

April to June 2020- Volume 3, Number 2

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A Note From the Broward County's Urban Horticulture Extension Agent..

Dear "Broward Green Bites" Readers,

I am very excited to share with you our next *Broward Green Bites* newsletter. Our new issue is sharing some of our amazing new 2020 projects, educational information and collaborative initiatives for new programming. The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) is a federal, state, and county partnership dedicated to developing knowledge in agriculture, human and natural resources, the life sciences and to making that knowledge accessible to sustain and enhance the quality of human life. Enjoy our new newsletter!

Warm Regards,




Ruddy Daggerwing Caterpillar Photo Credit: Amy Rielly

Lorna Bravo, Urban Horticulture Agent II, CED LEED AP BD+C

Phone: 954-756-8529 | Fax: 954-357-5271

Email: lbravo1@ufl.edu

CHECK OUT THESE ONLINE RESOURCES:

UF/IFAS Extension Website: <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/>

EDIS Publications: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Florida Master Gardener: <http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/>

Florida Master Naturalist: <http://www.masternaturalist.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Florida Friendly Landscapes: <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Gardening Solutions: <http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Broward Master Gardener: <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/broward-master-gardener/>



Upcoming Events

UF/ IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY

FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING (FFL)™ WORKSHOP FOR HOMEOWNERS



Come learn what it takes to have your yard Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Certified!

- Learn about potential ways to conserve water in your landscape
- Learn how you can have your landscape inspected and certified
- Learn how to self assess your landscape and see if you are on the path to a Florida Friendly Landscape

Zoom will start at 6:30PM on May 5th

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County (ONLINE ONLY)

Register today

<https://broward-ffl.eventbrite.com>

Join us via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/4628086670>

For more information please contact

Lorna Bravo, lbravo1@ufl.edu, or Anthony Gross, Anthony.gross@ufl.edu

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

BROWARD COUNTY
FLORIDA

Florida-Friendly Landscaping PROGRAM

New 2020 Florida-Friendly Landscape Lecture Series

UF/IFAS Extension Broward Florida-Friendly Landscaping program provides Broward County residents a great opportunity to stay connected with UF research and continue learning important horticultural principles during the year.

Our new 2020 Florida-Friendly Landscaping Online Lecture series is ready! UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Urban Horticulture program offers FREE Quarterly lecture series for the public to attend. Join us to our Online lecture series and invite a friend!!! Contact: lbravo1@ufl.edu

BROWARD COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

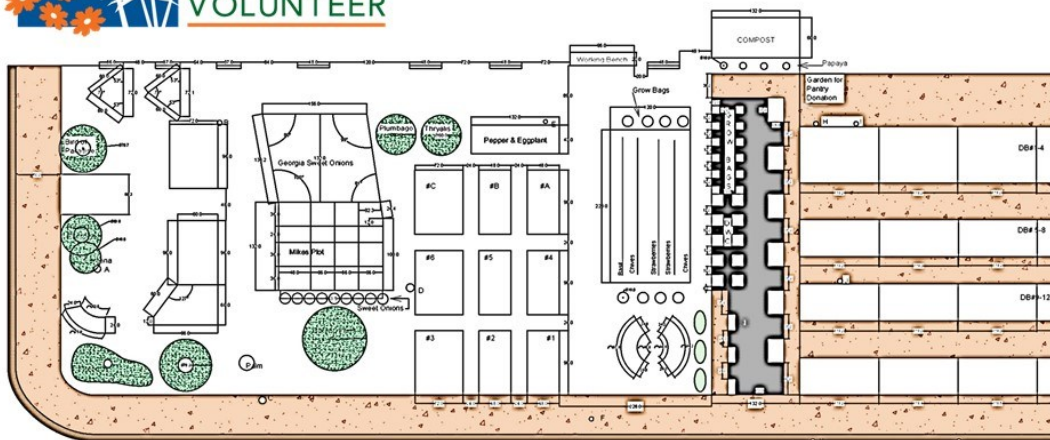
UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Coordinator: Lorna Bravo

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN PROJECT



MISSION STATEMENT:

PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY MASTER GARDENER DEMONSTRATION VEGETABLE GARDEN SHARING PRODUCE WITH LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES AND EDUCATING ON BEST PRACTICES IN URBAN FOOD GROWING.

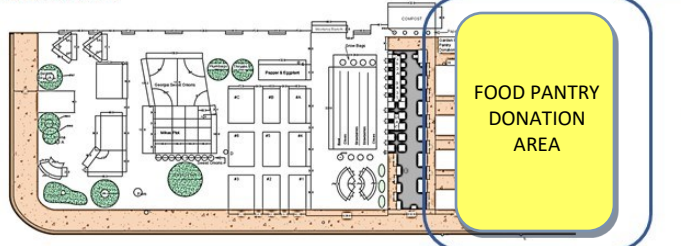


THE VEGETABLE GARDEN PROJECT 2020 SPRING FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

In the Spring of 2020, UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Vegetable Committee Master Gardener volunteers harvested 150 lbs. of fresh vegetables from The Vegetable Garden project. They donated the harvest to LifeNet4Families in Lauderdale, Florida. LifeNet4Families has been serving for over 30 years to our Broward County's homeless and hungry community. Today, LifeNet4Families provides almost 1 million meals a year. The agency's dramatic development has reflected both the growing numbers and the ever-increasing needs of the poor in our community. The Vegetable team is very proud of donating fresh, locally grown produce to local food pantries in need and helping make a difference in our community by serving those in need.

2020 CROPS

- CARROTS
- GREEN BEANS
- STRAWBERRIES
- CHIVES
- ONIONS
- TOMATOES
- EGGPLANTS
- PEPPERS
- SEMINOLE PUMPKIN
- RED CABBAGE
- KALE
- BROCCOLI
- MUSTARD GREEN
- BOK CHOY
- RADISH
- EDENIA
- DILL
- FENNEL
- OREGANO



TRAIN THE TRAINER SITE – FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS



Photos by: UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Urban Horticulture Agent Lorna Bravo

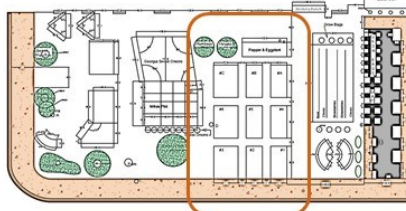
BROWARD COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS AWARDED 2019 LEGACY FUND

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Coordinator: Lorna Bravo

TRAIN THE TRAINER SITE – FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS



Photos by: UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Urban Horticulture Agent Lorna Bravo



**COME & LEARN
ABOUT OUR URBAN
FOOD SYSTEMS
IN BROWARD
COUNTY**

TRAIN THE TRAINER SITE – FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS



Photos by: UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Urban Horticulture Agent Lorna Bravo



**COME & LEARN ABOUT OUR URBAN
FOOD SYSTEMS
IN BROWARD COUNTY**

The Garden Project Train the Trainer

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Vegetable Committee Master Gardeners began a 1/4 acre Master Gardener Demonstration Vegetable Garden ("the Garden") in May 2018.

The team's mission is to use "the Garden" as an educational outreach that demonstrates sustainable gardening solutions to the unique growing condition of urban Broward County.

Part of the project focuses in educating Broward County teachers on implementing sustainable urban gardening initiatives through UF/IFAS Extension's Master Gardener education program for community and school urban garden efforts.

You can read more about the project @ <https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/browardco/2019/11/29/uf-ifas-extension-master-gardener-legacy-award-grant-winners/>



JOIN US AUGUST 10TH, 2020 FOR OUR URBAN FOOD SYSTEM 6-WEEK PROGRAM



EARTH BOXES

TRAIN THE TRAINER SITE-URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS



GROW BAGS



5-GALLON DEEP WATER CULTURE



VERTICAL TOWERS

INDOOR GARDENING?

The Aztecs amazed the Spanish conquistadors with their floating gardens, and now 500 years later **YOU** can impress your friends and neighbors with yours!



Lorna Bravo-UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Urban Horticulture Agent



SOILLESS



FLORIDA
**MASTER
GARDENER
VOLUNTEER**

Help evaluate
UF lettuce
lines!

COMMUNITY IMPACT

THE FLORIDA CRUNCH

The Florida CRUNCH is a national, state, and local celebration of National Farm to School Month, which provides agriculture and nutrition education to students. In 2019, UF/IFAS Extension Broward County received the state's Master Gardener Legacy award, recognizing the importance of urban agriculture education, with emphasis on community and school urban garden efforts. UF/IFAS FNP and UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer program (The Vegetable Committee Team) are working together to further promote agriculture education and healthy food choices in Broward County's schools by coordinating the annual Florida CRUNCH.



WHAT IS THE FLORIDA CRUNCH?

The Florida Crunch is a one-day event organized by schools across the state to celebrate National Farm to School Month

It raises awareness of Florida-grown produce and healthy eating by highlighting one fruit or vegetable for students to learn about and sample in a taste test.

The event encourages schools to serve more Florida-grown produce in the cafeteria throughout the year.



School: Sheridan Park Elementary

2020 FLORIDA CRUNCH

On February 19th, 2020, UF/IFAS Extension Family Nutrition Program (FNP) and Broward County Master Gardener Volunteers engaged and educated 640 elementary students about growing celery & the stages of celery production! The goal of this event is to bring about awareness of farms to school and to have each student sample a local celery.



Prepared by: Lorna Bravo

In 2020, the **Train the Trainer Program** led by Broward County Master Gardener Volunteers (Vegetable Committee Team) participated with FNP on three different CRUNCH events. They impacted **1,988 students in Broward Public Schools** by Educating on Farm to School principals and creating visual materials for youth to engage and share how we can grow fresh local food in Broward County.

WHAT IS THE FLORIDA CRUNCH?



2020 FLORIDA CRUNCH



Chef Paula

On February 19th, 2020, UF/IFAS Extension Family Nutrition Program (FNP) and Broward County Master Gardener Volunteers engaged and educated 600 elementary students about growing celery & the stages of celery production! The goal of this event is to bring about awareness of farms to school and to have each student sample a local celery.

Prepared by: Lorna Bravo



School: Park Ridge Elementary

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Vivian Landix Growing Fresh Celery for CRUNCH

Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program



TOWN OF DAVIE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

Photos by: UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Urban Horticulture Agent Lorna Bravo



UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER CLASS 2020 VISITS TOWN OF DAVIE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

Our Water Source

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that each American uses an average of 100 gallons of water a day at home. This does not even include water used to manufacture products we use or the food we eat. As urban communities grow, the question is, how can we accommodate growth and conserve natural resources such as water? South Florida's Biscayne aquifer is the sole source of freshwater for South Floridians. (SFWMD, 2008) The Biscayne aquifer underlines an area of about 4,000 square miles, and it is the primary source of water for all Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach. The Biscayne aquifer is highly permeable and lies at shallow depths everywhere, and it is susceptible to contamination. Were you aware that Florida's irrigation of turf and landscapes represents the single most significant use of water from municipal water supplies? (Haley, et al. 2007).

Does it make sense to use the same water we drink on our lawns?

Instead, we can use reclaimed for our lawns and landscapes.

What is reclaimed water?

Reclaimed water is the process of converting waste water into water that can be reused for other purposes. It provides an alternative way of recycling water but it may not be qualified for drinking or sanitary purposes, but adequate for irrigation. It reduces our consumption of potable water and strengthens the conservation of freshwater resources.



Water Efficiently

Irrigate only when your lawn and landscape need water. Efficient watering is the key to a healthy Florida yard and conservation of limited resources.



Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program



TOWN OF DAVIE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

Photos by: UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Urban Horticulture Agent Lorna Bravo



UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer Class 2020 visiting Town of Davie Water Reclamation Facility. The facility is permitted to process 3.5 million gallons per day (MGD) of wastewater (INFLUENT). The final product, is safe, non-potable water (EFFLUENT) which can be used for irrigation, agricultural research, and industrial uses such as chiller make up water.

Reclaimed Water in Florida

Were you aware that Florida leads the state for using reclaimed water?

In 2018, Florida used approximately 797 million gallons of reclaimed water per day. This effort reduced the use of 422 MGD (over 154 billion gallons) of potable quality water. The average per capita reuse in Florida is 38.23 gallons per day per person. (FDEP 2018). Florida encourages using reclaimed water as an alternative water source to reduce the pressure on potable water supplies. Utilizing reclaimed water can help to solve local water supply challenges as additional water supply sources become necessary.

Florida's Future Water Demand

To meet Florida's future water demand will require multiple efforts. Although Florida is applying new and innovative measures to reduce landscape water consumption, traditional methods of water restrictions and plant selection prevail. Homeowners that use reclaimed water for their source for irrigation can avoid most problems by adopting Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principles of planting the right plant in the right place and by irrigating only the yard when the landscape needs water. Reclaimed water provides an opportunity for Floridians to reduce our freshwater consumption for landscapes.

We need to continue water conservation education and engage our future generation with a lasting connection between human beings and the use of their natural environment. We need to become better stewards of our natural resources and remind everyone that sustainability starts in our backyards. To read more about Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ visit: <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/ffresources/>



Florida-Friendly Landscape Plant of The Month



Photo Credit: Amy Rielly



Scorpion-Tail (*Heliotropium angiospermum*)

- ❑ **Family:** Boraginaceae
- ❑ **Scientific Name:** *Heliotropium angiospermum*
- ❑ **Common Name:** Scorpion-Tail
- ❑ **Zone:** 8a to 11

❑ **Wildlife and Ecology:**



Nectar for the Bahamian swallowtail, cassius blue, Florida white, gulf fritillary, Miami blue, queen, ruddy daggerwing, Schaus swallowtail, and other butterflies.

Heliotropium angiospermum is commonly called scorpions-tail, in reference to the way that its inflorescence curls open. The inflorescence bears two matching rows of tiny flowers. Scorpions-tail is a small perennial shrub that is native to Florida and is a member of the Boraginaceae family. It is a beautiful short-lived 1-3 feet with branched stems and veiny opposite leaves. The curved terminal spikes of bisexual none fragrant small white flowers appear only on one side of the flower stalk. The Scorpion tail is an excellent nectar source. Invite this beautiful small shrub in your yard, and Florida native butterflies and pollinators will flock to it. This plant is very easy to culture in full sun to partial shade. It tolerates dry, rocky, or sandy soils and salt exposure. It does self-seed freely. Removing spent blooms will cut down on unwanted seedlings and promote more prolonged bloom.

You'll be delighted you choose to add this unique native herbaceous shrub-like wildflower to your Florida-Friendly Landscape! - Lorna Bravo

Want to visit UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Education Florida-Friendly Landscaping Demonstration Gardens?

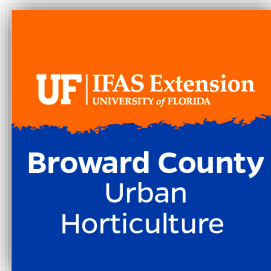
You can see examples of our Florida-Friendly Landscaping Plant of The Month. Contact our office.



Us on Facebook – UF IFAS Extension Broward County @ufifasextbroward

Visit our UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Website at:

<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/>



Visit UF/IFAS Extension Broward County
Office today at
3245 College Ave
Davie, Florida 33314

Florida-Friendly Landscape Butterfly of The Month

Photo Credit: Amy Rielly



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FLORIDA-FRIENDLY BUTTERFLY GARDENING

Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM



And YOU are? ➡ VISIT US:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXUVJn_7DKI

Florida-Friendly Landscape Principle # 5 Attract Wildlife

Plants in your landscape that provide food, water and shelter will attract Florida's diverse wildlife

Want to visit UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Education Florida-Friendly Landscaping Demonstration Gardens?

You can see examples of our Florida-Friendly Landscaping Plant of The Month. Contact our office.



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