

# The April 2018 Newsletter Gardens Gate



Port St. Lucie  
Botanical Gardens



## MAYOR'S TREE CHALLENGE: #iPLANT...

It's a simple and easy way to improve property values, beautify neighborhoods, cut cooling and heating costs and protect the environment: Plant a tree!

The City of Port St. Lucie on Jan. 23 was named a 2017 Tree City USA for the 13th year for its commitment to fostering the vital role that properly maintained trees play in keeping Port St. Lucie green and beautiful. Port St. Lucie's mayor is asking all residents and local businesses to take our designation as a Tree City USA and help it grow this year.

Mayor Greg Oravec has issued a challenge for the City to plant 185,000 trees in 2018 – that's one tree for every resident in the City.

Mayor Oravec explains why? "As we strive to realize our vision for our community, that Port St. Lucie is a safe, beautiful and prosperous city for all people—your hometown, it's important for us to remember that our success won't be the result of perfect solutions and flashy multimillion dollar projects. It will be the result of sound fundamentals and getting the little things right; of working

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## Reminder

**EARTH DAY LADYBUG LAUNCH**  
**SUNDAY • APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>**  
**2:00 - 4:00 PM**





2410 SE Westmoreland Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952  
Phone: 772.337.1959  
Fax: 772.237.5952  
E-mail: [info@pslbotanicalgardens.org](mailto:info@pslbotanicalgardens.org)  
Web: [www.pslbg.org](http://www.pslbg.org)  
Hours: Wednesday - Saturday 10am - 4pm  
Sunday Noon - 4pm  
Closed Monday, Tuesday & Holidays

Suggested Donations:  
Adults \$5  
Students \$2  
Children 12 & Under Welcome  
Free for FPSLBG Members and  
Active Military with family (IDs required)

### Mission Statement . . .

Friends' mission is to create and maintain a beautiful, serene sanctuary in the center of Port St. Lucie that is environmentally sound and naturally diverse and to provide educational, cultural and recreational opportunities for all who visit.

### Officers & Directors . . .

President: Joleen King  
Vice President: Brenda Gustafson  
Secretary: Judy Nash-Wade  
Treasurer: Claire Clark  
Directors: Mike Alexander  
Jeff Chambers  
Melinda DeMarco  
Jeffrey Policar  
Glenn Ryals  
Tim Sutton  
Joe Wojcik

### Standing Committee Chairs . . .

Election Committee: Stephanie  
Alessandrini-Giarraffa  
Finance Committee: Claire Clark  
Gift Shop Committee: Mike Alexander  
Horticulture Committee: Brenda Gustafson  
Membership & Volunteer  
Committee: Jeff Chambers  
Resource Development  
Committee: Melinda DeMarco  
Strategic Planning Committee: Glenn Ryals

### Newsletter...

Editor: Judy Nash-Wade  
Design: Mark Barnes

The Gardens is managed and operated by Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) public charity organization, that was founded to help support the daily operations of The Gardens. Friends volunteers provide hands-on daily oversight of the facility, including staffing to handle the many visitors year round. Please consider becoming a member of Friends. Friends' is a 100% volunteer organization. In all cases, donations are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

Spring! While the arrival of Spring in South Florida is a subtle awakening of our trees and wildlife, lacking in some of the spectacular shows of green and color that many of us remember from "back up north", our Tropical Spring is very much here. There is an increase in bird song and the oak trees are breaking out in bright, healthy green. While the pollen accumulation on cars and screens can be troublesome and inconvenient, it's part of the passage of the seasons.



April in the Gardens brings two of our most anticipated children's' events: the Kids' Fishing Tournament on Saturday, April 7, hosted by the PSL Anglers Club, and second, our 'Ladybug Launch' on Earth Day, April 22 (Sunday). Both events are great fun – Consider joining us!

**Joleen King**  
President

# VIDEO OF THE MONTH

**FORT PIERCE**  
**JAZZ & BLUES AT**  
**BOTANICA 2018**

hard, working smart and working together; and of remembering that something as simple as a tree planting drive can make the world and our city a markedly better place.

There are thousands of reasons to love and plant trees. They give us clean air to breathe, moderate temperatures, cut cooling costs, provide habitat and food for wildlife, and so much more. Research has shown that the planting of trees is one of the most cost-effective investments we can make to improve the value of our homes, businesses and communities and that the mere presence of trees helps recuperating surgical patients recover faster.

In a time when we are so focused on saving our Rivers and the state and federal government are spending billions of dollars to fix Florida's stormwater system, I think it's important to point out that large shade trees can absorb 30% of rainfall through their leaves and another 30% through their roots, meaning that most of the rain that hits a large shade tree never runs off to pick up and then carry pollutants into our St. Lucie River or Indian River Lagoon.

Imagine that Port St. Lucie—we can create a safer, healthier, more beautiful, valuable, natural city, while saving money and our Rivers, all through the simple act of planting a tree. If you can imagine it, you can do it, and I hope you will answer the Tree Challenge by planting at least one tree for everyone in your household and mobilizing others to do the same. Together, we will make Port St. Lucie, and our world, a better place. "


So let's all do our part and **PLANT A TREE!**

**Watch the  
Mayor's Tree Challenge**

**Video Here** 

**[City of PSL #iPLANT](#)**



  
"A City for All Ages"

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton, who would later serve as the third United States Secretary of Agriculture, proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

**WHEREAS**, this day, called "Arbor Day", was first set for April 10, 1872, and celebrated with the planting of more than one million trees in Nebraska; and

**WHEREAS**, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world on different days according to planting schedules; and

**WHEREAS**, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and beauty in our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, studies show that trees can improve the value of property between 10 and 25 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, trees can absorb the first 30 percent of most rainfall events through their leaf system and can retain another 30 percent through their root system, keeping stormwater out of our St. Lucie River; and


**WHEREAS**, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

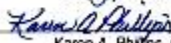
**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Gregory J. Cravec, Mayor of the City of Port St. Lucie, Florida, do hereby proclaim that January 19, 2018, be observed as:


**Arbor Day**

in Port St. Lucie, Florida, and ask our citizens to commemorate the day by planting a new tree.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Port St. Lucie, Florida, to be affixed, this nineteenth day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eighteen.

  
Gregory J. Cravec, Mayor

  
Karen A. Phillips, City Clerk



# BILLION STEP CHALLENGE

## WALK IN THE PORT ST. LUCIE BOTANICAL GARDENS!

Walk With Us!!!



The City of Port St. Lucie is encouraging all residents, neighbors, and community members to take on the Billion Step Challenge by signing up at [www.healthystlucie.walkertracker.com](http://www.healthystlucie.walkertracker.com).

In January, Mayor Gregory J. Oravec proclaimed that 2018 was to be the year of the Billion Step Challenge and called upon Port St. Lucie to help collectively take a billion steps or more as part of an active exercise program that lives up to our nation's standards for physical fitness.

The challenge will run through December 31, 2018 and is in support of strategies identified in the 2016-2019 Community Health Improvement Plan, overseen by the Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County.

The [www.healthystlucie.walkertracker.com](http://www.healthystlucie.walkertracker.com) allows you to join an existing team like **"Botanical Gardeners"** or to form your own and link your smart phone or Fitbit to the program to easily count and track your steps.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you walking the beautiful paths of the Port Saint Lucie Botanical Gardens!

GARDEN LEGEND	
1.	Garden Pavilion, Gift Shop, Conference & Rest Rooms
2.	Orchid Room
3.	Rose & DayLily Garden
4.	Butterfly Garden
5.	Cactus Garden
6.	Bromeliad Island Garden
7.	Secret Garden
8.	Native Plant Garden
9.	Bamboo Garden
10.	Mangroves
11.	Hibiscus Garden
12.	Palm Walk Garden
13.	Propagation/Plant Sale Center
14.	Shade House
A.	Butterfly Mosaic
B.	Scooter
C.	3 Cubes Sculpture
D.	Armillary Sphere
M.	Maintenance Building
*	Benches

WESTMORELAND BLVD

### THE GARDENS

The Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens held its public grand opening on March 6, 2010. The Gardens sit on +/- 20 acres of property on the west side of Westmoreland Boulevard, just south of Port St. Lucie Blvd., conveniently located within the city. The property was acquired through the joint efforts of the City of Port St. Lucie, St. Lucie County, and the Florida Trust for Public Lands.

The site boasts a lake with a fountain, convenient paths, beautiful gardens, a pavilion, a gift shop and an array of spaces both inside and out for weddings, meetings, receptions and a host of other events. There is an abundance of convenient on-site parking. The Gardens wetlands and mangroves sit on the banks of the beautiful, pristine North Fork of the St. Lucie River. This site is comprised of Scrub, Scrubby Flatwoods, Bay-Gall and Wet Flatwoods, with a mangrove fringe. The 12.87 acres south of The Gardens access road will be maintained as undisturbed Florida wetlands, subject only to the removal of exotics and maintenance of an eventual walking trail.



## Join the Best Garden Party in Town!

### FRIENDS OF THE PORT ST LUCIE BOTANICAL GARDENS **FIRST ANNUAL - MEMBERS ONLY PLANT SALE**

March 31, 2018 - 3:00PM - 5:00PM

Complimentary beer, wine, and light refreshments will be served.

*Celebrate the*

Port St Lucie Botanical Gardens' 8th Anniversary, Members will receive a 20% Discount on a large selection of Plants. So stop on by, relax, enjoy the Gardens, have some refreshments, purchase a plant or two and enjoy the company of your fellow members.

### *Plus, Enjoy this Membership Bonus!*

Non-members—If you Join during our March Membership Madness Campaign you receive a

- 15 month membership
- 20% discount on most plants during the  
**Members only Plant Sale**

All proceeds help support the Garden. Memberships Available - Individual, Friends & Family, Business/Corporate and Benefactor. Your support through membership and tax-deductible donations allows the Gardens to create new landscapes, features and enhance existing gardens and grounds, support special projects and grow our educational programs. **See more by clicking on the Membership Madness Button above.**





## Adopt-A-Street



**PARTNER WITH US TO  
KEEP PORT ST. LUCIE BEAUTIFUL!**

All it takes is time and the willingness  
to collect litter twelve times a year.

### VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE

- Litter Tongs
- Training
- Certificate of Appreciation
- Trash Bags
- Pickup Service
- Adopt-A-Street Sign
- Safety Vest
- Community Pride

For more information or to join: [www.CityofPSL.com/kpslb](http://www.CityofPSL.com/kpslb)

**KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL** 450 SW Thornhill Dr. Port St. Lucie, FL. 34984  
(772) 873-6312 | [KPSLB@CityofPSL.com](mailto:KPSLB@CityofPSL.com)



[PortSaintLucieFL.HeavensBest.com](http://PortSaintLucieFL.HeavensBest.com)

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*As an old gardener saying goes...*

**"The better the outside looks, the worse the inside looks."**

**LET US HELP YOU WITH THAT!**

**WE ARE SO EXCITED  
ABOUT THE GARDEN  
WE WET OUR PLANTS**

# Out & About

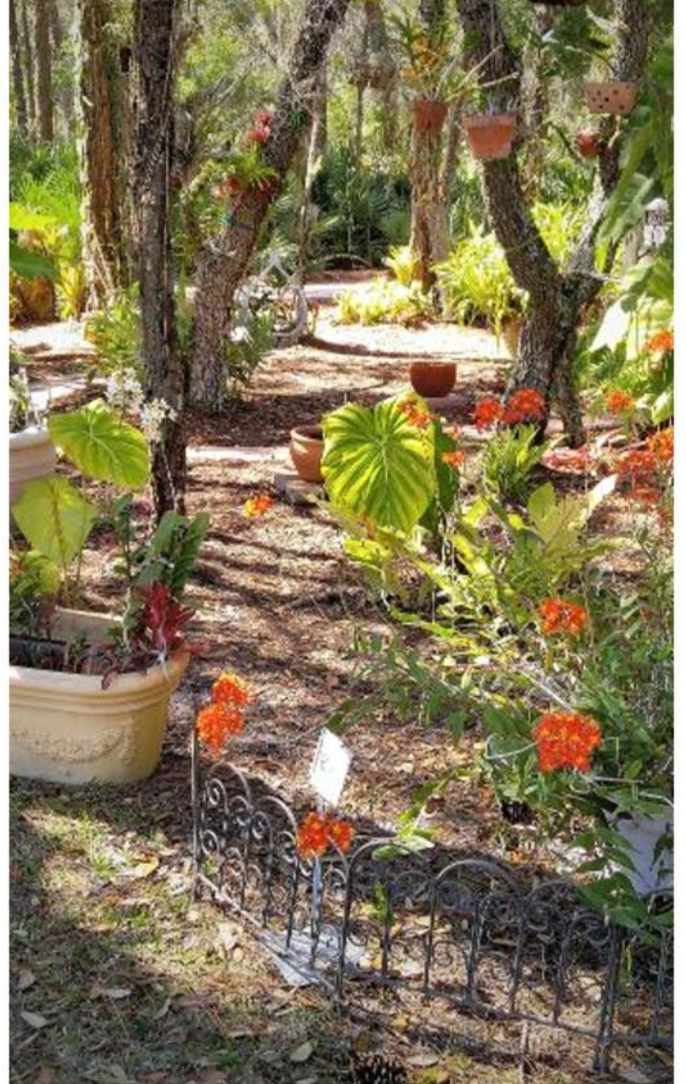


PORT ST. LUCIE  
BOTANICAL GARDENS  
2010

## With The Gardens

Seen Around The Gardens







# Gift Shop Goodies





PORT ST. LUCIE

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9221 SE Civic Center Pl PSLCivicCenter@cityofpsl.com  
Port St Lucie, FL 34952 www.cityofpsl.com/civic  
772-807-4488

## Welcome to All Garden Goers...

This month our Jazz Jams will be held on  
**April 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**& April 18<sup>th</sup>**  
starting at 6:30 pm

# JAZZ JAMS

**At The Gardens**

Donation \$6 per person.  
Gardens & Jazz Society  
Members \$5 per person.

**Sponsored by the  
Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society**



PORT ST. LUCIE  
**PARKS &  
RECREATION**



## THE SAINTS

*At Port St. Lucie Golf Course*  
[www.CityofPSL.com/Golf](http://www.CityofPSL.com/Golf)

2601 SE Morningside Blvd. • (772) 398-2901  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952 • Fax: (772) 398-2778

## The 19th Hole at the Saints

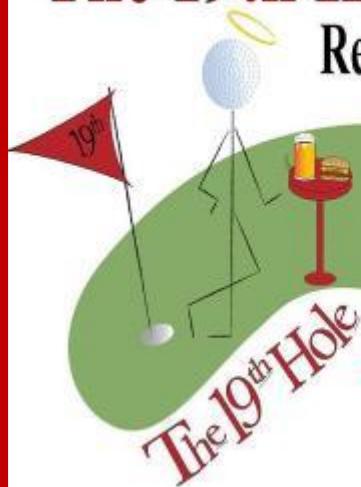
Restaurant & Banquet Hall

**772-337-0180**

Carl Bussett/Rick Aslin  
Proprietors

### & Sandpiper Room

2601 SE Morningside Blvd.  
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- Power Point Presentations
- Virtual Assistant
- Real Estate Services

# ♥ We Love Our Volunteers ♥



**Volunteer Spotlight:**  
**Curtis Clark, Facility Coordinator**

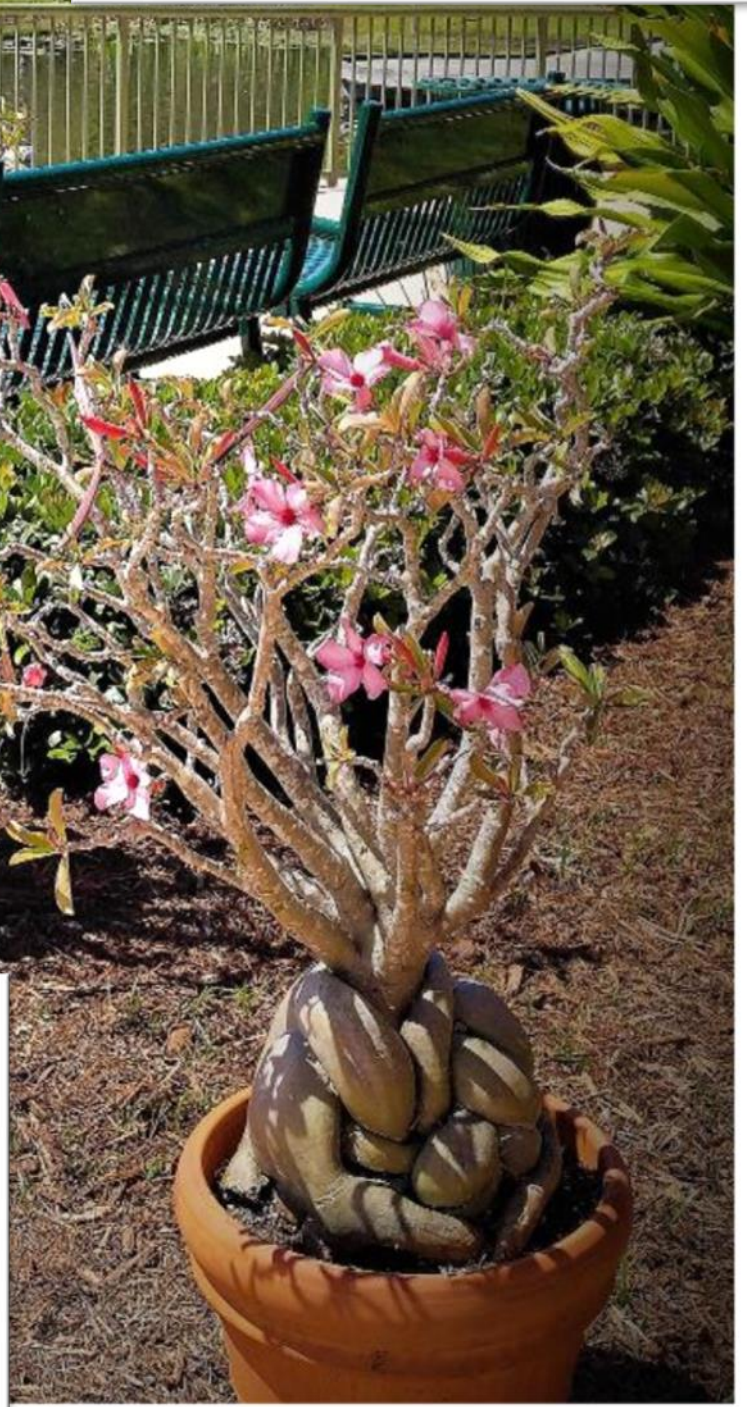


# Our Volunteers Come In All Sizes



# Desert Rose Replanting



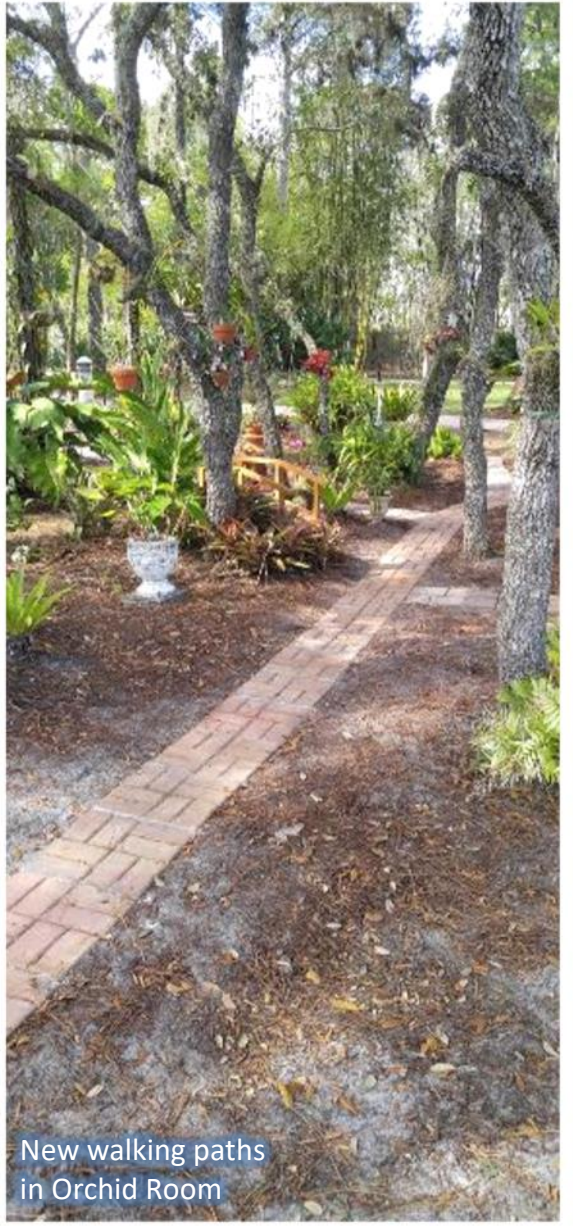




Leadership St. Lucie



Leadership St. Lucie



New walking paths  
in Orchid Room



Leadership St. Lucie



Where am I



Staghorn Fern



Tropical Fruit workshop



Thanks Merv!



Thanks Merv!



New bench in Garden Center

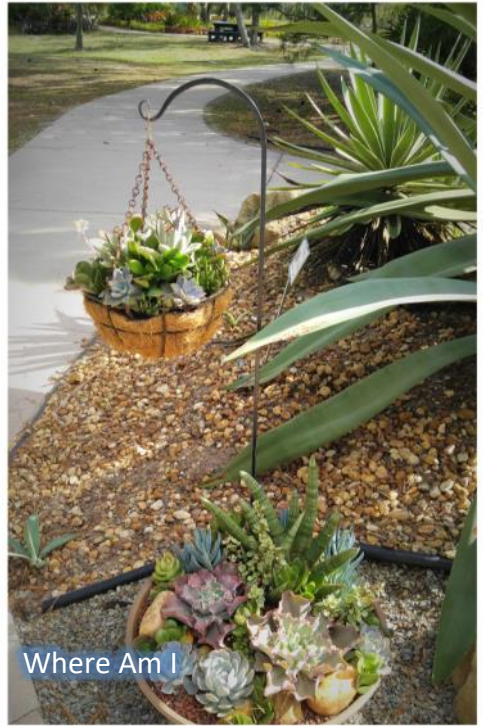


New Cedar Bench In Propagation



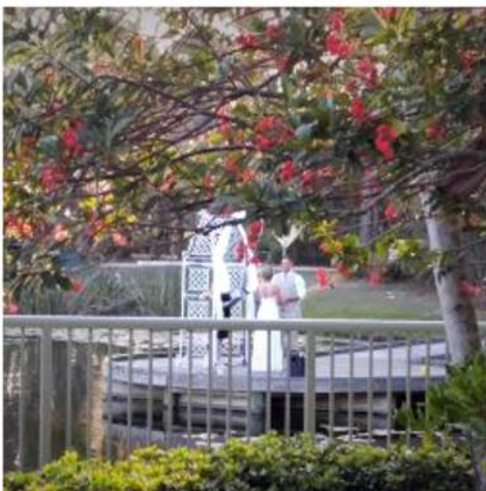


Thanks for Visiting The Gardens



Where Am I

## Wedding Fun at The Gardens



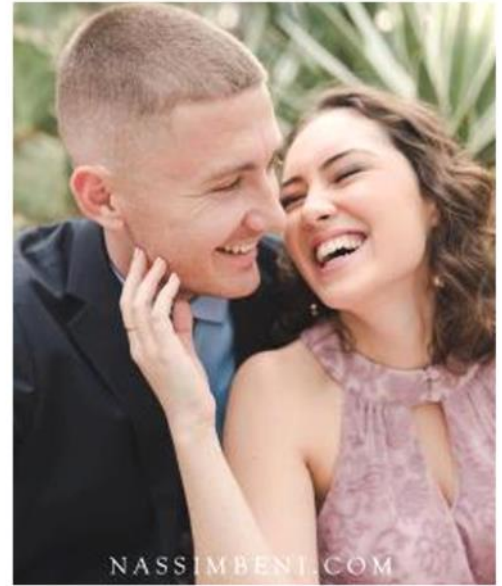
# More Wedding Fun at The Gardens



# Rivernights on the St. Lucie



# Visitor's Pics







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# Calendar Of Events

1 <sup>st</sup>	Crosstown Chapel Easter Sunrise Svc	5:00 - 11:00am	All Welcome
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Newsletter Committee Meeting	4:00 - 5:00pm	All Welcome
2 <sup>nd</sup>	FPSLBG Blue Sky Meeting	5:00 - 6:00pm	All welcome
4 <sup>th</sup>	Intermediate Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30am	All Welcome
4 <sup>th</sup>	German American Board Meeting	2:00 - 4:00pm	Members only
4 <sup>th</sup>	Ft. Pierce Jazz & Blues Jazz Jams	6:30 - 9:30pm	\$6 Donation, \$5 Members
5 <sup>th</sup>	Volunteer Review Committee	12:00 - 12:30pm	Members Welcome
5 <sup>th</sup>	German American Chorus Rehearsal	2:00 - 4:00pm	Members Welcome
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>PSL Anglers Kid's Fishing Tournament</b>	<b>8:00am - 12:00pm</b>	<b>All Welcome</b>
9 <sup>th</sup>	Rio Lindo Board of Directors Meeting	10:00 - 11:00am	Members Welcome
9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FPSLBG Board of Directors Meeting</b>	<b>4:30 pm - 6:30pm</b>	<b>Members Welcome</b>
10 <sup>th</sup>	PSL Orchid Society Meeting	12:00 - 3:00pm	All Welcome
10 <sup>th</sup>	Master Naturalists Meeting	7:00 - 9:00pm	Members Welcome
11 <sup>th</sup>	Intermediate Spanish Class	10:00 - 11:30am	All Welcome
12 <sup>th</sup>	Volunteer Review Committee	12:00 - 12:30pm	Members Welcome
12 <sup>th</sup>	PSL Angler's Meeting	5:30 - 9:30pm	All Welcome
14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Community Trunk Sale</b>	<b>8:00am - 1:00pm</b>	<b>All Welcome</b>
14 <sup>th</sup>	Community Garden Series: Fertilizing & Controlling Pests	10:00am - 12:00pm	All Welcome
15 <sup>th</sup>	Basic Nature Photography	9:00 am - 12:00pm	Register @ 772.462.1660
15 <sup>th</sup>	South Fla Daylily Society Meeting	2:00 pm - 4:00pm	All welcome
18 <sup>th</sup>	Intermediate Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30am	All welcome
18 <sup>th</sup>	Ft. Pierce Jazz & Blues Jazz Jams	6:30 - 9:30pm	\$6 Donation, \$5 Members
19 <sup>th</sup>	Volunteer Review Committee	12:00 - 12:30pm	Members Welcome
19 <sup>th</sup>	German American Chorus Rehearsal	2:00 pm - 4:00pm	Members Welcome
19 <sup>th</sup>	TC Rare Fruit Club Meeting.	6:00 - 9:30pm	All welcome
20 <sup>th</sup>	Kaiser University Pinning Ceremony	5:00 - 8:00pm	Students/Guests Welcome
21 <sup>st</sup>	Wacky Weeders	8:00am - 12:00pm	All welcome
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Photographing Flowers	9:00am - 12:00pm	Register @ 772.462.1660
22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Earth Day Ladybug Launch</b>	<b>2:00 - 4:00pm</b>	<b>All Welcome</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Rio Lindo Garden Club	12:45 - 3:30pm	All Welcome
25 <sup>th</sup>	Intermediate Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30am	All Welcome
26 <sup>th</sup>	Volunteer Review Committee	12:00 - 12:30pm	Members Welcome
28 <sup>th</sup>	Veterans Victory Corps Meeting	9:00 - 9:30am	Veterans Welcome
28 <sup>th</sup>	Partners in Horticulture Education	9:30am - 12:30pm	Veterans/Students Welcome
28 <sup>th</sup>	Treasure Coast Bonsai Society Meeting	10:00am - 12:00pm	All Welcome
30 <sup>th</sup>	Treasure Coast Bromeliad Society	5:30pm - 9:00pm	All Welcome



[www.PSLBG.org](http://www.PSLBG.org) • The Gardens is closed Mondays & Tuesdays  
For more information on events, please call 772.337.1959



# UF | IFAS Extension

## UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

### University of Florida IFAS Extension Central Florida Gardening Calendar - April

## What to Plant

**Annuals/Bedding plants:** Plant heat-tolerant annuals, such as coleus, vinca, and portulaca. **See Annuals:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_annual\\_landscape\\_plants](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_annual_landscape_plants)

**Bulbs:** Cannas thrive in the heat of summer. New varieties have colorful leaves as well as flowers. **See Bulbs for Florida:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_bulbous\\_flowers](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_bulbous_flowers)

**Herbs:** Some to start now include basil, coriander, cumin, and mint. **See Herbs:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_herbs](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_herbs)

**Vegetables:** Beans, Chinese cabbage, Southern peas, and sweet potatoes can still be planted. Mulch beds well and monitor irrigation if the weather is dry. **See Vegetable Gardening in Florida:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_vegetable\\_gardening](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening)

## What to Do

**Pests:** Monitor insect activity and learn which bugs damage plants and which do not. **See Landscape Pest Management:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_landscape\\_pests](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_landscape_pests)

**Beneficials:** Identify and conserve beneficial insects. Some insects should be encouraged in your yard! **See Beneficial Insects:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_beneficial\\_insects](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_beneficial_insects)

**Tomatoes:** Watch for pests, disease, and nutritional disorders on developing tomato plants. **See Home Tomato Gardening:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_tomato\\_gardening](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_tomato_gardening)

**Palms:** Identify and treat environmental and nutritional disorders in palm trees. **See Palm Care:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_palm\\_care](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_palm_care)

**Oleanders:** Inspect chewed or ragged leaves for oleander caterpillars at work. **See Oleander Pest Management:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_oleander\\_ipm](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_oleander_ipm)

**Fruits:** Propagate fruit crops by air layering and grafting. **See Propagating Fruits in Florida:** [http://www.solutionsforyourlife.com/hot\\_topics/lawn\\_and\\_garden/propagating\\_fruits.shtml](http://www.solutionsforyourlife.com/hot_topics/lawn_and_garden/propagating_fruits.shtml)

**Perennials and bulbs:** Divide clumps of bulbs, ornamental grasses, or herbaceous perennials to expand or rejuvenate garden beds or to pass along to friends. **See Bulbs for Florida:** [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_bulbous\\_flowers](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_bulbous_flowers) and *Perennial Landscape Plants:* [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_perennials](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_perennials)

**Shrubs:** Choose from a wide variety of shrubs to add to the landscape now. **See The Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Guide to Plant Selection & Landscape Design:** [http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FYN\\_Plant\\_Selection\\_Guide\\_v090110.pdf](http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FYN_Plant_Selection_Guide_v090110.pdf) and *Shrubs:* [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_shrubs](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_shrubs)

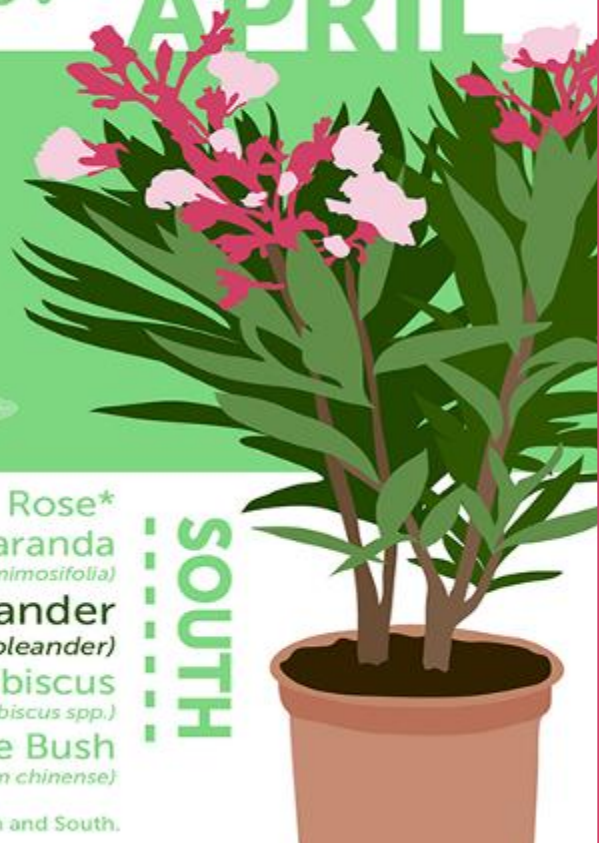
# WHAT'S FLOWERING

*in Florida?*

# APRIL

NORTH/  
CENTRAL

- Rose\*  Non-native, evergreen (*Rosa spp.*)
- Southern Magnolia  Native, evergreen (*Magnolia grandiflora*)
- Bottlebrush  Non-native, deciduous (*Callistemon spp.*)
- Gardenia  Non-native, evergreen (*Gardenia jasminoides*)
- Glossy Abelia  Non-native, evergreen (*Abelia x grandiflora*)
- Yesterday-Today-and-Tomorrow  Non-native, evergreen (*Brunfelsia grandiflora*)



SOUTH

- Rose\*  Non-native, semi-deciduous (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*)
- Jacaranda  Non-native, evergreen (*Nerium oleander*)
- Oleander  Native and non-native, evergreen (*Hibiscus spp.*)
- Hibiscus  Non-native, evergreen (*Loropetalum chinense*)
- Chinese Fringe Bush

\* Both in North and South.




UF IFAS Extension  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



Gardening  
SOLUTIONS

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# EDIBLES TO PLANT IN APRIL

	North	Central	South
 Survives Transplanting	Sweet Potatoes, Swiss Chard, Tomatoes	Chinese Cabbage, Sweet Potatoes, Swiss Chard	Chinese Cabbage, Sweet Potatoes, Swiss Chard
 Transplant With Care			
 Use Seeds	Beans (bush, pole, lima), Cantaloupes, Corn, Cucumbers, Okra, Peas (Southern), Squash (summer, winter), Watermelon	Beans (bush, pole, lima), Corn, Peas (Southern), Squash (summer, winter)	Beans (bush, pole, lima), Peas (southern)



UF IFAS Extension  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

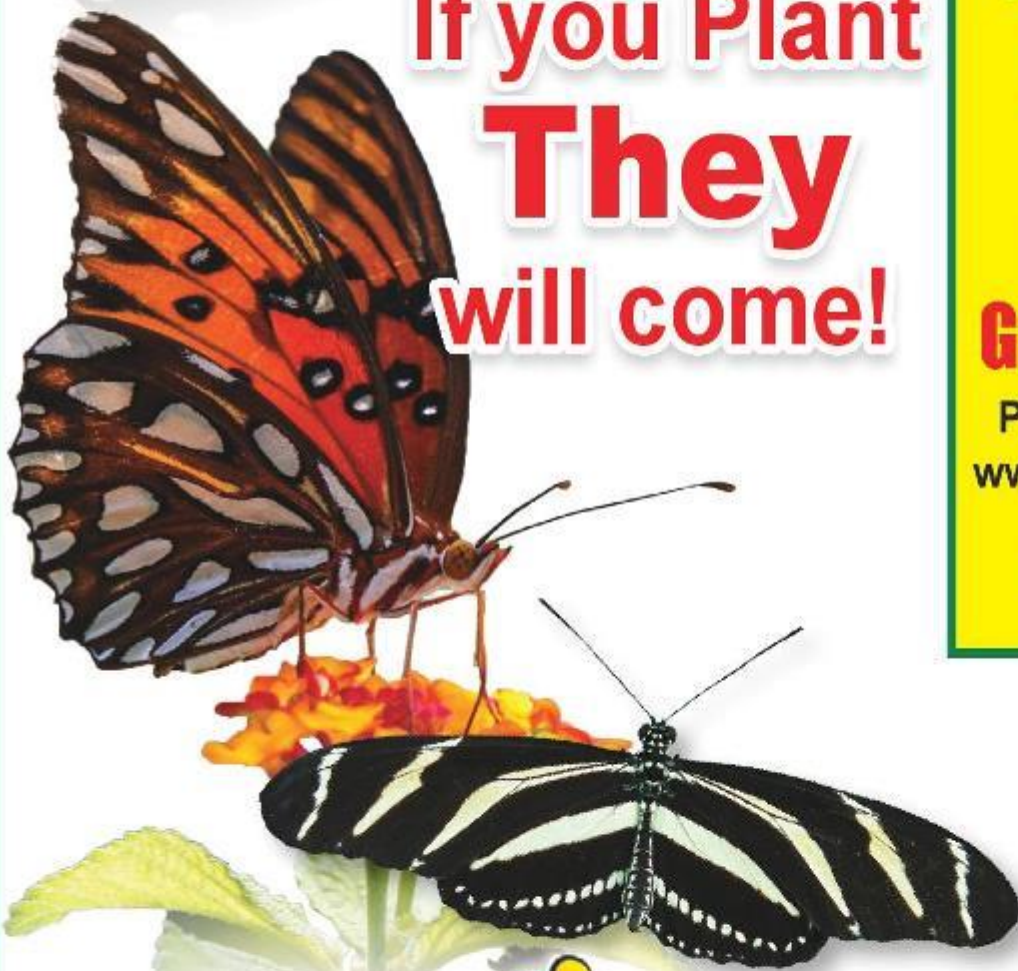


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# Butterfly GARDENING

If you Plant  
**They**  
will come!



## UPCOMING CLASSES

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Garden to Table**

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Horticulture



Education



Community



Preservation



**Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc.,  
We Are A Growing Community!**



**Click Here to  
Join or Renew Your  
Membership Today**

# THE HISTORY OF EARTH DAY

Each year, Earth Day—April 22—marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970.

The height of counterculture in the United States, 1970 brought the death of Jimi Hendrix, the last Beatles album, and Simon & Garfunkel's "Bridge Over Troubled Water." War raged in Vietnam and students nationwide overwhelmingly opposed it.

At the time, Americans were slurping leaded gas through massive V8 sedans. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of legal consequences or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. "Environment" was a word that appeared more often in spelling bees than on the evening news.

Although mainstream America largely remained oblivious to environmental concerns, the stage had been set for change by the publication of Rachel Carson's New York Times bestseller *Silent Spring* in 1962. The book represented a watershed moment, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries, and beginning to raise public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and links between pollution and public health.

Earth Day 1970 gave voice to that emerging consciousness, channeling the energy of the anti-war protest movement and putting environmental concerns on the front page.

## The Idea

The idea for a national day to focus on the environment came to Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, he realized that if he could infuse that energy with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution, it would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a "national teach-in on the environment" to the national media; persuaded Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair; and recruited Denis Hayes from Harvard as national coordinator. Hayes built a national staff of 85 to promote events across the land. April 22, falling between Spring Break and Final Exams, was selected as the date.

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies. Thousands of colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment. Groups that had been fighting against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife suddenly realized they shared common values.

Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, city slickers and farmers, tycoons and labor leaders. By the end of that year, the first Earth Day had led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the

**EARTH DAY | April 22, 2018**  
**END PLASTIC POLLUTION**



**EarthDay.org**

**#EarthDay2018 #EndPlasticPollution**



EARTH DAY NETWORK

Continued on Pg 30



passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts. “It was a gamble,” Gaylord recalled, “but it worked.”

As 1990 approached, a group of environmental leaders asked Denis Hayes to organize another big campaign. This time, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. Earth Day 1990 gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide and helped pave the way for the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It also prompted President Bill Clinton to award Senator Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1995)—the highest honor given to civilians in the United States—for his role as Earth Day founder.

## Earth Day Today

As the millennium approached, Hayes agreed to spearhead another campaign, this time focused on global warming and a push for clean energy. With 5,000 environmental groups in a record 184 countries reaching out to hundreds of millions of people, Earth Day 2000 combined the big-picture feistiness of the first Earth Day with the international grassroots activism of Earth Day 1990. Earth Day 2000 used the power of the Internet to organize activists, but also featured a drum chain that traveled from village to village in Gabon, Africa. Hundreds of thousands of people gathered on the National Mall in Washington, DC for a First Amendment Rally. Earth Day 2000 sent world leaders the loud and clear message that citizens around the world wanted quick and decisive action on global warming and clean energy.

Much like 1970, Earth Day 2010 came at a time of great challenge for the environmental community. Climate change deniers, well-funded oil lobbyists, reticent politicians, a disinterested public, and a divided environmental community all contributed to the narrative—cynicism versus activism. Despite these challenges, Earth Day prevailed and Earth Day Network reestablished Earth Day as a relevant, powerful focal point. Earth Day Network brought 250,000 people to the National Mall for a Climate Rally, launched the world’s largest environmental service project—A Billion Acts of Green®—introduced a global tree planting initiative that has since grown into The Canopy Project, and engaged 22,000 partners in 192 countries in observing Earth Day.

Earth Day had reached into its current status as the largest secular observance in the world, celebrated by more than a billion people every year, and a day of action that changes human behavior and provokes policy changes.

Today, the fight for a clean environment continues with increasing urgency, as the ravages of climate change become more manifest every day. We invite you to be a part of Earth Day and help write many more chapters—struggles and victories—into the Earth Day book.

2020 marks the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day. In honor of this milestone, Earth Day Network is launching an ambitious set of goals to shape the future of 21st century environmentalism. Learn more here.





# Garden Center

at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens



## HORTICULTURE HAPPENINGS

# NEWS & NEEDS



### Thank You for all the fantastic plant donations received in March

Thanks to **William Zeigler** for the generous donation of several Aechmea 'Blue Moon' Bromeliads and to **Noreen Sherman** for the blooming Aechmea 'Blue Tango' Bromeliad pictured here, plus several more. Bill also donated a Mostera Deliciosa that we have planted in our gardens. Thank you for your generosity and adding to our collections.



Thanks to **Joe Wojcik** for the cactus and succulent donation and to **Tina and Ken** for the Bromeliad donation.



Thank you to our Members and the PSL neighborhood who continue to drop off plants. Your donations have helped our plant sales tremendously. We are always pleased and surprised to find plants waiting for us in the propagation area. *Please help us by including the name of the plant.*



Thanks to Bobbi Spencer for the fantastic Tropical Fruit Workshop and tasting. Great turnout and very informative.



Be sure to attend our **March 31st—First Annual Members Only Sale** from 3PM to 5PM. A 20% discount on most plants to members only. Refreshments will be served.

### Thanks for all your support.

### Brenda Gustafson, Vice President & Horticulture Chair



**We Need -** Your Cuttings and Plants. Ceramic or clay pots. Garden Tools. Garden Art. Bring them on in. This helps to defray our propagation expenses and provide the community with lots of plants to take home. Also we are looking for gently used garden related items for our booth at our Junk in the Trunk Sale and a bench for our Veterans Victory Corps area.



Looking especially for **Garden & Plant Sale Volunteers** to assist in the Garden Center, Wednesday -10am to 4pm & Sunday - 12pm to 4pm. Will train. HS Students and all volunteers welcome. Name your hours.

# Partners in Horticulture Education

With the assistance of the St. Lucie County Master Gardeners and PSLBG volunteers, students and Veterans learn basic Horticulture practices. Workshops as well as Garden Time hours count toward students' volunteer community service hours.



--	<b>WORKSHOPS</b> Sturdy closed toe shoes, hat, sunblock, water, and comfortable clothing recommended
Sat, March 31 <b>10 - 12</b>	City of Port St. Lucie Community Gardens Workshop: Growing Herbs and Vegetables (free and open to the public)
Sat, April 14 <b>10 - 12</b>	City of Port St. Lucie Community Gardens Workshop: Fertilizing and Controlling Pests (free and open to the public)
Sat, April 28 <b>9:30 - 11</b>	What and how to plant in the warmer months
Sat, May 26 <b>9:30 - 11</b>	Transplanting and Up-potting

## High School Horticulture Club

Open to all High School students! Add your school logo to our growing Horticulture experience. Earn Community Service hours!



Contact Jeffrey Policar or Heather Furnari at 772-337-1959 for more information.



## Veteran Victory Corps:

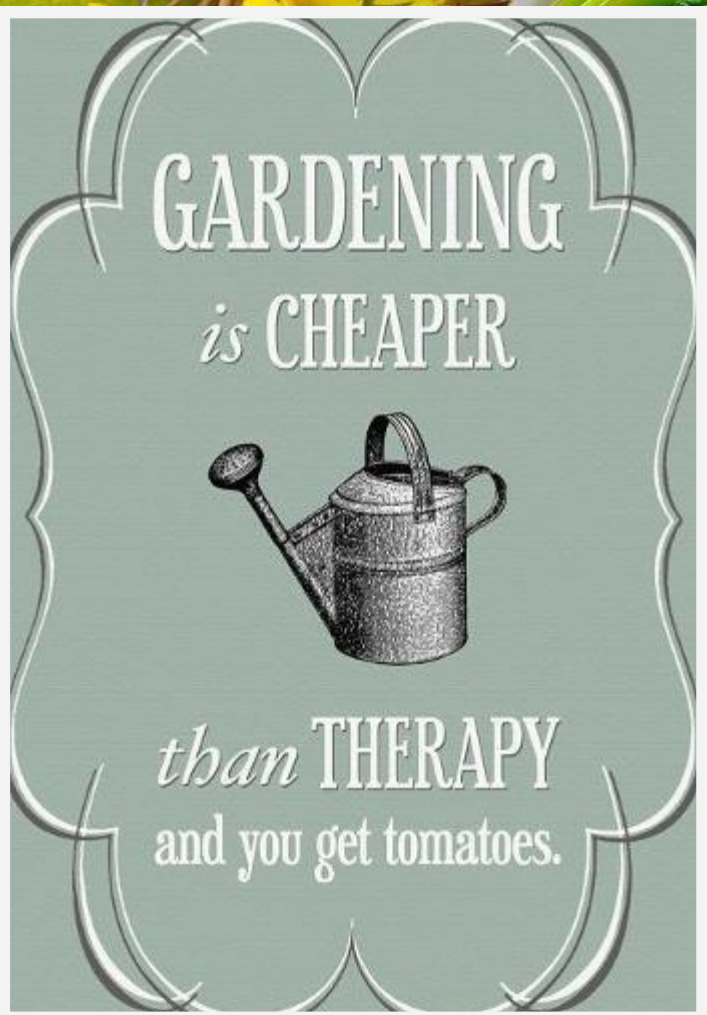
A horticulture program for Veterans and their family members! Enjoy comradery, hands-on workshops, and opportunities for providing service to your community!



VVC meets at 0900-0930 in the Veteran Victory Corps area near the GL Homes Shade House in the Propagation Garden Center just before a workshop activity. Light refreshments provided – bring your own morning drink.

**Contact: Judy, American Red Cross – Service to the Armed Forces at [judy.nash-wade@redcross.org](mailto:judy.nash-wade@redcross.org) or the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens office: 772-337-1959.**





**To help at the Propagation Garden Center and many other areas throughout the Garden!**

If you enjoy gardening and want to learn more about propagating your Florida plants, increase your plant knowledge and other gardening techniques join our team at the Propagation Garden Center. We're there to work and learn together. We're a friendly group who would like you to join us even if it's for only a couple of hours a week. Call Brenda Gustafson at 772-678-8523 or visit us any Thursday, Friday or Saturday 9:30-12:00pm.



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grow  
together



WWW.PSLANGLERS.COM



# KIDS FISHING TOURNAMENT

**Saturday • April 7, 2018**

Sponsored by Port St. Lucie Angler's  
Club and the Friends of the  
Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens

**\*\*\*\*\* FREE ADMISSION \*\*\*\*\***

**8:00 - 9:00 AM Registration**

**9:30 AM Poles in the Water  
(finish time around Noon)**

Bring your own fishing tackle and eye protection.  
Bait will be provided and trophies will be awarded  
to each age group for biggest and most fish.

Age Groups: 2 through 11yrs old and 12 through  
16yrs old. Free Raffles. Catch and release Event.

For More Information Please Call  
Dave Brigida at 772.834.7599  
or Frank Gamber at 443.992.8428



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**facebook**

**VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE** 



# Got Junk In Your Trunk?

sell it at the

## GARDENS COMMUNITY TRUNK SALE

Saturday • April 14, 2018 • 8am - 1pm

Looking to get rid of that extra stuff cluttering your home, garage, or storage area? Then join us at the Gardens Community Trunk Sale. Your accepted contract entitles you to 2 parking spaces in the sales area 18x18 feet. One space is for your vehicle (load it up - trailers welcome) and the 2nd for your sales area (tent, tables, whatever).

- Space is limited - Contracted Vendors, accepted by the committee, only.
- No Day-of, walk up vendors will be allowed.
- Arrive late, you'll be sent home. All vehicles must be in place before sales open at 8am. No Exceptions!

Contracts must be received by committee by April 11, 2018

*Carry in, carry out policy. Didn't sell everything? All unsold merchandise Must be removed and taken with you: not left, donated or put in our dumpster.*



PORT ST. LUCIE BOTANICAL GARDENS  
2410 SE WESTMORELAND BLVD.  
PORT ST. LUCIE, FL 34952  
772-337-1959 • WWW.PSLBG.ORG



THE PORT ST. LUCIE BOTANICAL GARDENS IS PLEASED TO HOST

# THE COMMUNITY GARDENS SERIES

PRESENTED BY THE FLORIDA MASTER NATURALISTS

APRIL 14, 2018

## FERTIZILING & CONTROLLING PESTS

CLASSES ARE FREE TO MEMBERS + LOCAL RESIDENTS  
ALL CLASSES WILL BE HELD WITHIN THE GARDEN PAVILION  
CLASSES WILL BE HELD FROM 10:00 AM TO 12 PM



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

# JAZZ JAMS

AT THE GARDENS 

**Wednesday**  
**April 4th & 18th**  
**6:30 - 9:30 pm**

Presented By





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**Detail**  
Counts

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Starting at **sq. ft.**

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## ENLIST: JOIN THE Saturday Wacky Weeder's'

**When:** April 21, 2018  
**Where:** PSL Botanical Gardens  
**Time:** 8:00AM - 12:00PM

**LUNCH SERVED**

The Gardens need your help to continue keeping your beautiful Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens in perfect shape for all the events we have planned for our wonderful members and guests!



**JOIN US FOR A FUN MORNING – ALL VOLUNTEERS INVITED**

Consider yourself less than able-bodied? There are jobs for everyone, no matter age or ability. Bring gloves, clippers and any personal tools you prefer.



**Join the Friends of  
the Port St. Lucie  
Botanical Gardens  
as we Celebrate  
Earth Day with a**

# **Ladybug Launch**

**Sunday • April 22, 2017**  
**2:00 - 4:00 pm**

**Ladybugs are beneficial in nature. Come explore our Gardens as we have fun releasing Ladybugs and discover fun facts about them. Rocking in PSL will be on-hand for an afternoon of fun rock painting.**

**This Event is for  
Children Ages  
5 - 12 & families**



**Registration Appreciated  
Please Call 772.337.1959**

Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens • 772.337.1959  
2410 SE Westmoreland Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34952  
www.pslbg.org • info@pslbotanicalgardens.org



## DATE/TIME

# SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

Registration at 7:30 a.m. Cleanup from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## LOCATION

### PUBLIC WORKS, 450 SW THORNHILL DRIVE

## INFO

Volunteers will register for the event, enjoy a free breakfast, and then be transported by bus to several locations throughout the City that are in most need of cleanup. Buses will bring volunteers back for free lunch, raffles and lots of fun for everyone.

For more information:

[www.CityofPSL.com/KPSLB](http://www.CityofPSL.com/KPSLB) | (772) 873-6312





**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**NATIONAL PUBLIC GARDENS DAY**

**MAY 11, 2018**



National Public Gardens Day is Friday, May 11, 2018 and our Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens will be celebrating. On this day, Public Gardens across the United States have special Activities to celebrate their existence. Admission is Free. We hope you will joining us, tour The Gardens and get advise from our hands on experts. Our Propagation Garden center will have beautiful plants on sale for you to take home as well as our Gift Shop will entice you with a selection of hand picked garden related crafts and jewelry.

**We look forward to seeing you there.**