



North East Region Update

Below are FMNP classes and other interesting opportunities and events coming up in your area. The inclusion of any non-FMNP event does not necessarily constitute an endorsement by the FMNP or University of Florida IFAS. Please consult the announcements below for contact information to get details about events and FMNP classes. Please DO NOT REPLY to this message. Contact and Unsubscribe links are at the bottom of the newsletter.

In This Issue:

1. St. Johns County Coastal Systems Class
2. Duval County Freshwater Wetlands Class
3. Nassau County Upland Habitats Class
4. Clay County Upland Habitats Class
5. Free Invasive Plant Field Guides
6. Gamble Rogers Memorial State Recreation Area Talks and Walks
7. Arbor Day at Duval County Extension
8. Wilderness First Responder Course
9. Grads to Action - Volunteer and Job Opportunities
 - Everglades Summer Internship
 - FL Sea Grant Part-Time Field Observers
 - Camp Chowenwaw Park Volunteer Naturalists
10. Instructors' Corner—FMNP Makes a Difference at Matanzas Pass Preserve

1. St. Johns County Coastal Systems Class

February 8–24, 2011
Registration closes February 1, 2011
(Course Code: cs11-07)



Facility Information

UF Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience: Center for Marine Studies Room 233
9505 Ocean Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32080

Instructor Information

Chris Kelley
Assistants: Danny Lippi and Joe Woodbury
Organization: Ripple Effect Ecotours
Phone: 904-347-1565
Email: RippleEffectEcotours@gmail.com

2. Duval County Freshwater Wetlands Class

March 15 - April 2, 2011
Registration closes March 7, 2011
(Course Code: fw11-07)



Facility Information

University of North Florida: Building TBA
1 UNF Blvd, Jacksonville, 32224

Instructor Information

Carol Wyninger and Brad Burbaugh
Organization: Duval County Cooperative Extension Service
Phone: 904-220-0232 and 904-387-8850
Email: wyninger@comcast.net and burbaugh@coj.net

3. Nassau County Upland Habitats Class

March 21, - April 18, 2011
Registration closes March 14, 2011
(Course Code: uh11-13)



Facility Information

Nassau County Extension (Yulee Office): Fire Station
86026 Pages Dairy Road, Yulee, FL 32097

Instructor Information

Steven Gaul and Christina Nelson
Organizations: Nassau County Extension and Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort
Phone: 904-879-1019 (Steve)
Email: sgaul@ufl.edu

4. Clay County Upland Habitats Class

April 21, - June 2, 2011
Registration closes April 14, 2011
(Course Code: uh11-03)



Facility Information

UF/IFAS Clay County Extension Office: Exhibit Building
2463 St. Rd. 16 W., Green Cove Springs, FL 32043-4818

Instructor Information

Raymond H. Zerba Jr., Agent IV - Horticulture UF/IFAS Clay Co. Extension
Assistants: Lynn Lisenby, Professor of Biology (Retired) Florida State College and Beth Smith, FDACS, Division of Forestry, Administrative Assistant
Organization: University of Florida, IFAS Extension, Clay County Office and Clay County Youth Foundation
Phone: 904-284-6355
Email: rzerba@ufl.edu

5. Free Invasive Plant Field Guides

Identify and manage invasive plants

The USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station (SRS) is distributing free copies of 2 recently released field guides. Both guides originated from 1 that many of you may be familiar with, "Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forests: A Field Guide for Identification and Control," published by SRS in 2003. This information has now been expanded into these 2 field guides:

"A Field Guide for the Identification of Invasive Plants in Southern Forests" is posted in PDF format on the SRS website at <http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/35292> (publication number is GTR-SRS-119).

"A Management Guide for Invasive Plants in Southern Forests" is posted in PDF format on the SRS website at <http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/36915> (publication number is GTR-SRS-131).

People can request free copies of these guides by sending their name and complete mailing address, along with book title, author and publication number to: pubrequest@fs.fed.us, or by calling 828-257-4830.

These are great resources to provide your neighboring land owners who need to be introduced to invasive plant management! There is even enough information in these publications to educate experienced invasive plant professionals.

6. Gamble Rogers Memorial State Recreation Area Talks & Walks

Animal Tracking, Right Whales and a Beach Hike

- Friday, February 11, 2011 10:30am - 11:30am
Coffee With A Ranger - Animal Tracking
- Friday, February 18, 2011 10:30am - 11:30am
Coffee With A Ranger - Right Whales
- Friday, February 18, 2011 6:30pm - 7:30pm
Full Moon Beach Hike

Reservations are not required but are appreciated; please contact Lauren Swanson at 386.517.2086 or via email at Lauren.Swanson@dep.state.fl.us. Regular park entrance fees apply.

7. Arbor Day at Duval County Extension

Arbor Day Program Duval County Extension

Saturday, February 12, 2011 10:00am - 12:00pm

Duval County Extension office will be commemorating the 139th Arbor Day on February 12th, 2011 from 10-12. Speakers will include Anna Dooley from Greenscape of Jacksonville, and Larry Figart Urban Forestry Extension Agent. Topics covered will be the value of urban trees, joining a tree advocacy group, and the correct way to plant a tree. At the end of the program, there will be a giveaway of Redbud, and Hophornbeam seedlings. Please call 904-387-8850 to pre-register. The cost of the program is \$5.00 which can be paid at the door.

8. Wilderness First Responder

Wilderness First Responder Course for Professionals

Course Location: Kayak Amelia Jacksonville, FL
Contact: Rachel Austin 904-249-6200

The 8-week evening course taught by SOLO will be offered for professionals who cannot attend the 9-day regular class.

9. FMNP Grads to Action

Everglades Summer Internship

The internship program, which runs from May 20 to August 5, 2011, is for undergraduate and graduate students with top grades in the environmental sciences. The intensive, 11 week internship is focused on the Florida Everglades and the multi-billion dollar plan to preserve and restore this vital ecosystem. Mentored by top-level professionals and decision-makers, interns are involved in hands-on projects and educational activities. The internship includes a \$2,000 stipend in five \$400 increments.

Application deadline: March 21, 2011
Successful applicants will be notified by April 15, 2011

For more information and an application visit the [Arthur R. Marshall Foundation](http://www.arthurmarshall.org) website.

Florida Sea Grant Boating and Waterways Planning Program Field Observers

Number of positions: at least 6 part time positions
Work locations: 3 inlets in northeast Florida (St. Augustine, St. Johns, St. Mary's)
Pay rate: \$15 per hour
Duration: 3 to 6 days per month from February 2011 to January 2012

The Florida Sea Grant Boating and Waterways Planning Program seeks field observers to conduct land based surveys of vessel traffic through the St. Augustine, St. Johns and St. Mary's inlets. Surveys will be conducted 3-6 days per month from February 2011 to January 2012. Data will be collected during daylight hours from 6:30am to 6:30pm (12 hours) and there will be two 6 hour shifts each survey day. Six observers are required: two for each inlet. Observers will collect visual and photographic data relating to daylight vessel traffic at each inlet. Training will be provided.

Requirements:

- Availability to work week days, weekends, and holidays
- Basic knowledge of different boat types and lengths
- Basic knowledge of digital photography (equipment provided)
- Ability to remain at the same place doing the same activity for approximately 6 hours
- Reliable and punctual individuals that live in proximity to one of the inlets
- A vehicle to get to and from the inlet(s)
- A computer, computer skills, and internet access (for transmission of data to research team)

If interested please contact Nancy Montes (nancymontes@ufl.edu; 352-392-6233) or Bob Swett (rswett@ufl.edu; 352-392-6233).

Volunteer Instructors Needed at Camp Chowenwaw Park

1517 Ball Rd. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043, 904-529-8058

The Environmental Education Program at the Park is seeking volunteers with or without experience, to assist with nature programs for school and scout groups. We will train volunteer naturalists to present programs developed specifically for Camp Chowenwaw Park. Programs are about one hour long. Typically two programs are scheduled on any given day. Most programs involve walking short distances and most are conducted outside. Anyone interested can call the Park or e-mail me at Barbara.Beyer@co.clay.fl.us.

10. Instructors' Corner

We need your stories!

FMNP Instructors, do you have a great story to tell or tip to share? Beginning in January 2011 we will introduce a new feature, the Instructors' Corner. This is your chance to brag on your students, contribute tips and ideas, share interesting, updated or new scientific information, and learn something that might help you with your classes. We're asking for your help to fill this segment with helpful information and inspiring stories. It's so easy to do, just write a brief story, include pictures or attachments if you like, and send it to us at info@masternaturalist.org.

FMNP Makes a Difference at Matanzas Pass Preserve

Submitted by Joanne Semmer, written by Jim Rodwell

Jim and Dorothy Rodwell moved to Fort Myers Beach in 2003 and discovered the natural beauty of Matanzas Pass Preserve as they live adjacent to it. From that vantage point, they wanted to contribute to keeping that 60 acres available to future generations. It serves as a sample of what much of the beach looked like before the development boom.

Jim describes what happened: "We worked for several years as Friends of Matanzas Pass Preserve in mitigation and restoration efforts. During those activities, Terry Cain, Land Steward for Lee County Parks and Recreation, encouraged us to attend the Florida Master Naturalist Program. So, off to the Coastal Module at Ostego Bay Foundation we went in 2007. After completing that module, we volunteered to meet a need for interpretive walks in the Preserve."

The materials from the FMNP provided the basis of Jim's walk through a mangrove habitat, transition zone, and oak hammock. Dorothy found the ethnobotany materials especially interesting and developed an interpretive walk based on that material (and more) that both entertains and educates. In fact, the pilot of the concept was tested out in Jim's presentation in the Wetland Module at Corkscrew Swamp. It worked out well! Another program followed called Stress Detox at the Preserve. An exciting new opportunity is to integrate earth education into children's programs that meet scholastic standards, is fun, and highlights the preserve's unique attributes.

Jim became a Florida Master Naturalist in 2009 and Dorothy in 2010. In addition to the FMNP materials the resource base of talented learners has been appreciated and ongoing. (In fact, taking some of the advanced topics sounds like a good plan). Without the FMNP, the Rodwells agree that having the confidence to contribute actively with Lee County would not have happened. In fact, both are now active Lee County Volunteers.



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