

April to June 2021- Volume 4, Number 2

2021 MGV Vegetable Garden Food Pantry Donation Project...	2
Introducing Urban Gardening to Broward Schools.....	3
2021 Master Gardener Volunteer Scholarship Program.....	4
Florida-Friendly Landscaping Success Stories.....	5, 6
City of North Lauderdale Community Garden.....	7
2021 Master Gardener Volunteer 2021 Lecture Series.....	8
Florida-Friendly Landscape Plant of the Month.....	9
Florida-Friendly Landscape Butterfly of The Month.....	10



LORNA BRAVO



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 Spring Broward Green Bites newsletter. Our new issue is sharing impact stories, new 2021 projects, educational information, and collaborative initiatives for original 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!

Lorna Bravo



Interested to visit our Sustainable Vegetable Garden?
Email us at: samuel.chillaron@ufl.edu

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

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

Email: lbravo1@ufl.edu

STAY CONNECTED-VISIT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA:



Visit our new Instagram Page:
➤ [@urbanhortbroward](https://www.instagram.com/urbanhortbroward)



Visit our new Twitter Page:
➤ <https://twitter.com/HortUrban>



Visit our new Facebook Page:
➤ [@facebook.com/urbanhortbroward](https://www.facebook.com/urbanhortbroward)

Upcoming Events

UF/IFAS EXTENSION
BROWARD COUNTY

Master Gardener Volunteer Fair 2021

May 22 2021
12:00PM - 3:00PM

WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

[LINK HERE](#)

For more information please contact
Lorna Bravo, lbravo1@ufl.edu or
Anthony Gross, anthony.gross@ufl.edu
or Samuel Chillaron,
samuel.chillaron@ufl.edu



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BROWARD
COUNTY
FLORIDA

New 2022 Master Gardener Volunteer Scholarship Program

Applications are available for the 2022 UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV) training scheduled to begin in February 2022. For the second year in a row, the program will be conducted virtually with two classes a week for 16 weeks. For the first time, a scholarship program has been designed for interested participants who might not otherwise be able to financially pay the complete cost of the training fee.

Interested? Contact: lbravo1@ufl.edu

<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/sfylifasufledu/broward/docs/pdfs/urban-hort/documents-page/MGV-Scholarship-Application.pdf>

**2021 BROWARD COUNTY'S EXTENSION VEGETABLE GARDEN HARVEST
PRESENTED TO OUR FATHER'S HOUSE SOUP KITCHEN. MASTER GARDENER
VOLUNTEERS DONATING 225 LBS OF FRESH VEGETABLES & CUT FLOWERS.**



THE OUR FATHER'S HOUSE SOUP KITCHEN

Dedicated to serving God's precious poor and homeless by preparing and serving a full-course hot lunch and providing a take-out bag with a sandwich and other goodies for later in the day.



CROP DONATION:

- ☐ KURLY KALE
- ☐ DYNO KALE
- ☐ BROCCOLI
- ☐ PEPPERS
- ☐ TOMATOES
- ☐ CILANTRO
- ☐ GREEN BEANS
- ☐ CARROTS
- ☐ RADISH
- ☐ SNOWPEAS
- ☐ COLLARDS
- ☐ CUT FLOWERS



MGV: PEGGY DE MARS



MGV: PEG LACKNER



**FLORIDA
MASTER
GARDENER
VOLUNTEER**



MGV: VIVIAN L.



MGV: JEANNIE S.



MGV: ELIZABETH R.

SUSTAINABLE VEGETABLE GARDEN MISSION STATEMENT:

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens seeks to create vegetable and herb gardens to educate and promote best practices for urban gardeners in South Florida. Vegetables from the garden will be shared with volunteers and designated charitable organizations.

Introducing Urban Gardening to Broward Schools

FNP & MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS PROGRAM
DELIVER GARDENING KIT AND SELF-WATERING
CONTAINER PROJECT TO BROWARD SCHOOLS



grow • shop • cook • eat
Family Nutrition Program

Gardening Kit & Self-Watering Container Project-Broward County Sheridan Park Elementary-2nd Grade

Self-Watering Bucket Garden
TRAIN THE TRAINER PROJECT
Designed by UF/IFAS Extension Master Volunteer Gardener Peggy Lockner

MATERIAL LIST

- 1) 5-gallon food grade bucket - \$4.00
- 2) Plastic square crate (9" x 7 3/4" W x 17" H) - \$3.00
- 3) 1/4" PVC pipe cut 16" long, cut one end on an angle to allow water flow \$0.50
- 4) Landscape Cloth - \$2.00
- 5) Soil: Potting mix to fill bucket - \$6.00

TOTAL COST \$12.00

Prepared by Larne Bessie Urban Horticulture Agent



Self-Watering Bucket Garden
TRAIN THE TRAINER PROJECT



GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY EMPOWERING OUR NEXT GENERATION



INTERESTED TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR 2021-2022 GROW Kit & SELF-WATERING CONTAINER GARDEN BROWARD SCHOOL PROGRAM?



CONTACT: UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY
SAM CHILLARON @ SAMUL.CHILLARON@UFL.EDU



Picture Credit: MGv Amy Rielly

Broward County Master Gardener Volunteers will teach research-based information on plant growth, soil nutrient management, irrigation and water conservation. The end result will be versatile and efficient micro school gardens at all participating schools along with teachers and students trained by our Master Gardener Volun-

The Grow Kit and Self-Watering Container Garden Program for Urban Schools



Picture Credit: MGv Jeannie Schmidle & Colossal Academy

Urban Horticulture

January 2021-MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM Lorna Bravo –CED

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FLORIDA
**MASTER
GARDENER
VOLUNTEER**

MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2021 BROWARD COUNTY MASTER
GARDENER VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



GINA ALZATE City: Hollywood



MALCOLM STEELE City: Fort Lauderdale



JOANNE EWART City: Sheridan

Gina Alzate teaches Vocational Education, Horticulture and Mind-Body Medicine to adults with disabilities at Seagull Alternative High School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Her love of gardening in South Florida reminds her of childhood memories - growing tropical fruits and vegetables in the Philippines. Gina became acquainted with the University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences when the Broward County Extension reached out to the Adults with Abilities Program at Seagull. UF/IFAS offered to assist their program with training on Family Nutrition and with funds to revitalize their school gardens.

Malcolm Steele is a Navy Veteran and is recommended by UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer Beverly Williams. Malcolm has already volunteered quite extensively with Beverly Williams at the Frank Coleman Community Garden located in a food desert area in Lauderdale Lakes. When he was younger, he worked in his family's landscaping company and was currently learning how to build vegetable gardens. He would like to become a Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer to help others learn how to grow their food and expand their knowledge to build raised bed gardens for low-income families.

Joanne Ewart is a Broward Schools Teacher at Sheridan Hills Elementary interested in developing a successful garden program at her school. She has taken many courses through Fairchild Botanical Garden and has entered her school in the Fairchild Challenge three years in a row. Joanne has led her school garden program for five years now and is interested in taking the MGTV course to better train her horticulture students.

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer program launches the first
Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer Scholarship program!
We will be honoring three scholarships for class 2022.



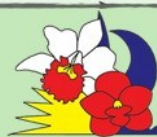
APPLY @ <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture/broward-master-gardener/>

**THANK YOU TO OUR UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY
MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS**

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URBAN FOOD PRODUCTION PROGRAM

□ <https://frec.ifas.ufl.edu/faculty/dr-jiangxiao-qiu/>



**FORT LAUDERDALE
ORCHID SOCIETY**

□ <https://www.flos.org/>

An Equal Opportunity Institution and Employer

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ PROGRAM

Lorna Bravo –Urban Horticulture Agent

BROWARD COUNTY
FLORIDA

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

March 2021

Silver FFL Certification



Protect our Bodies of Water

- ☐ Absorbs nutrients
- ☐ Provides wildlife habitat
- ☐ Prevents erosion. Plant native shoreline plants.

"I have always dreamed of having a butterfly garden. My Master Gardener Training gave me the knowledge I needed to plan my garden following Florida Friendly Gardening Principles, reduce my water usage, and place the right plants, nectar and host, in the right place to encourage a diverse and active butterfly community." -Martha Craine Ed. D



Principle #9: Protect the Waterfront



- ☐ Plant a border of low-maintenance plants between lawn and shoreline/seawall



2021 MARTHA CRAINE RESIDENCE FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING SILVER CERTIFICATION

- ☐ Following Watering Mandates **2 days/week**
- ☐ **Reduced 50% TURF** & Fertilize reduction
- ☐ Annual Watering Savings of **\$200** (First year)
- ☐ Adopted (4) 55-Gallon Rainbarrels
- ☐ Installed a Smart Irrigation Meter (Broward County Program)



PARTICIPATED IN THE 1ST BROWARD COUNTY
IRRIGATION REBATE PROGRAM



ADOPTING FOUR RAIN BARRELS

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

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ PROGRAM

Lorna Bravo –Urban Horticulture Agent

BROWARD COUNTY
FLORIDA

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January 2021

GOLD Certification



"My Master Gardener, Water Star and Florida Friendly Landscape training allowed me to put in place a landscape project that reduces irrigation and chemical use for a medium-sized residential building located on a sensitive waterway. This can be a great example for other buildings planning for the future." -James O'Connor



2021 IMPERIAL CONDOMINIUM FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING GOLD CERTIFICATION

- ☐ Reduce Irrigation from 3 days/week to 2 days/week
- ☐ 66,020 gallons/year of water savings
- ☐ Removed 6 invasive plant species from property
- ☐ Reduced monthly broad spectrum pest control spray
- ☐ Quarterly educational FFL workshops to 80 residents
- ☐ Landscape Specs/IPM created for maintenance foreman

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ PROGRAM

Recognizes

Imperial Condominium

For protecting Florida's environment and enhancing the community by successfully implementing Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ practices at Imperial Condominium
2829 NE 33rd CT, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

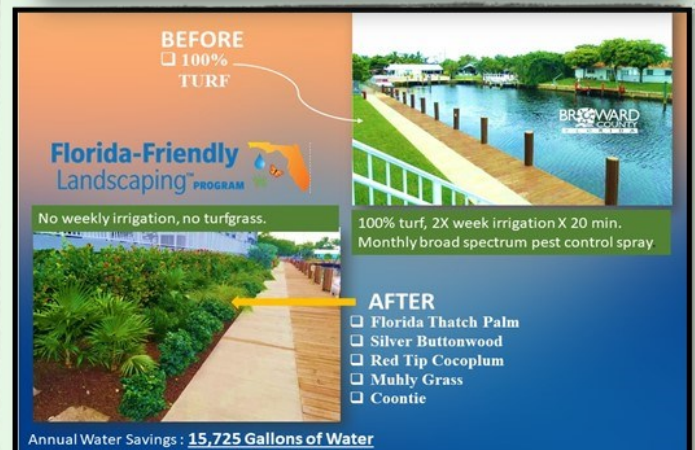
Florida-Friendly Landscape

Gold Level

January 26, 2021

Lorna Bravo
Landscape Evaluator

University of Florida UF/IFAS Extension



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



CITY OF NORTH LAUDERDALE COMMUNITY GARDEN

GIVING BACK TO OUR
COMMUNITY
EMPOWERING OUR NEXT
GENERATION



UF/IFAS EXTENSION
BROWARD COUNTY MASTER
GARDENER
VOLUNTEER LEE WHITE
CLASS 2019



"I have been gardening with food ever since I was six years old with my father in Guyana. We always had a kitchen garden in our backyard along with chickens and a goat. Everywhere I lived I had a small vegetable garden along with flowers. Gardening is in my blood it is a passion of mine for as long as I can remember. In 2002 we bought a home in North Lauderdale with a big backyard which is almost half of an acre. That's when I decided that I would have a huge vegetable garden. I wanted to learn more about pest and disease control. "

CITY OF NORTH LAUDERDALE COMMUNITY GARDEN

"In 2011 the City of North Lauderdale launched a community garden and as a sustainability board member I was asked to manage the garden. For two years I brought residents in and we had a garden with twenty plots that were successful. We grew over 100 pounds of food as a community and I was motivated to do more so I decided that I would go to school. I knew for a long time that I wanted to be a Master Gardener so I can learn more of what I had already was doing and to know more of what I didn't know. In 2017 I learned that UF/IFAS Broward County Extension was having a Master Gardener volunteer (MGV) class on Wednesday and Saturday so I signed up and graduated in 2018.

After I graduated as MGV, I met with the Economic Development Director for the City of North Lauderdale and we discussed starting a garden at a new location and a club for the residence that would be sustainable. In 2019 I formed my garden club with 12 individuals who had an interest in growing their own food. We met once per month and I taught them some of what I had learned from the MGV class. I was motivated by the group and their efforts to learn. These ladies were eager to soak up all that they can to learn how to grow food right in their own backyard or patio and condo.

Then came Covid-19 in 2020 and it changed everything. We started zoom classes on how to compost, build soil, pest and insects, and fertilization. Due to COVID-19 I lost half of my group who were challenged by technology. People are eager to learn when they know that there is someone they can rely on to teach them what they don't know. In September of 2020 I decided to bring the ladies into my backyard for hands on training and I taught them how to start seeds and set transplant out in the garden. We have several vegetables currently growing. My long-term goal is to work with the City of North Lauderdale to teach the residents about growing their own food sustainably when the garden reopens to the public this year." -MGV Lee White



PICTURE CREDIT: MGV LEE WHITE



VOLUNTEERING IN THE TIME OF COVID-19



GROWING FOOD IN URBAN PLACES

Florida-Friendly Landscape Plant of The Month

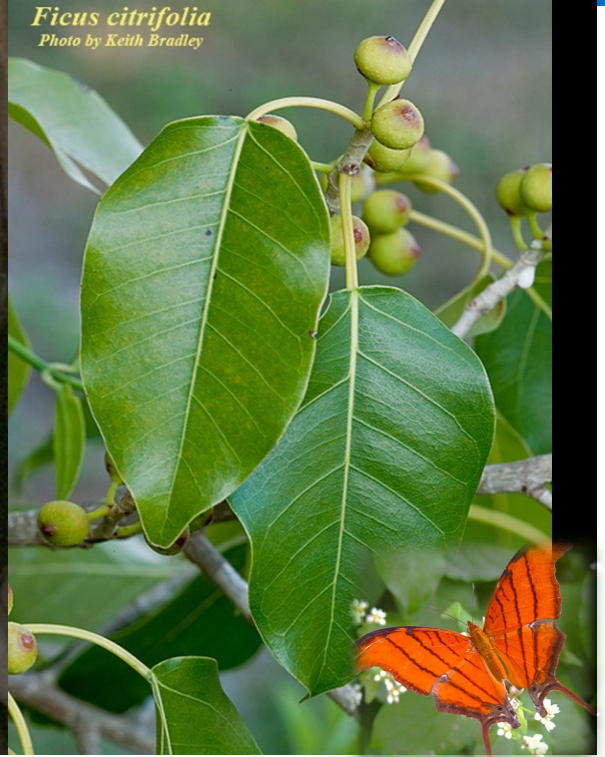
Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ PROGRAM



Shortleaf Fig (*Ficus citrifolia*)

- ❑ **Family:** Moraceae
- ❑ **Scientific Name:** *Ficus citrifolia*
- ❑ **Common Name:** Shortleaf Fig, Wild Banyantree
- ❑ **Zone:** (Native to Florida)
- ❑ **Uses:** The spreading canopy of this tree is attractive and provides pleasant shade but requires plenty of growing space. It requires full sun for optimal growth and can reach heights between 40 to 50 feet.

Ficus citrifolia
Photo by Keith Bradley



Shortleaf Fig Tree & the Ruddy Daggerwing Butterfly

The Ruddy Daggerwing are members of the brush-foot family and one of four 'wing' butterflies in Florida. This orange butterfly embraces wasps and moths! This medium-sized bright orange hue butterfly with a wingspan of 2 ¾ to 3 ¾ inches has three thin straight black lines on each elongated wing, while the hindwing has long dagger-like tails. The wing base and body are white. The males that like to wait for 30ft up in trees for females are more drab-brown. Young females have a purple iridescent sheen. The undersides of both genders resemble a dead leaf. Female Daggerwings doing three or more broods a year are more common from May-July. Males may sip mud to get minerals or salts through nectar plants include bloodberry, *Cordia globosa*, climbing hempvine, *Mikania scandens*, lantana, and giant milkweed.

The Ruddy prefers to lay eggs on the stems of fig trees. Fig trees are tropical plants with numerous species around the world. There are just two species native to the United States: the Florida strangler fig (*Ficus aurea*) and the shortleaf fig, also called giant bearded fig or wild banyan tree (*Ficus citrifolia*). Both trees serve as hosts for the Ruddy Daggerwing butterfly. Wild Banyans that can reach 71ft in South Florida hosts Daggerwing caterpillars and other insects such as the Edwards' wasp moth and the Fig sphinx moth. Pollination, however, is done by a wasp so tiny that it does not have a common name, only a scientific one. That's the *Pegoscapus tonduzi* wasp which bores itself inside the shortleaf fig to utilize its cluster of seeds. The inflorescence (flower head) is found inside a bulbous stem that animals devour as a ripe pinkish, purple fig. The colorful Daggerwing butterfly is also the product of native figs.-MGV Pat Rossi



FLORIDA
MASTER
GARDENER
VOLUNTEER



UF/IFAS EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER PAT ROSSI



Ruddy Daggerwing
(*Marpesia petreus*)

Shortleaf Fig

Wildlife fruit-eating birds, such as the cedar waxwing, benefit from the fruits produced by this tree. Shortleaf fig is also known to be a larval host plant for Ruddy Daggerwing butterfly.

Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM

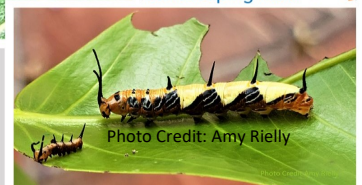


Photo Credit: Amy Rielly

Florida-Friendly Landscape Butterfly of The Month



Ruddy Daggerwing
(*Marpesia petreus*)

**WATCH OUR VIDEO
UNDERSTAND ITS
LIFE CYCLE!**



Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM



Photo Credit: MGV Amy Rielly

Florida-Friendly Landscape Principle # 5 Attract Wildlife

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



WATCH OUR VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/HEawBSpvIEY>

STAY CONNECTED-VISIT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA:



Visit our new Instagram Page:
➤ [@urbanhortbroward](https://www.instagram.com/urbanhortbroward)



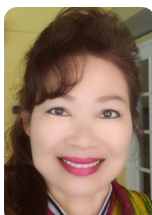
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UF/IFAS EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER AMY RIELLY



READ OUR BLOG:

[https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/
browardco/2021/04/06/
provide-for-wildlife/](https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/browardco/2021/04/06/provide-for-wildlife/)