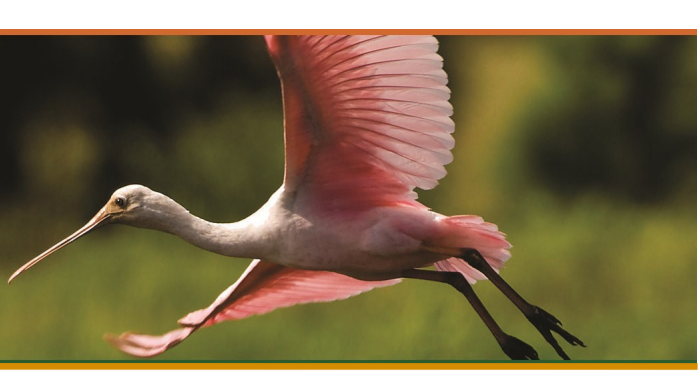


THE FLORIDA MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

A Natural History Training Program



North West Region Update

In This Issue:

- Happy New Year!
- Dr. Main Accepts New Position
- New Advanced Florida Master Naturalist Award
- UF/IFAS Florida Wildlife Extension's "Wildlife Happenings" Website
- Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs (ANROSP)
- Survey: Recreational Use of Florida Lakes
- Current Course Offerings

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!

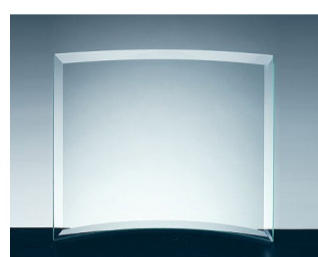


New Advanced Florida Master Naturalist Award

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!

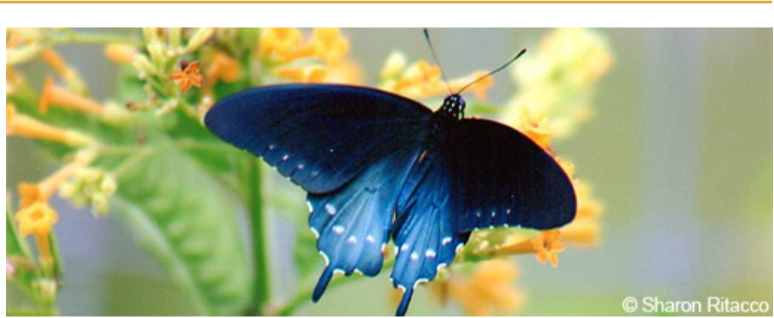
Congratulations to our first four certified Advanced Florida Master Naturalists: **Keith Boliek** (Coral Springs), **Lindsay Bell** (St. Petersburg), **Thomas Bell** (St. Petersburg), and **Troy Parkinson** (Ft. Pierce). Well done!



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.

Escambia/Santa Rosa Counties Freshwater Wetlands Class

February 28-April 25, 2013

Registration closes at 9:00am on February 22, 2013

[\(Course Code: fw13-15\)](#)

Classroom Facilities Information:

Escambia County Extension Office
3740 Stefani Road, Cantonment, FL 32533

Santa Rosa County Extension Office
6263 Dogwood Drive, Milton, FL 32570

Instructor Information:

Chris Verlinde, Sea Grant Agent, UF/IFAS Santa Rosa Co.
Carrie Stevenson, Coastal Sustainability Agent, UF/IFAS Escambia Co.
Rick O'Connor, Sea Grant Agent, UF/IFAS Escambia Co.
Organization: UF/IFAS Extension
Phone: 850-475-5230 (Carrie)
Fax: 850-475-5233 (Carrie)
Email: ctsteven@ufl.edu
Website: <http://escambia.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Franklin/Gulf/Liberty Counties Freshwater Wetlands Class

March 1-May 11, 2013

Registration closes at 9:00am on February 24, 2013

[\(Course Code: fw13-13\)](#)

Classroom Facilities Information:

Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve: Nature Center, Multipurpose Room
108 Island Drive, Eastpoint, FL 32328

St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve
3815 Hwy C-30A, Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Instructors:

Rosalyn Kilcollins, Coastal Training Coordinator
Matthew Anderson, Education & Training Specialist
Erik Lovestrand, Education Coordinator
Billy Boothe, Photogrammetrist
Organization: Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve
Phone: 850-670-7708
Fax: 850-670-4837
Email: Rosalyn.kilcollins@dep.state.fl.us
Website: www.wwt-cso.com

Walton/Bay/Okaloosa Counties Coastal Systems Class

March 14-May 9, 2013

Registration closes at 9:00am on March 8, 2013

[\(Course Code: cs13-09\)](#)

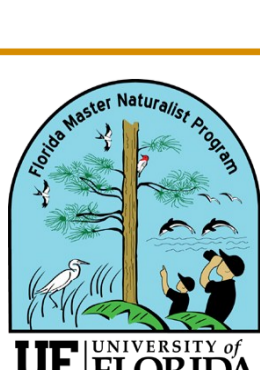
Classroom Facilities Information:

Walton County Extension Coastal Branch Office
70 Logan Ln, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

Frank Brown Park Community Center
16200 Panama City Beach Pkwy, Panama City Beach, FL 32413

Instructor Information:

Brooke Saari, Sea Grant Marine Science Agent, Okaloosa and Walton Counties
Scott Jackson, Sea Grant Marine Science Agent, Bay County
Assistant: Sheila Dunning, Commercial Horticulture Agent, Okaloosa County
Organization: University of Florida/IFAS Extension & Florida Sea Grant
Phone: 850-689-5850
Fax: 850-689-5727
Email: bsaari@ufl.edu



www.MasterNaturalist.org