

Florida Native Plant Symposium - Sat. 25th March 2023

Schedule

10.00am – 10.15am: Introduction, welcome and trivia ice-breaker. **Theresa Badurek**

University of Florida/IFAS Urban Horticulture Extension Agent and Master Gardener Coordinator, Pinellas County. *Auditorium*

10.15am – 11.15am: Keynote speaker #1. James Stevenson: Native to You: Your Landscape, Your Ecosystem

Florida is a very floristically diverse state. We will explore local ecosystems and how we can curate our own landscapes using native plants.

James Stevenson is an Extension Specialist with the University of Florida IFAS Extension Services in Pinellas County. *Auditorium*

11.30am – 12.15pm: Docent led tours of native plants in the gardens.

12.15pm – 1.15pm: Lunch Break (Picnic lunch in the gardens – box lunch provided); *McKay Creek Plaza*
Native Plant Sale; Informational tables.

1.15pm – 2.15pm: Breakout Sessions

1. Alyssa Vinson: *Marvelous Mangroves* *Presentation B1 Auditorium*

UF/IFAS Extension Residential Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener Coordinator for Manatee County.

2. Kenny Coogan: *Growing and Propagating Florida's Native Carnivorous Plants* - *Learn how to successfully grow and multiply carnivorous plants like **Sarracenia**, sundews, butterworts and bladderworts. Seed propagation as well as vegetative propagation will be explained.* *B2 Creative Pinellas Meeting Room*

Kenny Coogan has a master's degree in Global Sustainability and currently runs a successful carnivorous plant nursery in Tampa, Florida.

3. Linda Smock – *Growing up Native*- *A guided walk in the natural area highlighting native plants, with stories of growing up in old Florida.* *B3 Natural Area*

Master Gardener, Linda Smock is a retired educator and a native Floridian with a passion for educating the public about native Florida, often weaving in stories of growing up in Florida.

4. Ray Wunderlich – *Restoration Fundamentals* - *an overview of the restoration of Little Bayou Preserve in St Petersburg.* *B4 Pinellas County Classroom*

Ray is a third generation St, Pete native who devotes much of his time and energy to saving, restoring, and cultivating indigenous flora and community gardens while also spreading local environmental knowledge.

2.30pm – 3.30pm: Keynote speaker #2. Jaret C. Daniels, Ph.D. "*Butterflies - Charismatic Linchpins for Biodiversity Conservation.*" Butterflies are arguably the most popular and charismatic insects on earth. They help pollinate plants, recycle nutrients, and serve as food for numerous other organisms. Potentially even more importantly, they serve as ideal "gateway" bugs to help connect people to nature and engender support for conservation.

Jaret Daniels, Ph.D., is Associate Professor of Entomology at the University of Florida and the Director of the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity at the Florida Museum of Natural History *Auditorium*

3.30pm – 3.40pm: Door Prizes – signed book by Dr. Daniels, 3 native plants

Closing – Emily Bloxam, executive director FBGF

3.40pm – 4.30pm Native plant sale; informational tables; free time in the gardens.
