



Volume 37
May and June 2023

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Lake County MGCV Mission Statement

The mission of UF/IFAS Lake County Master Gardener Volunteers is to assist extension agents by providing horticultural education programs and current research-based information to the public through plant clinics, community outreach and Discovery Gardens.

Garden Scoop

ALPHABET NEWSLETTER

Editor Karen S. Kennen, MGCV

* A *

is for aloe vera, a succulent that is very hardy and easy to grow in Florida. It can survive in drought conditions and poor soil.



* B *

is for bee, especially native bees which are considered to be a keystone species and are essential to maintain biodiversity of plant life. The native bees come in all sizes, shapes, colors, and fuzziness. One of my favorites is the green sweat bee because so many people confuse it with a fly.



Jeff Hollonbeck
UF EDIS website

* C *

is caladium, a tuber that is used for its many combinations of leaf colors. This plant was originally meant to be planted in the shade but there have been some developed to grow in the morning sun. Plant the tuber between April and September.



Dr. Zhanao Wang
UF/IFAS

* D *

is for divide and that is when you have a plant that has grown in a "clump" and needs to be broken or divided into many plants. Some plants can be spaded into sections like clumping grass and some can just be pulled apart like bromeliads.



Proven Winners

For more information contact: UF/IFAS Extension, Lake County Office lakemg.ifas@ufl.edu ▪
(352) 343-4101 ▪ FAX (352) 343-2767

E

is for elm tree. The Florida elm tree is a deciduous, long living tree that produces wafer-like seed pods that are a favorite of birds and wildlife. This tree requires regular pruning to develop a strong structure to counter breakage during storms.



James Stephens

F

is for fennel, an herb that has a mild licorice flavor. Common fennel leaves, shoots, and seeds are used in cooking, Florence fennel has a bulb that can be roasted and eaten. This plant is also a host plant for the black swallowtail caterpillars..

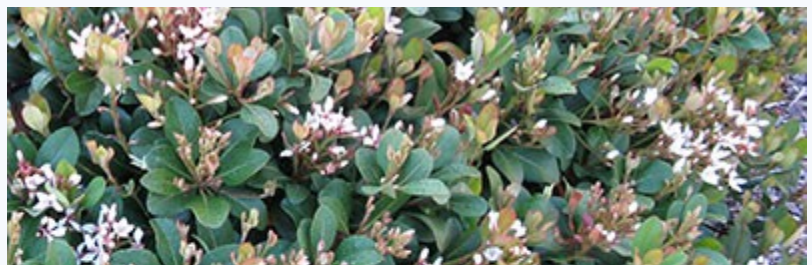
G

is for *Gaillardia pulchella* also known as blanket flower and it is a perennial. It can be planted anywhere in the state and will tolerate extreme heat and sandy soil. The flowers are single, semi-double, double, and even tubular with reddish purple or orange-red with yellow tips, but it can also be solid yellow, orange, or red.



H

is for hyacinth. Water hyacinth, was introduced to the US in 1884 as an ornamental water plant which unfortunately became a problem in Florida waterways. This perennial, free-floating plant is currently kept under control so the waterways can be navigable. This plant is not recommend for use because of its invasive potential.



I

is for Indian hawthorn. This Florida-friendly shrub is a slow grower and ideal to use in the home landscape as a foundation plant. This dense, rounded, evergreen shrub takes many years to reach its maximum height of 5 feet.

J

is for *Justicia brandegeean*, commonly known as shrimp plant. This is an easy to grow perennial that can reach up to 6 feet tall. It can bloom year round in mild weather with shrimp-like colorful bracts. The flower is the tubular bloom that comes from the bracts and it is this that attracts both butterflies and hummingbirds.



L

is for lion's ear (*Leonotis leonurus*), a semi-woody perennial that is in the mint family. This drought tolerant plant likes dry soil and full sun but can tolerate part shade. The tubular blooms attract both butterflies and hummingbirds.



M

is for *Miscanthus* or maiden grass, an ornamental, clumping grass that grows 3 to 10 feet tall and 2 to 6 feet wide. Its makes a perfect vertical statement in a container. The variegated variety is also a significant accent in a garden bed.



K

is for key lime, a small bushy tree that will rarely grow taller than 12 feet. BE warned the branches do have thorns. The fruit is small only 1 ½ to 2 inches in diameter with greenish, to yellow skin. Note that key lime trees are very sensitive to temperatures below 30 degrees. The key lime is recognized for its unique flavor that is more tart and bitter than other limes.



N

is for needle palm, a slow growing shrubby plant that gets its name from the black needles that grow along its trunk. This evergreen palm can reach up to eight feet high and eight feet wide. It is perfect as growth under a large tree to act as ground cover or as an accent plant.



O



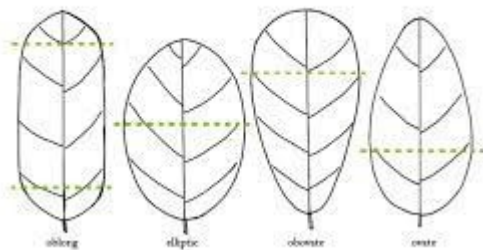
is for orchid, a beautiful plant that can do well in Florida's humid climate. There are thousands of varieties. Most orchids are epiphytes and need special plant medium consisting of combinations of varied fibers, charcoal, and volcanic rock. Two popular varieties are Cattleya and Phalaenopsis.



P

is for petal which is actually a leaf of the flower and comes in different shapes, colors, and sizes. The purpose of the petal is to attract pollinators to the blooms. A petal can come in one of four shapes: oval, obovate, ovate, and round.

LEAF FORM



NYB.org

Q

is for *Quercus virginiana*, southern live oak. It is a majestic tree with its large, 120 feet of spreading branches and 80 feet of height. This is the state tree of Georgia.



R

is for roses with many varieties that include both old garden and hybrid roses. They can add interest to any garden and supply blooms for nine months of the year. Some are easier to care for than others. Louis Philippe, an old garden rose, supplies beautiful red blooms with a light scent and needs only to be pruned and fertilized once a year.



S







is for spotted bee balm which is also called horsemint. This Florida native comes in colors ranging from cream to pink to purple. This perennial plant will grow better with pruning since it can become leggy. As the name suggests this plant does attract pollinators and is an excellent addition to any garden.

Treemendous Tree: Trumpet Tree

BY: Jamie Daugherty, RHA

We are lucky to have two species of *Tabebuia* in Lake County. *Tabebuia heterophylla* (pink trumpet tree) and *Handroanthus chrysanthus* (golden trumpet tree). Both are medium to large flowering trees. While both are zoned for 10A-11, they do grow throughout southern Lake County. Both are in the *Bigoniaceae* family and neither are listed as invasive. Which tree is right for your landscape? Let's look at these plants side by side.

	Pink Trumpet Tree	Golden Trumpet Tree
Native Country	Puerto Rico and West Indies	Brazil and Northern Argentine
Height	20-30 feet	25 to 35 feet
Spread	12-25 feet	25 to 35 feet
Growth Rate	Moderate	Fast
Sun Needs	Full	Full
Drought Tolerance	High	Moderate
Tree Habit	Oval 	Round 
Leaves	 Palmately compound leaf	 Palmately Compound leaf

For further information refer to:

<https://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/trees-and-shrubs/trees/trumpet-tree.html#>:

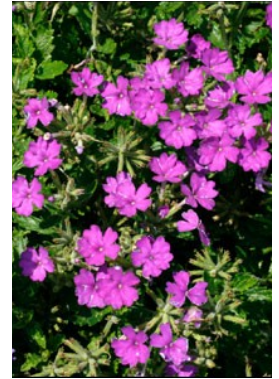
U

is for urn plant, *Aechmea fasciata*. This is a bromeliad, that is very recognizable by its attractive pink bloom and is often given as a gift. This plant can easily be grown in the shade of your garden.



V

is for verbena, a perennial or annual with clusters of blooms on top of 12 inch ground cover growth. This plant is drought tolerant with only infrequent irrigation needed. Three native verbena species occur in Florida. Two of them — beach verbena (*Glandularia maritima*) and Tampa verbena (*G. tampensis*) — are state-listed as endemic and endangered.



Invasive (No Uses)

W

is for wisteria, a pretty, lavender, flowered vine that is found throughout the Southeast BUT is INVASIVE. Do not plant wisteria because it will cover other plants and shade them resulting in their death, even trees. Eliminate this vine by cutting to the ground and painting stems with an herbicide.



X

is for *Xylosma congesta*, an evergreen shrub used commercially to serve as a screen and can grow to be 18 feet by 18 feet. If used in the home, be sure to allow for its large size. It is known to be drought tolerant.



Y

is for yucca which is a genus of perennial plants and trees with sword-shaped leaves and large terminal panicles or white flowers. An example is Spanish bayonet.



Z

Is for *Zephyranthes atamasca* that is probably more recognizable by its common name of rain lily. It is native to north and central Florida. The white, funnel-shaped flowers appear in March and April. They can often be seen along ditches where there is moisture.



All photos are from UF EDIS website

CLASSES

May 5, 2023, 12 – 1 pm FRIDAY IN THE GARDEN: Attracting Pollinators for Crop Pollination
Join Seminole County Agent Kaydie McCormick and Lake County Agent Jamie Daugherty as they cover pollinators for crops in this class.
Register at <https://bit.ly/1frigarden>.

SCIENCE OF SOIL

Join Residential Horticulture agents Jamie Daugherty (Lake County), and Bill Lester (Hernando County) as they present various soil science topics .
REGISTER AT: <http://lakediscoverygardensprograms.eventbrite.com/>.

This series is perfect for anyone interested in a deeper understanding of how soil works.

5/2/23 - 10 am-12 pm: Soils basics and Plant Nutrition
5/16/23 - 10 am-12 pm: Bacteria/Fungi-Organic Matter
5/30/23 -10 am-12 pm: Identify Soil Problems, Gardening Impacts on Soil
6/6/23 – 10 am-12 pm Structural Issues, Soil Testing

Book included with class: "Soil Science for Gardeners: Working with Nature to Build Soil Health" by Robert Pavlis

All classes are scheduled for 2 hours, but may end early depending on participant questions.

All classes are via Zoom. You will be sent the link after you register for the classes.

Fees: With book \$55 Without book \$45

Books can be picked up or shipped. Indicate your preference with your registration information. All books are mailed out a week before classes. Orders made after initial shipping will receive books after classes start.

Pick up location is UF/IFAS Extension Lake County, 1951 Woodlea Road, Tavares, Florida.

For more information contact: Jamie Daugherty at jdaugherty@ufl.edu or JuWanda Rowell at juwanda.rowell@ufl.edu.

June 2, 2023, 12-1 pm FRIDAY IN THE GARDEN: The Summer Vegetable Garden in Florida
Join Seminole County Agent Kaydie McCormick and Lake County Agent Jamie Daugherty as they cover growing an edible garden in this online class.
Register at <https://bit.ly/1frigarden>.

June 17, 2023, 10-11 am SATURDAY IN THE GARDEN: Introduction to the Florida Friendly Principles
Are you new to Florida? Are you having trouble with your landscape? This class introduces the 9 Florida Friendly Landscape Principles and how you can use them in your landscape.
Location: 1951 Woodlea Road, Tavares Cost: \$10
Register on EVENTBRITE

Discovery Gardens

Please plan a visit to over twenty different gardens located at 1951 Woodlea Road in Tavares. The hours are Monday through Friday and the third Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Just like your yard, Discovery Garden changes with the seasons and will reveal something new with each visit.

Classes

CLASSES OFFERED FOR PUBLIC AT LAKE COUNTY LIBRARIES

Check individual library website calendars to verify presentations.

MAY 14, 2023 2-3 PM

Succulents – Free and no registration

Mt. Dora Library

Succulents require minimal care and come in many shapes and sizes. Learn more about these fascinating plants and how to add them to your plant collection.

MAY 16, 2023, 12-1 PM

Butterfly Garden - Free and no registration

Eustis Memorial Library

Learn about planting and managing a butterfly garden in your home garden.

MAY 18, 2023, 5-6 PM

Butterfly Gardening - Free and no registration

Leesburg Library

Learn about planting and managing a butterfly garden in your home garden.

MAY 18, 2023, 2-3 PM

Intro to FFL Principles - Free and no registration

Marianne Beck Library

This class introduces the 9 Florida Friendly Landscape principles and how you can integrate them into your home landscape.

JUNE 11, 2023, 2-3 PM

Tree Pruning for Homeowners - Free and no registration

Mt. Dora Library

Trees are the largest plants in any landscape. It is important to care for them from planting to old age. Learn care for trees during their different growth stages.

JUNE 15, 2023, 2-3 PM

Trees and Hurricanes - Free and no registration

Marianne Beck Library

Preparing trees for a hurricane is a long process and there are many things to consider.

Learn more about planting, pruning, and long term tree management to reduce risk during storm events.

JUNE 15, 2023, 5-6 PM

Trees and Hurricanes – Free and no registration

Leesburg Library

Preparing trees for a hurricane is a long process and there are many things to consider.

Learn more about planting, pruning, and long-term tree management to reduce risk during storm events.

JUNE 20, 2023 12-1 PM

Container Gardening – Free and no registration

Eustis Memorial Library

Create an oasis in your garden or on your balcony. Containers can work in almost any space. Learn what plant work for containers; how to arrange them; and long-term care of them.

Garden of the Month – Waterwise Garden

Congratulations to master gardener volunteer, Cori Osborne, the new garden lead for this garden. He has worked hard to update this garden by removing unwanted plants and adding plants appropriate for this garden. A waterwise garden uses water efficiently by having the right plant in the right place thereby needing less irrigation and by using the most efficient type of irrigation for your landscape and garden. This garden has a display of different types of irrigation methods that demonstrate efficient watering methods.



Micro-bubbler

Micro-spray



Drip Emitter



In-line drip



Master Gardener Volunteer Plant Clinic

Bring your plant, insect, and soil problems to our Plant Clinic for advice Monday and Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The plant clinic is staffed by volunteers. Please call ahead at 352-343-4101 to be sure that someone is in the clinic to assist you with your question.

You may also send photos of your local problems to Jamielyn Daugherty at jdaugherty@ufl.edu or to the plant clinic at lakemg@ifas.ufl.edu.