

www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast

The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.



Volume 19 Number 8

August 2002

August 21

**ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
by David Conner**

Such modern amenities as air conditioning and the use of pesticides have made Florida so friendly to human habitation as to bring about an enormous explosion of growth and development. Unfortunately, our economic well being now seems to depend on the consumption of the very landscape that has drawn so many people to our state.

In his presentation at our August meeting, David Conner will examine the reasons for so much destructive development and the difficulty of changing that trend. He will address such questions as: Why is it so hard to do what seems to make good sense? What can be done to lessen the impact of development on our environment and natural resources? Is neo-traditional housing the answer, and what are some successes and failures of recent attempts to challenge standard methods of development? How can native plants be used in traditional landscape settings? David will show slides of some of his projects to support these issues.

David Conner's landscape architectural design firm, David Conner and Associates, specializes in the creation of environmentally sensitive design solutions. David is credited with the landscape architectural design for such notable central Florida projects as the Ice Palace Arena, The Tampa Convention Center Park, and the Main Street Streetscape Improvements for Safety Harbor. His design for Phase II of the Orange County Convention and Civic Center in Orlando received an award for its environmentally sensitive approach.

Current and past projects of David's firm include Cancer Survivors Plaza in Tampa, Franklin Street Mall, Betty Castor Residence Hall and Argos Quad, USF, Munroe Regional Medical Center in Ocala, and Timber Pines Center in Hernando County.

-- Contributed by Harriett Wright

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Message from the Chair

On July 27, I attended the first ever Florida Native Plant Society Advocacy and Leadership Retreat in Gainesville. The purpose of the retreat was to discuss how the FNPS can become a more effective advocacy force for native plant conservation and environmental landscaping.

Representatives from the Sierra Club and the Florida PTA gave presentations about developing positions on issues and tips for effective communications with legislators. In the afternoon there were several breakout sessions for brainstorming about publicity, education, conservation, science, membership, and advocacy. The Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of the state organization will compile the information from the retreat and make it available to statewide members, probably on the FNPS web site.

If you are interested in learning more about the changes being discussed at the state level, please contact Kim Zarillo, FNPS president or other members of the state board. Contact information is at www.fnps.org or check a recent issue of the Palmetto for telephone numbers. The state Board will likely develop a questionnaire to ask your opinion about possible changes in our organization. It is important that your voice is heard by the state Board.

George Kish

Programs for Suncoast Chapter Meetings in 2002

By Harriett Wright and Dick Wunderlin

Aug 21 Project Planning Using Natural Landscaping by David Connor

Sep 18 Botanical Latin (or how to sound like a Roman when describing plants) by Mark Garland

Oct 16 Come Into My Parlor – Spiders of Florida by Francia Smith

Nov 20 Principles of landscaping with native plants by Bill and Nancy Bissett

Florida Native Plant Society Membership Application

Membership in the Florida Native Plant Society enables you to receive their wonderful quarterly magazine The Palmetto. Joining the FNPS also entitles you to membership privileges in the Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. and a subscription to their monthly newsletter *The Suncoast Grapevine*. Contact the membership chair, George Kish at (813) 920-0853.

Detach and mail to: Suncoast Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 82893, Tampa, FL 33682-2893

Name _____

Business name
or organization _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Home telephone _____ Work
telephone _____ telephone _____

E-mail and/or FAX _____

New Member

Renewal

Check pertinent category:

Individual \$25

Full time student \$15

Library subscription \$15

Family or household \$30

Contributing \$40

Donor \$250

Not-for-profit

organization \$50

Business or

corporate \$100

Supporting \$100

Make check payable to **FNPS**.

Suncoast Calendar

August 13, 7 p.m. Florida's Hummingbirds by Kristin Wood. Learn through slides about the natural history of Florida's hummingbird species and how to attract them to your yard. Chinsegut Nature Center, Brooksville. Call 352-754-6722 for information.

August 17 Orchids: Repotting and Dividing with Ryan K from Live Oak Orchids at the USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

August 21, 7 p.m. Environmentally Sensitive Landscape Architectural Design by David Connor. Suncoast chapter monthly meeting at the USF Westside Conference Center.

August 24 Plant Buying Trip to Environmental Equities. Call George Kish at 813-920-0853 for information.

August 24 Succulents by Robert Arias from Armenia Nursery, Central Florida Cactus and Succulent Society at the USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

Aug 31-Sep 1 8th Annual Cactus and Succulent Society Sale, Show, and Auction at the USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

September 4 Sea Grasses by Barbara Hoffman. Pinellas chapter, FNPS monthly meeting. Call 727-544-7341 for information and meeting location.

September 7 Field Trip for Snorkeling at Sunset Park. Leader, Barbara Hoffman. Pinellas chapter, FNPS. Call 727-544-7341 for information.

September 13-14 Gesneriads at the USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

Sep 18, 7 p.m. Botanical Latin by Mark Garland. Suncoast chapter monthly meeting at the USF Westside Conference Center.

September 21 All About Cattleya Orchids by Ryan K, Live Oak Orchids at the USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

September 28 Mounting Bromeliads by Tom Wolfe at the USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

September 26-29 Florida Birding Festival and Nature Expo. Eckerd College, St. Petersburg. For further information, call 800-822-6461 or visit the web site www.pcef.org.

October 13-14 Fall Plant Festival at the USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

October 16, 7 p.m. Come Into My Parlor – Spiders of Florida by Francia Smith. Suncoast chapter monthly meeting at the Learning Gate School.

October 19 Railroading in Your Garden by Stanley Kotes at the USF Botanical Garden. Call 813-974-2329 for information.

Hillsborough County Master Gardener Plant Clinics. Call 813-744-5519 x144 for information about locations or visit the website: hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu/calendar.htm. Upcoming clinics:

August 15 - Landscape Design Game

August 17 - Rain Barrel/Water Wise Workshops

August 24 - Rain Barrel/Water Wise Workshops

Note: Events in bold are presented by the SNPS.

Plant ID Workshop

Thanks to the efforts of Betty Wargo and Dick Wunderlin, the chapter will be starting a series of Saturday morning plant identification workshops at Lettuce Lake Park. The first workshop will be in October or November - date to be determined. Dr. Wunderlin will conduct the first workshop. If you are interested in assisting with future workshops, please contact Betty, Dick, or George Kish. Detailed information about registration and content of the workshop will be provided in the September newsletter.

Plant Buying Trip to Environmental Equities

Saturday, August 24, 2002
Starting at 9 am.

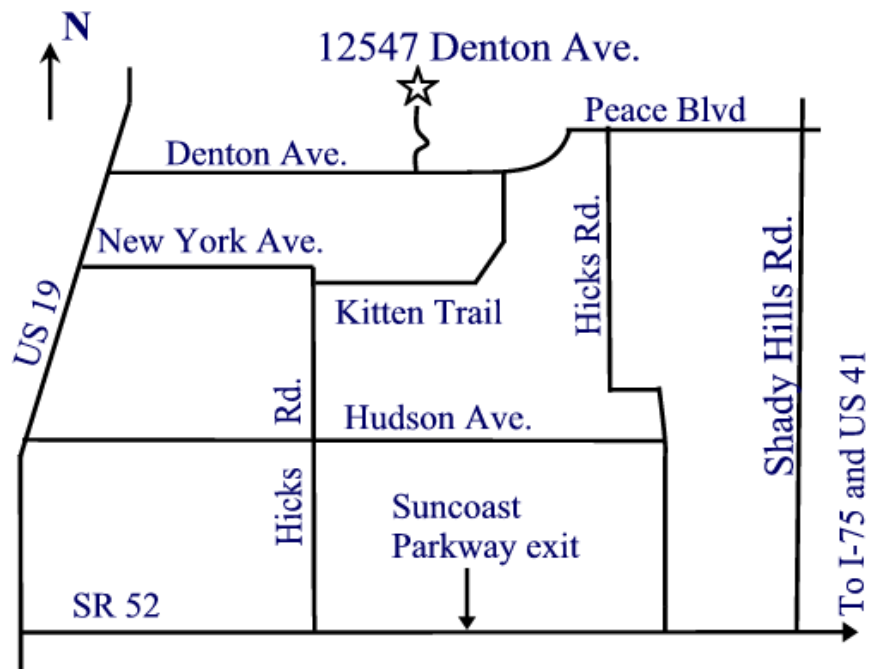
Environmental Equities, Inc.
12547 Denton Avenue
Hudson, Florida
Telephone: 727-992-8905

Choose from a large selection of native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, ground covers, and vines.

Directions: From Tampa, travel north on US 41 to SR 52. Turn left (west) onto SR 52. Turn right (north) on Shady Hills Road. Travel about 3.5 miles on Shady Hills Road to Peace Blvd. Turn left (west) on Peace Blvd. Travel west on Peace Blvd. for about 3.5 miles (Peace Blvd. becomes Denton Ave.) past Kitten Trail (on left). Environmental Equities is the fourth gate on the right after Kitten Trail. Watch for the Environmental Equities sign on the right.

From the Suncoast Highway, travel north to the SR 52 exit (Please Note: **approximate** location of exit is shown on the map). At the end of the exit ramp, turn right (east) on SR 52. Travel east on SR 52 to Shady Hills Road and turn left (north). Travel about 3.5 miles on Shady Hills Road to Peace Blvd. Turn left (west) on Peace Blvd. Travel west on Peace Blvd. about 3.5 miles (Peace Blvd. becomes Denton Ave.) past Kitten Trail (on left). Environmental Equities is the fourth gate on the right after Kitten Trail. Watch for the Environmental Equities sign on the right.

From US 19 and SR 52, travel north on US 19 for about 4.8 miles. Turn right (east) at Denton Ave. Travel east on Denton Ave. for about 3.6 miles to nursery on the left. Watch for the Environmental Equities sign on the left.



Source of Melaleuca and Eucalyptus Mulch

Shirley Brown announces that she has been instrumental in convincing the Cypress Creek Landscaping Company to carry both Melaleuca and Eucalyptus mulch. Both come in 2 cu.ft. bags; Melaleuca mulch is \$2.75 a bag and Eucalyptus mulch is \$3.45 a bag. She found the supplier over the internet and when he explained his minimums, she called her friends at Cypress Creek. If you want to take a look at it, give Shirley a call at 977-0454 or call Cypress Creek at 933-7944.



The Florida Native Plant Society was organized in 1980 to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

PLANT PROFILE

Common name: Railroad vine

Botanical name: *Ipomoea pes-caprae* (L.) R. Brown *subsp.*

Brasiliensis (L.) Ooststroom

Family: Convolvulaceae
(Morning Glory)

Type of plant: Sprawling vine

Size: 6 inches (h) by 6-12 feet
(long)

Leaves: Alternate, glabrous,
kidney-shaped, notched at apex.

Flower: Large, rosy-purple,
solitary, funnel-shaped corolla,
unequal sepals, 5 stamens.

Flowering time: May to
November

Fruit: Capsule with 4 large seeds

Stem: Thick, contains white sap.

Habitat/distribution: Beach dunes, coastal grasslands; zones 8B-11.

Landscape use: Ground cover; dune stabilization.

Cultivation:

Soil: Sandy, well-drained.

Light: Full sun.

Water: Dry.

Propagation: By seed (scarify); cuttings.

Availability: Some native plant nurseries.

Comments: Evergreen; may freeze back to ground in winter, but grows back quickly; spreads quickly from rhizomes; vigorous growth with elongated, crawlind stems that grow in a straight line.

References:

Osorio, Rufino, 2001, *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants*: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 345 p.

Taylor, Walter Kingsley, 1998, *Florida Wildflowers in Their Natural Communities*: University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 370 p.

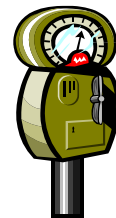
Information compiled by George Kish

Original photograph by Betty Wargo



USF Parking Permit Required for Chapter Meetings

Parking permits are required - USF security is enforcing parking rules. Parking permits are \$2.00 and may be purchased at the main entrance to USF or at permit machines located along the west side of the School of Public Health Building.



Directory

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Newsletter editor

George Kish 920-0853

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Harriett Wright 908-9398

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Lucy Hoyt 960-3178

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Betsy Davis 973-8524

Book Sales

Sally Sun 935-1312

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for the next issue:

September 25

Please send articles and original artwork for The Suncoast Grapevine to the editor, George Kish, by the **deadline** of each month (earlier, please, if not typed). Text should be in MS Word; graphics should be in a standard graphic format. Previously published artwork should be accompanied by a letter of permission from the original publisher.

Mail:..... SNPS, Inc.
P.O. Box 82893
Tampa, FL 33682-2893

Email:...gkish@tampabay.rr.com

Meeting Location

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc. meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Westside Conference Center, first floor, located on the USF campus at Banyan & Cypress. Entrance is at the north end of the building.



SNPS Address

The main address for communication is:

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 82893
Tampa, FL 33682-2893

Any correspondence sent to this address will be forwarded to the appropriate officer or committee member.

The SNPS web address is:

www.fnps.org/chapters/suncoast

Grapevine Subscription

You may subscribe to the Suncoast Grapevine (not including membership in the SNPS or the FNPS) for \$10 per year. Contact George Kish at 920-0853.

Stamp

Please deliver to: