

THE COONTIE CRIER

Newsletter of The Broward Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society
Dedicated to the promotion and preservation of Native Plants!

Coontie.org & NPSBroward.org
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September 2012



COONTIE CHAPTER MEETING & SPEAKER

Wednesday, Sep 12th (2nd Wed.)
The Secret Wood Nature Center
2701 W. State Rd. 84, Dania Beach, FL

7:00p – 7:30p Meet and Greet
7:30p – 8:30p **Wally Wilder**
“Florida Native Orchids”

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RETURN TO THE SECRET WOODS

We are delighted to announce that the Broward Chapter has returned to The Secret Woods Nature Center as its regular meeting place. We cannot think of a more “natural” place for the Chapter to meet, at one of Broward’s special parks maintained to protect land with native plants and wildlife.

Aerial photos from 1940 and 2012



FLORIDA ORCHIDS

Wally Wilder grew up “rambling” the woods, lakes, rivers and swamps all over Florida. He has located over a hundred forms, varieties, and species of orchid. One is even named after him, Hexalectris spicata f. wilderi. Wally started the pursuit of wild orchids in 2004, but during that relatively short time has been printed in a number of orchid journals for his observations and excellent photographs.



HABITAT EVALUATION for Conservation

The University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences (IFAS), Florida Master Naturalist Program in Broward County, is offering another Specialized Course. **Habitat Evaluation** will meet four evenings and one Saturday, September 24-25 and 27-29, also at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park. This course will cover large- and local-scale habitat assessment and evaluating water quality, and will have extensive field portions to teach participants how to sample to assess for maximum biodiversity vs. sampling for species richness. Protocols for current local, state, national, and international sampling programs and analytical

tools used by U.S. National Parks, Fish & Wildlife Service, Nature Conservancy, and Conservation International will be discussed. The course instructor, Kristen Hoss of Tanawhá Presents environmental education firm, has more than 25 years of experience in the management of natural areas and wildlife. The co-instructor is Dr. John Pipoly from Extension, who is a co-author of the [North American Botanic Garden Strategy for Plant Conservation](#), and is an expert in tropical forest biodiversity measurement and monitoring.

Registration is \$150 payable only through a secure University of Florida-IFAS-Florida Master Naturalist Program Website: <http://www.masternaturalist.ifas.ufl.edu/>, where you will follow the link “[current course offerings](#),” then choose “[Habitat Evaluation](#),” then “[Broward](#)”. **Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and closes on September 19 for Habitat Evaluation.** For further information, contact Kristen Hoss at kristenhoss@yahoo.com or John Pipoly at jpipoly@broward.org, or call 954-357-5270.



Check out the updated FNPS website!

On June 1, 2012, the FNPS released its new website. You are invited to explore and contribute. Many things are new, but the URL is still www.fnps.org.

- A focus on telling the world who we are, what our mission is, and how we accomplish it
- Plenty of modern touches such as slide shows -- you'll see one on our home page
- Useful tools and information -- check out the "Resources" tab to find lots of information on native plants, native plant communities, and where to go to learn about them. Shirley Denton, famed native plant photographer, developed the plant pages that provide colorful photographs and tons of information about natives that are used in landscaping projects... "plants for your area" along with a tool for matching up your site conditions and landscaping goals with the plants.
- Connections to social media (you'll find the latest blog post on our home page)
- Tools for society and chapter leadership (login required, but find in menus near the bottom).

For information on how to participate -- check out the “Participate” tab.

Find the Broward Chapter using the “Chapters” Florida map flags or bookmark: Coontie.org

The chapter homepage has the traditional website: npsbroward.org and some new features to explore. The “Join” link makes it easy to join or renew your membership in the Broward Chapter.

Sabal Minor. The September-October FNPS newsletter is available at: fnps.org Resources>Sabal Minor

Look Forward to our upcoming speakers, tell your friends & neighbors, meet at The Secret Woods

Oct 10: Bill Reeve, Botanical Visions, “**Backyard Meadows**”

Nov 14: Roger Hammer, “**Florida Endangered Wildflowers**”

Dec 12: Elizabeth Golden, Park Biologist Bill Baggs State Park, “**Imperiled Plant Species of Cape Florida**”

Jan 9, 2013: Michele Williams, “**Native American Medicinal Plants**”

Feb 13: Steve Woodmansee, “**Creating an Ecologically and Sociologically Sustainable Landscape**”

Mar 13: Chuck McCartney has special interest in the native orchids & other wildflowers of South Florida (TBA)