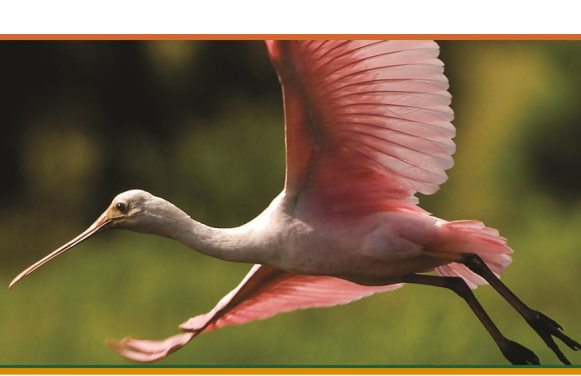


THE FLORIDA MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

A Natural History Training Program



Central Region Update

In This Issue:

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Happy New Year!

FMNP Looking Forward to Another Great Year!

We are proud to say that 2012 was another great year for the FMNP. Despite a number of challenges and transitions, the Program celebrated many successes.

The most notable achievements of 2012 include:

- 199 Florida Master Naturalist graduates, more than in any year prior
- 111 Special Topics course graduates, also more than in any year prior
- 4 Advanced Florida Master Naturalist graduates, the first in the history of the FMNP

We would like to thank all of our instructors, students and supporters for helping to make the FMNP the success that it is year after year. We are looking forward to an even better 2013 and wish each of you the same.

Happy New Year from all of us at the FMNP!



Dr. Main Accepts New Position

New Role Provides for Transition from Research to Extension

Dr. Main has accepted the position of Director of Education and Extension for the Florida Sea Grant College Program and Associate Dean of Natural Resource Programs for the Florida Cooperative Extension Service.

In his new position, Dr. Main will help guide Florida Sea Grant extension faculty as they plan and implement new programs. He will also be responsible for directing University of Florida IFAS extension programs in areas such as water use and conservation, forestry, landscape management, fresh and saltwater fisheries, and wildlife management.

Since 1996, Dr. Main has been a professor in UF's Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation. He has conducted an active research program on the behavioral ecology of Florida wildlife such as deer, panthers and wading birds from the UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center in Immokalee. He is considered an expert on coyotes in Florida.

Dr. Main looks forward to shifting his focus from research to extension, stating "I found that the challenges and rewards associated with extension programming are some of the most important contributions I have made during my professional career."

"Through the Master Naturalist program, I have known and worked with many Sea Grant and IFAS extension faculty, and I'm enthusiastic about working with them in this new role."

Congratulations Dr. Main!

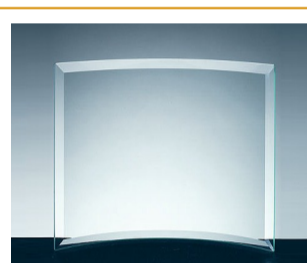


New Advanced Florida Master Naturalist Award

FMNP Honors Graduates With Glass Award

FMNP graduates who complete their 7th course will now not only be recognized as certified Advanced Florida Master Naturalists, but will also receive an elegant glass award to commemorate their achievement. We searched high and low for an attractive award worthy of the Advanced Florida Master Naturalist credential. We hope you like our selection, pictured here, as much as we do!

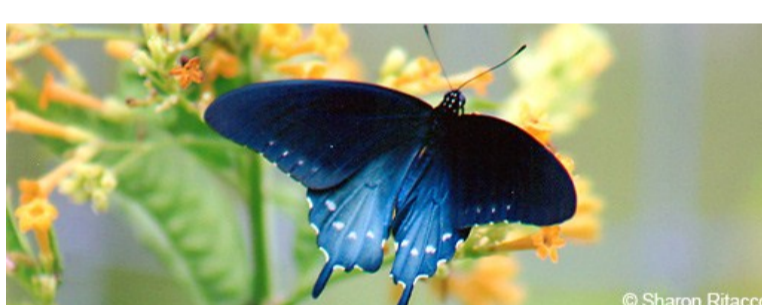
Congratulations to our first four certified Advanced Florida Master Naturalists: **Keith Boliek** (Coral Springs), **Lindsay Bell** (St. Petersburg), **Thomas Bell** (St. Petersburg), and **Troy Parkinson** (Ft. Pierce). Well done!



UF/IFAS Florida Wildlife Extension's "Wildlife Happenings"

Website Lets You Know What Our Wildlife are Up To Throughout the Year

Whether you prefer to experience nature in the wild or at home, you can find out what Florida's animals are doing any time of year. Florida Wildlife Extension's "Wildlife Happenings" is a list of typical wildlife activities, organized by month, that includes advice on looking and listening for certain types of animals. You can visit Wildlife Happenings at http://www.wec.ufl.edu/extension/wildlife_info/happenings/.



Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs (ANROSP)

Is your organization interested in becoming an ANROSP member?

If you are a professional working for a natural resource outreach and/or service program, your organization may benefit by becoming a member of ANROSP.

ANROSP Mission:

ANROSP promotes awareness and citizen stewardship of natural resources through science-based education and service programs.

ANROSP Vision:

ANROSP envisions healthy ecosystems and communities through citizens who learn, teach, and practice natural resource stewardship.

ANROSP Goals:

- To provide leadership, information, and resources to support the establishment and expansion of member programs nationally and internationally.
- To serve as the primary nexus of information about natural resource outreach and service programs for natural resource professionals, volunteers, and interested citizens.
- To increase knowledge of best practices for natural resource outreach and service programs and encourage their adoption.
- To build effective program partnerships and collaborations at the local, state, and national levels.

For more information about ANROSP, please visit <http://www.nralliance.org/>.



Survey: Recreational Use of Florida Lakes

Researchers from the University of Florida Soil and Water Sciences Department Need Your Help

The UF Soils and Water Department is conducting a study to examine the recreational use of Florida Lakes. Results of the survey may be used to inform the regulatory processes that protect the recreational use of these water bodies. The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete and can be accessed here: https://ufl.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1H2G2M5t3NFdZnT.

Orange County Freshwater Wetlands Class

February 26-April 2, 2013

Registration closes at 9:00am on February 20, 2013
(Course Code: [fw13-06](#))

Facility Information:

The Orlando Wetlands Park
25155 Wheeler Road, Christmas, FL 32709
Phone:(407) 568-1706

Instructor Information:

Peggy Lantz and Jackie Rolly
Organizations: Oakland Nature Preserve & Florida Native Plant Society
Phone: 407-905-0054
Email: j.y.rolly@att.net and peglantz@bellsouth.net

Osceola County Freshwater Wetlands Class

March 20 - May 1, 2013

Registration closes at 9:00am on March 14, 2013
(Course Code: [fw13-10](#))

Facility Information:

UF/IFAS Osceola County Extension Office, Osceola Heritage Park
1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee, FL 34744

Instructors:

Eleanor Foerste, Faculty, Natural Resources for Osceola County Extension and Capt. Ray Robida
Organization: UF/IFAS Osceola County Extension Service
Phone: 321-697-3000
Fax: 321-697-3010
Email: efoe@osceola.org
Website: <http://osceola.ifas.ufl.edu>

Seminole County Upland Habitats Class

April 25-May 30, 2013

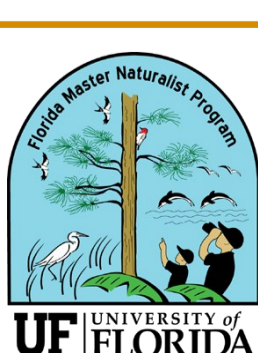
Registration closes at 9:00am on April 19, 2013
(Course Code: [uh13-07](#))

Facility Information:

Wekiwa Island - The Schoolhouse
1014 Miami Springs Rd, Longwood, FL 32779

Instructors:

Don Philpott
Assistant: Anne James
Organization: Wekiwa Wilderness Trust and Wekiwa Springs State Park
Phone: 321-277-8442
Fax: 321-972-8715
Email: dp@donphilpott.com
Website: www.wwt-cso.com



www.MasterNaturalist.org