



July & August 2025 Volume 7

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Editor-Pat Rossi

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Stephen Deegan

Highlights

W

Hi! I hope you're staying cool this summer! A few points of interest: On Saturday, July 12th, we're having a FFL Butterfly Gardening workshop. It's free, of course and is taking place at the Extension. However, for \$15.00, you can purchase a kit which will include 2 Milkweed plants, 1 Groundcover and a host plant. There will be other similar plants for sale as well. You can sign up on Eventbrite. I look forward to seeing you all there.

I hope you have been putting in your hours as we approach the mid-year point, it's important to remember to update your hours as the months fly by. Reminder – in October we are looking to give out our new pins for 100, 200, 500, 1,000 and 2,000 hours of service! **So, please, please enter them into BetterImpact** before you forget. Please feel free to contact me (954) 756-8513 if you need assistance (I am happy to help). Thanks, we hope you have a great summer!

Steve

Featuring

MGV BIRTHDAYS

Deborah Hartz-Seeley	Jul 11
Jeannie Schmidle	Jul 21
Lee White	Jul 27
Margot Hummer	Jul 27
Mark Kaplan	Jul 29
Cindy North	Aug 8
Kathleen Della Fera	Aug 17

Needed: from MGVs Any ongoing projects,
email: lbravo1@ufl.edu

Next issue: Summer Blooms

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Register for our FREE Urban Horticulture Event on:

□ **Eventbrite:** <https://tinyurl.com/wyrkbdzi>



Scrub native wildflower, Tarflower, *Bejaria racemosa*. Florida Wildflower Foundation. This woody evergreen shrub is found in most counties incl. Broward, FL. It's 4-8ftH, 2-6ftW. Fragrant showy flowers. Sticky petals, attracts, traps insects. Sticky sap sometimes used as flypaper; sap protects plant from animals. Theory: The trapped insects in sap provide nutrients to plant.

2025 Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Series: Cultivating Sustainability in Your Garden

July		NO MEETING
August 12	TOPIC:	Understanding Mosquito Control: Best Practices for South Florida Residents – Zoom 6.30-7.30pm Speaker - Dr. Eva Buckner
September 9	TOPIC:	Creating a Food Forest. Live Presentation 6.30-7.30pm Speaker - Sustainable Food Systems & Natural Resource Agent David Outerbridge
October 14	TOPIC:	Heritage Vegetables – Zoom 6.30-7.30pm Speaker - Dr. Dina Liebowitz
November 4	TOPIC:	Worm Wonders: Composting in Small Spaces with Vermiculture – Zoom 6.30-7.30pm Speaker - Urban Horticulture Agent Lorna Bravo
December 9	TOPIC:	Bat Monitoring-Citizen Science for Broward County - Zoom 6.30-7.30pm Speaker - Dr. Shelly Johnson

Live Presentation: UF/IFAS Extension Broward County
Location: 3245 College Avenue
David FL 33314

Contact: Lorna Bravo [email:lb Bravo@ufl.edu](mailto:lb Bravo@ufl.edu)
Steve Deegan [email:Stephen.Deegan@ufl.edu](mailto:Stephen.Deegan@ufl.edu)

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<https://tinyurl.com/vx3u7i9k>



* Announcements*

Upcoming Webinars Local & State

Reminder don't forget to do your Education Hours; log those into the Better Impact system

MGV 2025 Broward Urban Horticulture Webinar Series **Location: Virtual**

❑ **2025** - See separate page

Zoom links coming

MGV 2025 Webinar Series by Wendy Wilber, Gainesville Location: Virtual. Time 12 noon-1pm

- ❑ **July 24** - Prevention of Mosquito-borne diseases in FL with Eva Buckner
- ❑ **Aug 28** - People. Plant interaction with Dr. Leah Diehl
- ❑ **Sept 25** - Urban Pests & landscape Consideration with Dr. Faith Oi

For Past Webinars:
Scroll down to find "watch recording of the webinar" under each month's section

Zoom links coming

MGV 2025 Webinar Series by Wendy Wilber, Gainesville Location: Virtual, 12 noon-1pm continued

- ❑ **Oct 23** - Benefits of Bats and Conserving Bat Habitat with Dr. Shelly Johnson
- ❑ **Nov 20** - Mushrooms in FL with Dr. Matt Smith
- ❑ **Dec 18** - Artificial Intelligence for MGVs with Wendy Wilber and Wayne Hobbs

Zoom links coming

Past Webinars. June 2024: Great Southeast Pollinator Census; May 2024: Milkweed, Monarchs and OE in Florida; April 2024: Climate Change in Real Life with Larry Figart and Savanna Barry; March 2024: Turf and Soil Testing with Brian Unruh; March 2024: Special Pest Alert: Thrips Parvispinus with Dr. Lance Osborne and Nicole Brenda. Et al

LINK - PAST WEBINARS

The University of Florida is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations such as sign language interpreters and listening devices, please contact Lorna Bravo at lbravo1@ufl.edu at least one week in advance. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.

FIRST UPCOMING EVENT

Florida-Friendly Butterfly Gardening

**Saturday, July 12, 2025 from
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM (ET)**

**UF-IFAS Broward County
Extension Auditorium OR AS
NOTED - see detail. • Davie FL**



Learn to create a butterfly-friendly Florida garden using Florida-Friendly Landscaping principles from the UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Volunteers

Free option. Attend the class at no cost and learn the essential skills to start your Florida-Friendly butterfly garden in South Florida

Premium option. For \$15 per class, learn from our expert presenter and take home two native milkweeds, one native ground cover, and one nectar source to get you started attracting wildlife right away. Additional native plants will be available for sale after the program.

CONGRATS

Congratulations to the new 2025 Class of MGVs! They are now interns until they complete their 75 hours! What a talented group of interns they are too! They have been very hard working in the classes and have been well prepared to move forward as MGVs.

After 16 weeks of information packed classroom work, they are now stepping into the role of intern and have signed up for quite a few of the programs offered during the Volunteer Fair on May 31st. We wish you the best in your new roles as MGVs. Steve

Contact: Lorna Bravo @ lbravo1@ufl.edu or Steve Deegan @ StephenDeegan@ufl.edu

SECOND UPCOMING EVENT



2025 ANNUAL MGV RECOGNITION CELEBRATION

Join us on October 25 to celebrate the outstanding achievements of Broward County Master Gardener Volunteers! We'll honor our newest graduates and recognize exceptional contributions in volunteer hours, education, and the Educator of the Year award. This year, we're excited to feature the new MGV Hour Pins—100, 200, 500, 1,000, and 2,000 hours. Celebrate with us as we recognize those making a lasting impact on our community through passion and dedication. Don't miss your chance to be part of this inspiring community!

Registration is required.

Register today



Date: October 25, 2025

Time: 1:00 –3:00 PM

Location: Flamingo Botanical Gardens/
New Everglades Outdoor Classroom
3750 S. Flamingo Rd., Davie Florida 33330

Contact: Lorna Bravo @lbravo1@ufl.edu or Steve Deegan @stephen.Deegan@ufl.edu

SCAN ME



<https://tinyurl.com/4mb3c4tf>

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THIRD UPCOMING EVENT

2025 UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY MGV OPEN HOUSE



Love Gardening? Make a Difference in Your Community!
Join us for the **Master Gardener Volunteer Open House**—whether you're a seasoned pro or just getting started, everyone is welcome!
Come share your passion and discover how you can get involved

Discover the Benefits of Becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV)

- ☐ **Hands-On Learning:** Gain valuable gardening knowledge and skills.
- ☐ **Community Impact:** Help educate others about sustainable gardening practices.
- ☐ **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with fellow gardening enthusiasts and local experts.
- ☐ **Ongoing Support:** Receive guidance and resources as you grow in your gardening journey.

What to Expect:

- ☐ **Informative Presentations:** Learn about the Master Gardener program and its impact.
- ☐ **Q&A Session:** Get answers to your questions about volunteering and gardening.
- ☐ **Meet Current Volunteers:** Hear their experiences and insights.

Register today



Date: November 15, 2025
Time: 9:00am–12:00 PM
Location: 3245 College Avenue
Davie, Florida 33314
Contact: Lorna Bravo @ lbravo1@ufl.edu or
Steve Deegan @ stephen.Deegan@ufl.edu



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<https://tinyurl.com/mv5hrw27>

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The Florida Scrub

The scrub habitat is an interesting, dry, xeric place, yet filled with activity and different plants like special oaks, palms, pines, herbaceous shrubs, grasses and wildflowers. These unique plants and animals depend on this sand-type of land. It consists of areas of well-drained white quartz sand though can be yellow color, look brown or gray. It's seen in patches; no water retention is common, it typically consists of acidic soil lacking silt, clay or organic matter.

Regions or areas of Florida Scrub. Floria scrub is a forest ecoregion found throughout Florida. US. Regions of scrub are on coastal and inland sand ridges and is characterized by an evergreen xeromorphic plant community (adopted to survive in arid conditions) dominated by shrubs and dwarf oaks. There are many different areas deemed scrub in north, central, panhandle and on the east FL coast. Some locations in Florida are: Jonathan Dickinson State Park-Hobe Sound and Lake Wales Ridge. The scrub is also in Polk & Highlands and Crystal Lake Sand Pine Scrub-Pompano Beach, FL.

The types of scrub are dominated by oaks, shrubs and pines. The **Oak Scrub** is where dwarf scrub oaks about 8ftH are the most dominant plants present along with flora like sand pine (*Pinus clausa*). Typical oaks growing are myrtle oak (*Quercus myrtifolia*), sand live oak (*Q.geminata*) and chapman's oak (*Q.chapmanii*) as well as saw palmetto (*Serenoa reopens*) growing in all scrub types. **The Scrubby Flatwoods** is another type found with wetter soil, again having scrub oaks, longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) and slash pine (*Pinus elliottii*), gallberry (*Ilex glabra*), tarflower (*Bejaria racemosa*), wiregrass (*Aristida strictida*), netted pawpaw (*Asimina reticulata*) (Plants that host: zebra swallowtail butterfly and the sphinx moth.) **Rosemary Scrub** areas where Florida rosemary (*Ceratiola ericoides*) predominantly grows, is found in well-drained sandy soil. Note that the **Coastal Scrub type**, another significant scrub area may have different vegetation compositions than inland scrub. Many of these plants have tough leaves & stems to deal with the harsh environment.



Blackbead, Florida Rosemary, Rusty Lyonia



Lake Wales Ridge, BlueJay Wiki; Pawpaw-*Asimina reticulata* TopTropicals; Camphorweed-*Heterotheca subaxillaris* Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Other shrubs that grow in this arid area are Rusty lyonia (*Lyonia ferruginea*), Shiny Blueberry (*Vaccinium myrsinites*), the rare, perennial herb Lupine (*Lupinus aridorum*) Blackbead (*Pithecellobium keyense*) – host plant to the cassius blue, large orange sulphur & the endangered Miami blue butterflies. In this special area are also wildflowers Partridge pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*) & Nodding pinwheel (*Lechea cernual*). All have to deal with drought & infrequent fires.

Animals and wildlife that live in scrub areas are sometimes found nowhere else. The Gopher tortoise makes sand borrows that other species use. Red widow spiders utilize palmetto plants for web arrays. The Scrub lizard & Tiger beetle will prey on insects. The Florida mouse likes seeds, insects & acorns. The Scrub jay bird makes only the scrub habitat home. Other animals found in scrub are the Bobcat, Cottontail rabbit & White-tailed deer. With such an ecosystem the scrub habitat certainly should be preserved and treasured for its various plants and animals. Pat Rossi MGV

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florida_scrub;
Search: Wiki, types of Florida scrub areas; Florida scrub plants;
https://www.fnai.org/PDFs/NC/Scr_Flatwds.pdf;
<https://floridata.com/articles/scrub/FloridaScrub.html>;
<https://www.archbold-station.org/station-habitats/>