



PHOTO BY JEANNE MURPHY

## THE FLORIDA MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

The Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) is a University of Florida/IFAS Extension environmental education program developed for adult audiences. FMNP courses are provided by Certified Instructors throughout the state of Florida at Extension offices and other environmental education organizations.

The goal of the FMNP is to promote awareness, understanding, and respect of Florida's natural world. Students of the FMNP promote this goal by sharing their knowledge with family, friends, and through both formal and informal environmental education programs as employees or volunteers at parks, nature centers, eco-tour operations, and other organizations.

» To view course schedules or to register, please visit our website: [www.MasterNaturalist.org](http://www.MasterNaturalist.org) and click on Course Schedules.



PHOTO BY SANDY K MICKEY

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*A Natural History  
Training Program*



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## FMNP STUDENTS AND INSTRUCTORS

FMNP students include anyone over the age of 18 interested in learning more about Florida's environment. Those who benefit include environmental educators, natural resource managers, volunteers, eco-tour guides, teachers and anyone wishing to expand their knowledge of Florida's natural world. Professionals and teachers have obtained CEUs and in-service credit.

FMNP Instructors include individuals from the University of Florida/IFAS Extension, environmental educators, natural resource managers, teachers, professors and others. All FMNP Instructors receive training and are certified by the FMNP. For more information on becoming an FMNP Certified Instructor, please visit our website: [www.MasterNaturalist.org](http://www.MasterNaturalist.org)



## FMNP SPECIAL TOPICS

The FMNP also offers Special Topic courses for more detailed practical experience. Special Topics courses include Conservation Science, Environmental Interpretation, Wildlife Monitoring, and Habitat Evaluation.

The Special Topics courses are designed to provide a hands-on approach that complements the Core Modules. There is no requirement to have taken any Core Module in order to enroll. Each 24-hour course includes classroom presentations, field trips or activities, and practical experience. Students receive detailed course manuals, and upon completion, certificate of achievement and registration in an online database.

## FMNP CORE MODULES

FMNP Core Modules provide a holistic approach to understanding Florida's ecology, natural history, and environmental issues. There are three Core Modules: Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Systems, and Upland Habitats. Training includes ecosystem processes, identification of key plants and wildlife, the role of humans in shaping Florida's environment, interpretation skills, and environmental ethics.

Each Module is 40 contact hours and includes classroom presentations, discussions, videos, field trips, and practical experience in interpretation. Students receive detailed course manuals and, upon completion, certificate of achievement, patch and pin, and registration in our online student database. Students who complete all three Modules are designated Florida Master Naturalists and receive a plaque and special recognition in an online database.

