 4) at Brevard Community College's North Campus, located at 1311 North U.S. Highway 1 in Titusville.

Most presentations and field trips will originate at this location. The exhibit area will be located in the Gymnasium, as will the Silent Auction and Registration Center. The exhibit hall will be open to the public on Wednesday afternoon from 3 to 6pm, Thursday from noon to 6pm, Friday and Saturday from 9am to 6pm, and Sunday from 10am to 3pm.



The Raptor Project will be on stage in the exhibit hall with shows running throughout the Festival.

The Titusville Art League will present a juried art show which includes a three-category competition and student poster contest. Judges will review the entries and select winners in each category. Entry forms are available online and at the Festival.

Registration for the Festival and associated events has already begun, so visit the

website at [www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlifefestival.org](http://www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlifefestival.org) for more information, or call Neta Harris at Brevard Nature Alliance, 321-268-5224.

**Deadline is  
Rapidly  
Approaching!**

### Call for Scientific Papers & Poster Presentations

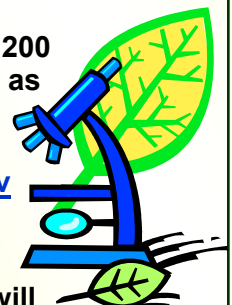
**FNPS 2011 Conference**

The Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference will be held at the Sheraton Orlando North, Maitland, Florida, on May 19-22, 2011. The Research Track of the Conference will include presented papers on Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21. Posters will be on display on Friday and Saturday and the poster session will be on Saturday afternoon.

Researchers are invited to submit abstracts on research related to native plants and plant communities of Florida including preservation, conservation, and restoration. Presentations are planned to be 20 minutes in total length (15 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for questions).

**Abstracts of not more than 200 words should be submitted as a MS Word file by email to Paul A. Schmalzer, [paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov](mailto:paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov) by February 1, 2011.**

**Include title, affiliation, address, and whether you will be presenting a paper or poster.**



### Florida Trail Association Resumes Wednesday Hikes

The Florida Trail Association (FTA) has resumed their Wednesday morning hikes. For information about FTA, log onto <http://www.floridatrail.org/>

For information about hikes, driving directions and trail maps visit Jim Escoffier's blog at <http://jehikesced.blogspot.com/>. You can also view the hiking season's entire schedule on this site.

FTA recommends appropriate trail attire, insect repellent, hats, drinking water, and a bag lunch. Hikes range from 4 to 8 miles in length and encompass a wide variety of sites and habitats.

This is a great way to get outdoors and explore Central Florida's remarkable hiking trails!

For more information, contact Jim at [jiescoffier@aol.com](mailto:jiescoffier@aol.com)



## Meeting Minutes ~ November 17, 2010

*Submitted by Ginny Blaetz*

This meeting was a combined session with the Friends of Enchanted Forest. The meeting began with a presentation by Connor Roberts who outlined his Science Fair project, SODIS, or Solar Distillation of potable water.

The Sea Rocket President, Suzanne Meyer, welcomed all attendees. Shari Blissett-Clark made a motion to approve the Proposed 2011 Sea Rocket Budget as published. Debra Springer seconded the motion & the motion was passed.

The October Mystery Plant was *Lobelia glandulosa*, Glades Lobelia. Dr. Jay Barnhart made the only correct identification and was awarded a native plant.

The Speaker for the program, Shari Blissett-Clark introduced her topic: "Creating your Backyard Wildlife Habitat".

Shari pointed out that we must provide food sources for the wildlife we wish to attract; that we needed to consider the lean times of the year as well as the abundant times. Plants are the easiest and most natural way to provide food. Water and shelter complete the habitat needs of wildlife.

We were urged to think in layers beginning with the tree tops and extending to ground covers. By creating layers we encourage different species to visit and use the habitat. Sustainability is also important because wildlife learns to rely on finding sustenance and safety in our yards.

Shari emphasized that by planting natives we could achieve several goals simultaneously: plants which are hardy and provide food for a variety of wildlife, and also provide shelter and the diversity to sustain multiple species in a balanced environment.

We should begin by thinking small and starting with a specific area. We should decide what species we hope to attract, research the plants, and make a planting plan. Existing assets (critters, plants, and exiting conditions already present in our yards) should be included in the plan.

Types of plants and layers to include in the planting plan include: ferns, ground covers, wild flowers, shrubs, trees, vines, and grasses.

While not all plant types and layers need to be in the small plots we begin with, if the surrounding area or adjacent properties provide additional habitat our small plot will not only become our own backyard haven but will contribute to the biodiversity of our neighborhoods.

Plants were raffled and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

## Volunteer Opportunities!

- **Chapter Vice President**
- **Education committee**
- **Membership committee**
- **Nursery committee**
- **Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival Exhibit**

**Contact any Board Member for information!**

Have you visited the  
FNPS Blog lately?  
Here's the link:

<http://fnpsblog.blogspot.com/>

Sue Dingwell, FNPS Communications  
Committee Chair, is collecting articles,  
pictures and ideas to blog about.

[sue@dingwell.net](mailto:sue@dingwell.net)

## St. Johns River Water Management District Water Supply Assessment Plan

As part of the St. Johns River Water Management District's work to ensure that adequate and sustainable water supplies are available to meet future needs while protecting the environment, the District is in the process of updating its water supply assessment and water supply plan, as it does every five years.

Drafts of the assessment and plan were scheduled to be previewed by the District's Governing Board at its January 11, 2011, meeting. However, to allow an opportunity for the District to fully coordinate with the new administration in Tallahassee, the District is extending the timeframe for completing the draft assessment and plan.

Extending the timeframe will allow opportunities for the new administration in Tallahassee to assess and identify priorities for the State, for the District to continue conversations with stakeholders and the public, and for the District to continue coordinating with neighboring water management districts.

As development of the assessment and plan continues, the District will evaluate the most effective and appropriate timeframe for completion.

In the interim, the data and analysis that we have completed will soon be posted on our website for continued comment, reference and consideration.

Additional information about the water supply planning process is available at <http://floridaswater.com/watersupply/planning.html>



Jeff Cole, Director  
Office of Communications & Governmental Affairs, St. Johns River Water Management District  
PO Box 1429, Palatka, FL 32178  
(386) 329-4497  
Website: [floridaswater.com](http://floridaswater.com)



**Sea Rocket's Merry Christmas!**



### The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Education Center

444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780 321-264-5185

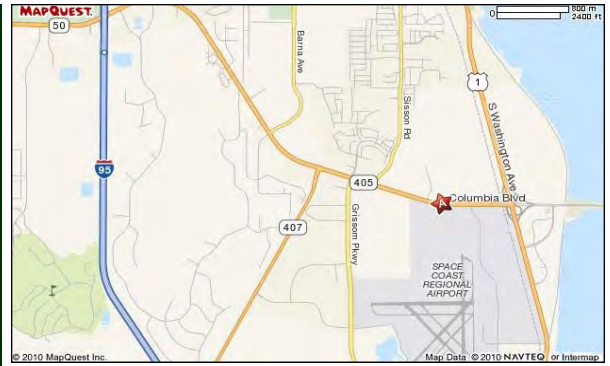


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

**From I-95 Northbound:** take SR-407 Exit 212 east 2.7 miles to SR-405 intersection. Turn right onto SR-405 and go east 1.9 miles (the Sanctuary entrance is on the left 0.4 miles past Sisson Road)

**From I-95 Southbound:** take SR-50 Exit 215 east. Turn left onto SR 50 and turn right onto SR-405 (2nd light) Travel 3.6 miles (the Sanctuary entrance is on the left 0.4 miles past Sisson Road)

**From U.S. HWY 1:** go west 0.5 miles on SR-405 in south Titusville. Sanctuary entrance is on the right.



### Florida Native Plant Society

For membership information, address change: P. O. Box 278, Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

Phone: 321-271-6702; Fax: 321-951-1941; Email: [Info@fnps.org](mailto:Info@fnps.org)/[www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)

Sea Rocket Chapter mailing address: P. O. Box 236341, Cocoa, FL 32923-6341



**FREE & OPEN  
TO THE PUBLIC**

*Join us for our January Program!*

Wednesday, January 26, 2011 ~ 7:00pm

## Water Conservation in the Landscape

with Will Hobson

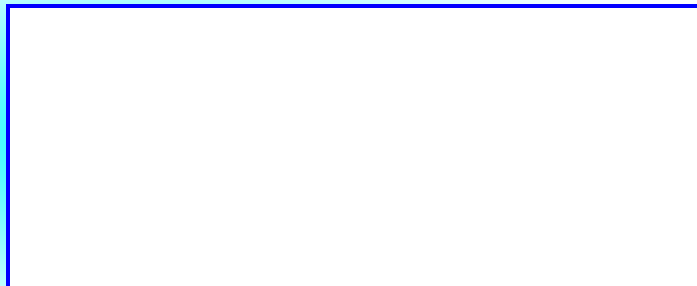
St. Johns River Water Management District



### SEA ROCKET CHAPTER

PO Box 236341

Cocoa, FL 32923-6341



**GO GREEN! RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL AND SAVE SOME GREEN! GO GREEN!**