#### **COME GROW WITH US!**

**NOVEMBER 2025** 

Member of Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (www.ffgc.org) and National Garden Club (www.gardenclub.org)

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE THE 2ND THURSDAY DURING THE MONTHS OF SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY FROM 10:30AM TO 12:30PM - ALSO SOME SATURDAYS TO ACCOMMODATE OUR WORKING MEMBERS - MEETINGS ARE HELD AT NORTHWEST REGIONAL LIBRARY (3151 N UNIVERSITY DR, CORAL SPRINGS) AND FIELD TRIPS ARE HELD AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS - PLEASE SEE THE SCHEDULE IN THE NEWSLETTER AND ALSO ON OUR

#### President's Message

Dear Members,

As we come close to Thanksgiving, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to all our members. Your enthusiasm, creativity, and generosity have made this year truly special for our club. Whether you volunteered at an event, shared your gardening knowledge, contributed plants, or simply attended our meetings with a smile, each of you helped our club bloom in your own way.

It's been a joy to see how our gardens and our friendships, have grown together. The spirit of cooperation and kindness that fills our gatherings is what makes this club such a remarkable community.

As we begin the holiday season, I wish you all peace, joy and time to relax and reflect amid the beauty of nature. May your homes be filled with warmth, your hearts with gratitude, and your gardens with promise for the year ahead. Our annual holiday party is coming up with a chance for us to have fun and socialize. You won't want to miss it! Holiday Party

Thank you for all you do to make our club flourish.

With appreciation and best wishes,

#### **Luanne Betz**

President

# REPLANTING WITH KITCHEN SCRAPS Submitted by Jeri Decker Utilizing Al

In every kitchen, scraps whisper possibilities. The humble carrot top, the stubborn celery rib, and even coffee grounds carry seeds of renewal if we learn to listen. Turning kitchen waste into living greens is not merely a clever trick for saving money; it is a small act of ecological mindfulness that reminds us how connected our food system is to the soil beneath our feet.

First, there is the art of regenerative cuttings. Many vegetables and herbs can regrow from leftovers: green onions sprout new stalks when placed in water, lettuce and kale can regenerate roots from the base, and cilantro often sends fresh shoots with a little moisture and light. The process is a gentle loop of observation and patience—watching for new growth, changing the water, giving the plant light, and coaxing stubborn stems to root. Each successful regrowth reinforces the idea that life persists in tiny, overlooked corners of our kitchens.

Second, thoughtful composting transforms what might seem like waste into nutrient-rich soil. Kitchen scraps—fruit and vegetable peels, eggshells, coffee grounds, and tea leaves—decompose to form humus that nourishes garden beds and potted plants. Composting reduces landfill waste, lowers greenhouse gas emissions, and enriches soil texture and fertility. The key is balancing greens (nitrogen-rich items) with browns (carbon-rich materials), maintaining moisture, and turning the pile to aerate it. Over time, a fragrant, dark, earthy mixture emerges, a reminder that waste can become fertile life.

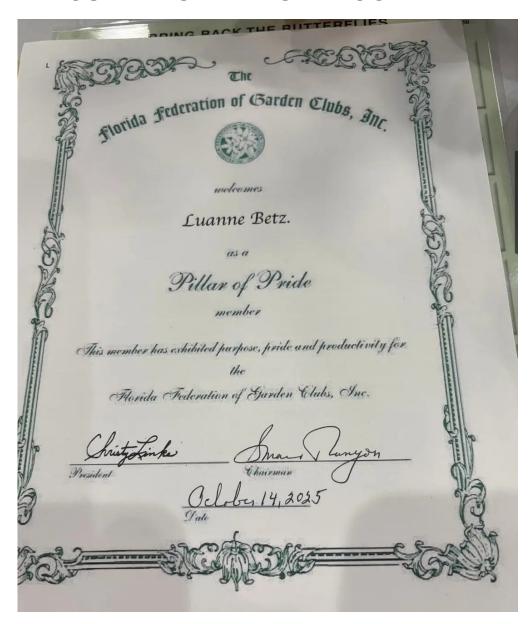
Third, the practice invites a shift in perception from disposable to cyclical. When we see scraps as starting points for new life, we begin to design our meals with reuse in mind: selecting ingredients whose leftovers can propagate, saving napkin-thin stems for regrowth, and keeping a small tray of water or peat pellets ready for a quick rooting session. This mindset reduces waste and deepens our relationship with food, soil, and time—the slow, patient processes that sustain both gardens and kitchens.

Finally, there is a quiet wonder in witnessing growth from the ordinary. A sprouting herb canopy on a sunny windowsill can brighten a room and serve as a reminder that resilience often begins in the simplest places. Each plant that returns to life from a scrap becomes a small ambassador for sustainability, teaching us to value intention, observation, and

stewardship.

In short, using kitchen scraps to grow new plants is a gentle practice with tangible benefits: it diverts waste, enriches soil, and cultivates a sense of connection between what we eat and where it comes from. It is not a grand revolution, but a daily, repeatable act of care—one leaf, one cutting, one compost pile at a time.

#### **OUR PRESIDENT IS RECOGNIZED!**



Our President Luanne Betz was awarded the Pillar of Pride award by the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs for her strategic vision, ensuring robust growth with meticulous financial stewardship. They acknowledged that her leadership cultivates collaboration among members, volunteers, and community partners, fostering a welcoming environment where ideas flourish and projects come to fruition.

As President, Luanne has steered innovative gardening programs, educational outreach and community beautification initiatives that have enhanced the club's visibility and impact. Her clarity in governance, transparent budgeting, and proactive problem-solving have strengthened member engagement and sustained the club's mission. Luanne's passion for horticulture is infectious, inspiring volunteers to dedicate time and expertise to our shared goals.

#### CONGRATULATIONS, LUANNE!

See our annual report presented and photos from the event on the following pages.

# Copy of report presented to FFGC District Meeting 10-14-2025 The Garden Club of Coral Springs

The Garden Club of Coral Springs is proud to have 84 active members who contribute their time, talent, and enthusiasm to the club's ongoing success.

This year, we launched our Seed Exchange Program, located at the Northwest Regional Library. Through the "Little Seed Library," community members can select up to six varieties of seeds, encouraging local gardening and the sharing of plant diversity. We sponsored a camper to attend Wekiva Youth Camp.

Our programs and activities began with two excellent speakers:

- September 11, 2025 *C.J. McCartney*: "Nature-Inspired Landscaping—Wildflower Meadows and Butterflies"
- September 20, 2025 Marsha Eisenberg: "Tomato Growing Culture for South Florida"
- Members also enjoyed a field trip to the Marine Environmental Education Center at the Carpenter House.

Upcoming events include:

- November 1, 2025 *Taryn Palo*, "Wicked Plants," followed by a *Trash-to-Treasure Exchange*
- A field trip to the Solid Waste Authority Recycling Plant
- Our annual Holiday Party at Galuppi's, featuring a hospital toy drive and gift exchange.

Members continue to dedicate their efforts to maintaining and beautifying our community through ongoing projects:

- Cultivating the Pollinator Garden at Veterans Park and the Blue Star Memorial
- Volunteering at the Community Garden
- Weeding and painting at the Sawgrass Nature Center
- Native garden planting at Whispering Woods Park (supported by NGC grant funding).

The club also celebrates community pride through the Yard of the Month Program, which recognizes outstanding local landscapes. Nominees are visited and evaluated by members, and winners receive a certificate and yard sign. Their achievements are proudly featured on our social media pages.

Throughout the year, we support various collection drives for Towels, Pull Tabs, American Flags, Eyeglasses, Corks, and the *Plant a Tree* initiative—each benefiting a worthy cause.

We also take great pride in recognizing our members' contributions through the Golden Bee Award, presented monthly for outstanding service, and the Queen Bee Pin, awarded to those who achieve their participation goals.

Respectfully submitted,

Luanne Betz
President
The Garden Club of Coral Springs

#### OUR MEMBERS AT THE DISTRICT MEETING



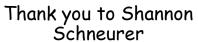
Luanne accepts her award with Jeri Decker looking on.



Deb Strong and Steve Braska



Debbie Weatherly, Carol Johnson and Luanne







#### GUIDANCE ON PREPARING SEEDS Submitted by Jeri Decker Utilizing AI

#### Seed selection and quality

Choose fresh, disease-free seeds from reputable sources. Check for uniform size and weight, as uneven seeds can indicate weak viability.

Inspect seeds for damage, mold, or onion-like odor (which can indicate spoilage). Discard any suspicious lot.

#### Initial cleaning and sorting

Remove debris, chaff, and oversized or undersized seeds. For delicate seeds, use a fine sieve or gentle air blow to separate impurities.

If seeds are very dusty or coated with soil, rinse them briefly with cool water and let them dry completely in a well-ventilated area away from direct sunlight.

#### Viability testing

Paper towel germination test: Moisten a few sheets of absorbent paper towel, place 10-20 seeds on the towel, fold, seal in a plastic bag, and keep at the appropriate warm temperature.

Check daily for 7-14 days (or as specified for the species). A germination rate below your target (often 70-90%) means you may need to adjust expectations, stratify, or source fresh seeds.

Simple float test (not always reliable): Place seeds in water; viable seeds typically sink. Note that some viable seeds may float, so use as a rough guide rather than a definitive test.

#### Pre-sowing treatments (species-specific)

Scarification: For hard-coated seeds (peppers, beans, some legumes), gently nick or abrade the seed coat to improve water uptake.

Soaking: Many seeds benefit from soaking 4-24 hours in lukewarm water to speed germination. Some seeds require only a few hours; others can rot if soaked too long.

Stratification: Temperate seeds (e.g. many perennials and trees) may need cold stratification (2-12 weeks in a fridge) to break dormancy. Maintain consistent cool temperature and moist medium.

Fermentation or cleaning for edible seeds: Some seeds, such as corn or beans, may require fermentation or thorough washing to remove natural inhibitors; follow trusted species-specific guides.

#### Drying and storage

After cleaning and any treatments, dry seeds to a uniform moisture level. Avoid leaving seeds damp or moldy.

Store seeds in airtight containers in a cool, dry, and dark place. Label with species, cultivar, lot number, date, and any treatment notes.

For long-term storage, use desiccants (silica gel or clay) to maintain low humidity and consider freezing or refrigeration for some seeds that tolerate it, while some seeds may require dry, cold storage but not freezing.

Continued on next page

#### Labeling and documentation

Keep a seed ledger: species, variety, source, harvest date, viability test results, and recommended sowing guidelines.

Maintain a sowing calendar aligned with your climate, so you know when to plant indoors before the last frost or direct-sow outdoors.

#### Sowing preparation and depth

Research species-specific sowing depth and spacing. As a rule of thumb, many small seeds are sown near the surface, while larger seeds may need a depth of 1-2 times their diameter.

Use clean trays, pots, or seed flats with drainage holes. Fill medium to a suitable depth and firm lightly to ensure good seed-to-soil contact.

For heat-loving crops, pre-warm the growing medium and use a propagation mat or warm location. For cool-season crops, provide cooler starting conditions.

#### Germination environment

Temperature: Align with species requirements (e.g. 65-75°F / 18-24°C for many vegetables; cooler for some herbs).

Light: Some seeds require light to germinate (surface-sown), while others germinate best in darkness (lightly covered or shaded).

Moisture: Use a moistened medium, not soaking wet. Maintain consistent humidity to prevent desiccation or mold.

Airflow: Provide gentle air circulation to reduce fungal issues without drying out the medium.

#### Post-germination care

Once seedlings emerge, provide bright light and gradually acclimate to outdoor conditions if plan is transplanting (hardening off).

Water carefully to avoid damping-off disease; use clean water and avoid overhead wetting of stems at night.

Monitor for pests and diseases and address promptly.

#### Common mistakes to avoid

Skipping viability testing and sowing unreliable lots.

Over or under-watering during germination.

Applying incorrect scarification or stratification without species-specific guidance. Storing seeds in hot, humid conditions or for too long, which reduces germination rates.



About our Speaker: Carol Rizkalla PhD, came to Florida for an internship at Disney's Animal Kingdom in 1999. She left for graduate school, earning a PhD in Wildlife Ecology from Purdue University, but Florida is home now. She joined the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in West Palm Beach in 2012 and served in a variety of roles in species and land management. In 2022, she became the Panther Management Program Coordinator and moved to Naples. Her responsibilities include administration of panther staff, budgets, contracts, and activities. she gets into the field every once in a while, to assist research staff with fun stuff.

How to Register for this free webinar
Click on line below
FFGC Garden Club Members Registration



You will be sent a Zoom Webinar link the day before the webinar.

# The FFGC Registration for the Convention is now open.

Check out the fun Workshops! www.ffgc.org

Register online today in 5 minutes and get free self parking once you register.

# FFGC CONVENTION

Registration is now open!



APRIL 14-17, 2026
Embassy Suites Orlando by Hilton
Lake Buena Vista South, Fl.
State Flower Show - "Once Upon a Time"

#### **IMPORTANT**

If you wear your name tag to meetings and events, you'll have the chance to enter a drawing to win a beautiful handmade fused glass pendant. It's a simple way to show your participation and engagement, and who knows—you might be the lucky winner of this unique and stunning piece of jewelry. Don't forget to wear your name tag for your chance to win!

Order a Garden Club Tee Shirt, \$15.00.



Polo shirts white for men , pink for ladies. \$25.00 One tee shirt is given to new members who work the garden fest. Anyone who previously received a shirt will need to purchase if they want an additional tee shirt. Contact Ken 954-913-1617



We still have patches available for purchase that you can sew or iron onto a **pink** blouse, tee, hoodie, hat or garment of your choice.

Depending on your level of giving, you may be entitled to one for free. However, they are only \$5 each so it may be fun to get more than one for style flexibility! Please contact Mary Anne at mimi0113@gmail.com to purchase/pick up.

# THE GARDEN CLUB OF CORAL SPRINGS YARD OF THE MONTH BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT



Please help us acknowledge the beautiful yards and gardens in our community of Coral Springs and surrounding areas. We are fortunate to be able to garden year-round due to our semi-tropical climate.

If you, or someone you know, would like to be nominated for our

Yard of the Month Award

contact

gardenclubs2020@yahoo.com
with name and address of property to be nominated

HAPPY GARDENING!!

#### YARD OF THE MONTH GUIDELINES

Nominations are made by members. PLEASE review the following rules and keep this in mind as you drive around our area.

Yard of the Month guidelines were determined by Ken, Mary Anne, Carol J, Nancy D, Casey and Jeri.

Nominations for Yard of the Month are for the front and back yards.

Areas covered are Coral Springs, Parkland, Tamarac, Coconut Creek, and Margate.

Anyone can nominate a yard to the club, even yourself. This nomination is sent to gardenclubs2020@yahoo.com.

No patios or condos are considered.

Pictures of said nominations are sent for approval and a google earth search is completed by Jeri.

Jeri will send photos of the nominations to the committee, but everyone wins unless the yard is not suitable.

After the nominations are approved, Ken or Jeri will call and set up an appointment around the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.

Emails are then sent to the committee for presentation of the sign with a date, time and addresses of the winners. The garden is then visited by the committee and/or other club members and the sign is presented along with a laminated certificate.

Mary Anne makes up the certificate and there are 4 signs.

Nancy photographs the yard during the visit and then a collage is made and put on Facebook. Photos from Facebook are then sent to Mary Anne and Dotty to be added to the newsletter. Yard of the Month winners will also be uploaded to the club's web site.

Thirty days after placing the sign in the yards, they are picked up and taken to the next winners by various committee members.

Any exceptions to the above guidelines are to be determined by the committee.

Congratulations to Ed Huber for being our October Yard of the Month. We had an incredible adventure touring his tropical paradise; absolutely breathtaking. Ed created the cascading falls and exotic landscaping himself. He is the owner, creator, and designer of his company, Waterfallpools.com. 954-340-8500



#### The Garden Club of Coral Springs Schedule of Events 2025-2026 Meetings are held at Northwest Regional Library in Coral Springs (Events and Speakers are subject to change.)

DATE	<u>EVENT</u>
November 1 (Saturday)	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM - Meeting with a presentation by Taryn Palo of Wicked Plants - Trash to Treasure
November 13 Thursday	1 to 3 PM - Field Trip to SWA Recycling Plant
December 13 (Saturday)	11:30 AM to 2:30 PM Holiday Party at Galluppi's, Pompano Beach
January 8 (Thursday)	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM - Meeting with a presentation by Paul Kragh from Project Perch
February 7 (Saturday)	Field Trip to Paradise Palms Botanical & Sculpture
February 12 (Thursday)	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM - Make 'n' Take with Jill Kareff and Gail Gauthier (Flowers in Books) - Trash to Treasure
March 12 (Thursday)	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM - Meeting with a presentation by Doug Young - Plants for Birds
April 9 (Thursday)	10 AM Field trip to Jesse Durko
April 18 (Saturday)	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM - Meeting with a presentation by Ashley Cocherham - Stream to Sea
May 9 (Saturday)	Field Trip to Wahoo Bay & Tour Old Pompano
May 14 (Thursday)	Scholarship Luncheon - place to be determined

If you have a wonderful place to recommend for a field trip or a guest speaker you think we would all enjoy and learn from, please feel free to contact Debbie Strong with your suggestion at deb.bob@outlook.com.

We plant and maintain a vegetable garden at Sawgrass Nature Center & Wildlife Hospital to help feed the animals.

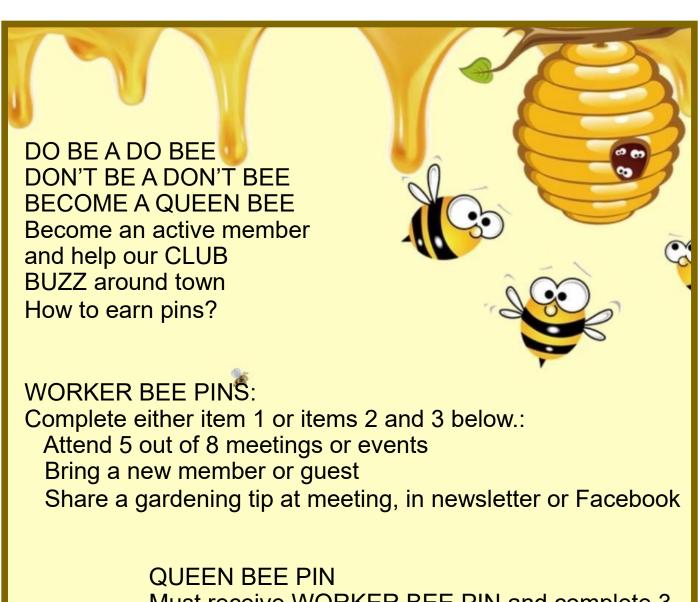
We planted and maintain a native garden at Whispering Woods Park.

We planted and maintain a Florida friendly garden at Veteran's Park in Coral Springs.

We will be hosting a series at Northwest Regional Library "Color Your World with Plants".

We have a plot in the Community Garden of Coral Springs to grow vegetables and flowers.

PLEASE CONTACT LUANNEBETZ@GMAIL.COM TO VOLUNTEER FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE.



Must receive WORKER BEE PIN and complete 3 items from below:

Attend an additional meeting or event Volunteer at least 1 hour at the EarthFest Booth Help Youth Groups assemble kits or presentation

Help with gardens at Veterans, Community, Sawgrass Nature Center or Whispering Pines





### What to Plant

<u>Annuals/Perennials/Wildflowers:</u> Create a display of fall colors with cool-season plants. Some examples include impatiens, verbena, petunia, salvia, and cape daisy.

<u>Herbs:</u> Continue planting herbs from seeds or plants. Some herbs that prefer the cooler, dryer weather include cilantro, dill, fennel, parsley, sage, and thyme.

https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/herbs

<u>Vegetables:</u> Lots of choices exist for November, including beans, broccoli, kale, snow/English peas, and strawberries.

https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/vegetable\_gardening

# What to Do

<u>Frangipani/Plumeria Rust:</u> This disease causes yellow spots and premature leaf drop but does not affect the long-term health of the plant. Removing, raking, and disposing of infected leaves may slow the infection.

<u>Perennials:</u> Divide and replant overgrown perennials now so that they establish before the coolest weather arrives.

<u>Lawns:</u> As temperatures cool, watch for lawn diseases. Cultural practices such as reducing nitrogen fertilizer and irrigation are key to managing Large Patch disease. Lethal Viral Necrosis (LVN), a virus disease of St. Augustinegrass, begins to appear when the temperature dips to 65°F and below.

<u>Scale insects:</u> Take advantage of lower temperatures to apply horticultural oil sprays to control scale insects.

https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/lawn-garden-pest-management

Irrigation: Turn off systems and water only if needed. Plants need less supplemental watering in cooler weather.

https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/lawn and garden care irrigation





CAROLINE STEFFEN 11/04

BLANCA SANCHEZ 11/07

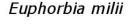
PILAR LONDONO 11/20

LES CORBIN 11/29





## Crown of Thorns





<u>Crown of thorns</u> likes it hot, dry and sunny - making it a perfect plant for spots where nothing else wants to grow. One of South Florida's most drought-tolerant plants, it flowers nearly year round.

<u>Crown of Thorns</u> is a perennial succulent that produces small, colorful flowers almost year-round in **Zone 10**. Known for its thorny stems and vibrant bracts, it's both drought- and heat-tolerant, making it a reliable bloomer. It's often used in rock gardens, containers, or sunny borders.

Containers work fine as long as the plants get plenty of sunlight and are allowed to dry out between waterings.

Like many succulents, this plant's stems contain a milky sap - avoid the stickiness (and the thorns, too) by wearing gloves anytime you trim.

Thorns are "softer" in the morning, according to one grower, so that's a better time to handle the plant.

Color choices run the gamut from the typical red to yellow, pink, salmon, and creamy white.











Gardening is the slowest of the performing arts



















# WEB SITES FOR MORE INFORMATION:

#### UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA:

http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/ Native aquatic and wetland plants in Florida

#### http://florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Pattern Book: http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FFL\_Book\_Zone\_10\_08161 0.pdf

Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Plant Selection Guide: http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FYN\_Plant\_Selection\_Guide \_v090110.pdf

#### NATIVES FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD-SOUTH FLORIDA

#### http://regionalconservation.org/beta/nfyn

Find out how to turn simple gardening into habitat restoration by using plants native to your specific area

#### http://www.plantfinder.com

http://www.floridanativenurseries.org

http://www.fngla.org/

www.floridata.com

http://flawildflowers.org

#### SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT:

www.sfwmd.gov

#### PUBLISHERS:

http://upf.com (the scholarly publishing arm of the State University System of Florida)

http://www.pineapplepress.com/

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#### NATIVE PLANT & OTHER BOOKS:

NATIVE FLORIDA PLANTS, Revised Edition

Robert G. Haehle & Joan Brookwell (Amazon.com, Borders, Barnes & Noble carry this)

A GARDENER'S GUIDE TO FLORIDA'S NATIVE PLANTS Rufino Osorio, University Press of Florida

#### FLORIDA'S BEST NATIVE LANDSCAPE PLANTS

Gil Nelson, University Press of Florida

#### THE GUIDE TO FLORIDA WILDFLOWERS

Walter Kingsley Taylor/ the book is color coded—very useful (Amazon and possible Barnes & Noble)

FLORIDA WILDFLOWERS: A Comprehensive Guide
This is the 2013 update from Walter Kingsley Taylor and

This is the 2013 update from Walter Kingsley Taylor and Includes the newest scientific information about Florida's wildflowers. (Amazon and possible Barnes & Noble)

#### **EVERGLADES WILDFLOWERS**

Color coded. A great field guide Roger L. Hammer, The Globe Pequot Press

#### FLORIDA KEYS WILDFLOWERS

Color coded—companion to **Everglades Wildflowers** Roger L. Hammer, The Globe Pequot Press

#### ATTRACTING HUMMINBIRDS & BUTTERFLIES IN TROPICAL FLORIDA

Roger L. Hammer, University Press of Florida

#### NATIVE PLANT LANDSCAPING FOR FLORIDA WILDLIFE

Very well written and informative, Craig N. Huegel, University Press of Florida

#### NATIVE FLORIDA PLANTS FOR SHADY LANDSCAPES

Craig N. Huegel, University Press of Florida

#### **BRINGING NATURE HOME**

How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife In Our Gardens Douglas Tallamy: Timber Press

#### FLORIDA GARDENER'S GUIDE (REVISED EDITION)

Tom MacCubbin & Georgia Tasker

Cool Springs Press/ http://coolspringspress.com

#### NATIVE BROMELIADS OF FLORIDA

Harry E. Luther & David H. Benzing, Pineapple Press, Inc.

#### WILD ORCHIDS OF FLORIDA

Paul Martin Brown/A more compact update & field guide of the work of Carlyle A. Luer , University Press of Florida

#### FLORIDA'S FABULOUS BUTTERFLIES

Includes special chapter on moths &

FLORIDA'S FABULOUS INSECTS

2 separate oversize publications in the FLORIDA FABULOUS series. WORLD PUBLICATIONS/ www.allfloridabooks.com

#### FLORIDA BUTTERFLY GARDENING

Marc C. Minno & Maria Minno University Press of Florida

#### ATTRACTING BENEFICIAL BUGS TO YOUR GARDEN

Jessica Walliser: Timber Press

#### ATTRACTING NATIVE POLLINATORS

Protecting North America's Bees & Butterflies The Xerces Society: Storey Publishing

#### ATTRACTING BIRDS TO SOUTH FLORIDA GARDENS

James A. Kushlan & Kirsten Hines www.kirstenNatureTravel/publications

#### THE BOOKS OF PAMELA CRAWFORD:

http://pamela-crawford.com/pamela-crawfordsbooks/

#### A Garden Diary:

A Guide to Gardening in South Florida ©

by Robert G. Haehle and M.E. DePalma De Palma Enterprises

#### THE HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA NEW ENCYLOPEDIA OF HERBS & THEIR USES

The Definitive Guide to the Identification, Cultivation and uses of Herbs Deni Bown: Dorling Kindersley Publishing Staff