

The August 2017 Newsletter Gardens Gate



Port St. Lucie
Botanical Gardens



THE GARDENS IS GOING TO THE NEXT STEP!

The Plant ID Team with the direction of The Horticulture committee at The gardens, has created a Plant ID web-linked database, which is being implemented throughout the various gardens rooms. To date there are 24 web-linked Plant ID Labels in The Gardens with more on the way.

"We are so excited about the Plant ID labels and the QR codes!" exclaimed Brenda Gustafson, Horticulture Committee Chair. Brenda said she loaded a QR scanner application on her phone which works great and every time she uses it with the new signs in the garden, information on the plant as well as a photo pops right up. The photos and the information are perfect and look so professional and it is really exciting to see everything finally coming together. The Plant ID Team has really been working hard on this and our PSLBG gardens will be so much better with informative signage throughout.



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Reminder

ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS & MORE
SATURDAY • AUGUST 26TH
9:00AM - 1:00PM



2410 SE Westmoreland Blvd.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

Phone: 772.337.1959

Fax: 772.237.5952

E-mail: info@pslbotanicalgardens.org

Web: 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:	Illona Christie
Secretary:	Melinda DeMarco
Treasurer:	Cheri Mabry
Directors:	Mike Alexander
	Heather Furnari
	Brenda Gustafson
	Judy Nash-Wade
	Jeffrey Policar
	Glenn Ryals
	Tim Sutton

Administrative

Assistant: Claire Clark

Standing Committee Chairs . . .

Election Committee:	TBD
Finance Committee:	Cheri Mabry
Gift Shop Committee:	Mike Alexander
Horticulture Committee:	Brenda Gustafson
Membership & Volunteer Committee:	Illona Christie
Resource Development Committee:	Melinda DeMarco
Strategic Planning Committee:	Glenn Ryals

Newsletter...

Editor: Judy Nash-Wade
Design: Mark Barnes

The Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens is managed and operated by Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc. The Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc. receives no funding from any government agency. Your admission donations help us maintain and grow The Gardens.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

August in South Florida! HEAT and HUMIDITY don't begin to describe the lovely month of August in Port St. Lucie. But our tropical plants and trees love this environment, as do the bats, butterflies, dragonflies and miscellaneous critters! Whether you're hunkered down in front of your A/C unit or tackling your own garden in the wee hours of the morning, consider stopping by the PSL Botanical Gardens to see what's new and blooming!



WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU.

Joleen King
President

VIDEO OF THE MONTH

**TOP 10 DON'T'S
WHEN GROWING
ORCHIDS**



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Port St. Lucie, FL 34952 • Fax: (772) 398-2778

Welcome to All Garden Goers...

This month our
Jazz Jams will be held on
August 2nd,
& August 30th
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**

The 19th Hole at the Saints

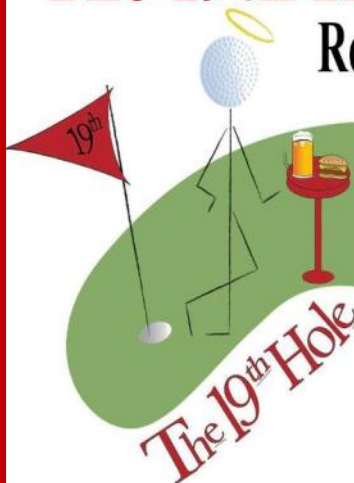
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Rich Zwack and his Plant ID Team have been instrumental in getting this project going. Brenda offered special thanks to Heather Furnari, Sue Kirby, Darl Emling, Celeste Marsh, Tim Sutton and the Garden Room representatives for working closely to identify plants, research common names, botanical names, and family names.

Once the data has been proofed, the information is sent to Mark Barnes to associate a QR Code with the plant, create the label, and add the descriptive information to a link on the web. Rich proofs the QR codes and web links, makes the laminated stake signs as well as leads the team on this valuable project.

This is a work in progress. We clearly have more plants to identify. Our project is still in seedling stage, but best of all, **it is growing!** Comments are welcome as are volunteers. Let's make this work. The Gardens is going to THE NEXT STEP!

Thanks to Brenda, Rich, Mark and the Plant ID Team for all your hard work!

Judy Nash-Wade
Editor

Desert Rose

Adenium obesum



Apocynaceae

**Sub-Saharan
regions in Africa**

Dancing-lady

Oncidium sphacelatum



Orchidaceae

**Mexico to
Costa Rico**

Tiger Bromeliad

Neoreglia carcharodon



Bromeliaceae

**Florida Native
Big Pine Key**

Purple Firespike

Odontonema callistachyum



Acanthaceae

**Mexico, Central
America**



2410 SE Westmoreland Boulevard
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34952
772.337.1959

www.PSLBG.org
info@pslbotanicalgardens.org

Attention: all Civic groups, garden societies, homeowners associations, local businesses, et al. Join the Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens this Halloween for a public "Trick or Treat" among the trees. We need your organization to join us in this fun 2.5 hours of welcoming the Ghouls and Goblins of Port St Lucie for trick or treating and a Haunted Hayride at the Gardens in a safe, controlled, no-cars atmosphere.

Who's invited? Children, ages 0-13, in costume and their parents. **No admission - this is a free event.**

What does your group have to do? Claim table space somewhere in the Gardens, set up a table, decorate as much as you'd like, staff your table with costumed volunteers who enjoy (and perhaps miss) the joy of Halloween and the costume parade we all remember from Halloweens past. And bring lots of candy! Your organization will be responsible for having sufficient candy, snacks or treats for up to an estimated 1500 little ghouls and goblins.

Your area in the Garden is **FREE**. Your group must supply their own table. We have a limited supply of 8 ft. and 6 ft. tables available at \$25 each, first reserved, first served.

Are you an HOA, 55 and older? Miss seeing the children? Are you a City Department that would like to adopt a site to be manned by co-workers? A garden society of retired grandparents whose grandchildren are miles away, and are missed? Are you a local business that recognizes an opportunity for team building and community outreach? A civic group or club, looking for a fun, simple new event on your Fall calendar? This is an event for you!



TUESDAY • OCTOBER 31, 2017



Trick or treating will begin at 5:00 and end at 7:30 pm. Parents, accompanying their children will be required. No children without parents will be allowed on Garden property. Sunset on October 31st is 6:38 pm in Port St Lucie FYI. This is designed to be an evening/twilight event.

Please give this opportunity your attention; talk with friends and neighbors, decide to commit to this new Community event, and send us your commitment via email. Event will be advertised through the Gardens website & newsletter, on-line calendars, community radio and more.

For more Information or to register, please call Claire Clark at 772.337.1959.

Out & About



With The Gardens

Sighted in The Gardens



Who Am I?



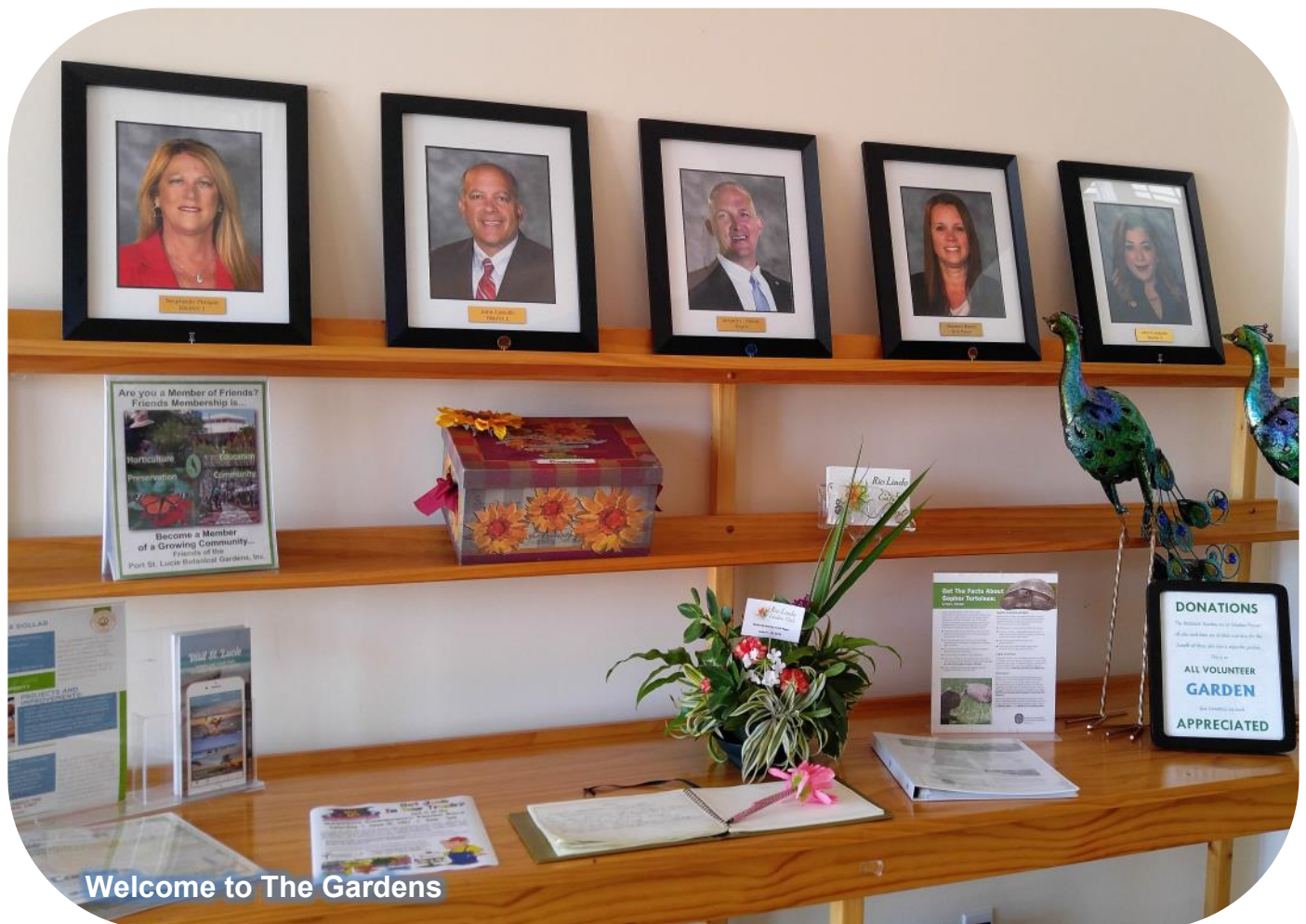
ID Me



Youth touring the Gardens



Pics of Gardens



Welcome to The Gardens

Join the Friends



Wedding among the blooms



PSLBG welcomes Bonsai Society



Buddy's Betsy Day Lily



Rare Fruit Club demo



Succulents for sale



How high can I go?



Lobby display by Paul Renwick



Growing Tropical Fruit Trees Workshop presented by Treasure Coast Rare Fruit Club



Growing Tropical Fruit Trees Workshop presented by Treasure Coast Rare Fruit Club

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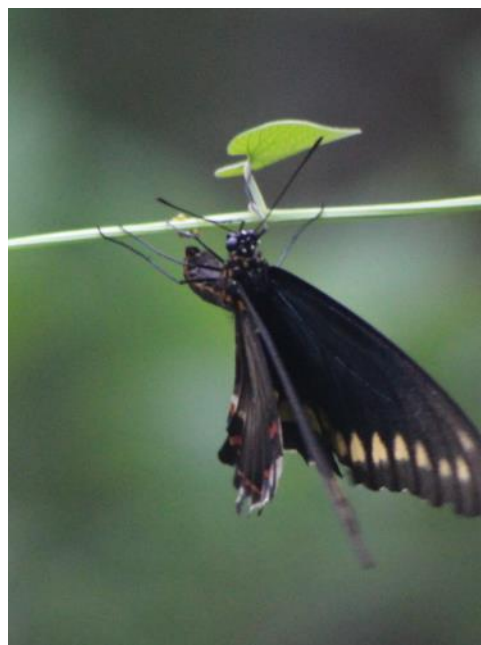
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Visitor Photos













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August

Calendar of Events

2 nd	Intermediate Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30 am	All welcome
2 nd	German American Club Board Mtg.	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Members welcome
2 nd	Ft. Pierce Jazz & Blues Jazz Jams	6:30 - 9:30 pm	\$6 Donation, \$5 Members
3 rd	German American Chorus Rehearsal	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Members only
9 th	Intermediate Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30 am	All welcome
9 th	Keiser Pinning Rehearsal	1:00 - 2:00 pm	Keiser students and staff
10 th	PSL Angler's Meeting	6:00 - 9:30 pm	All welcome
11 th	Summer Propagation	9:30 - 11:30 am	All welcome
12 th	Summer Propagation	9:30 - 11:30 am	All welcome
14 th	Board of Directors Meeting	4:30 - 6:30 pm	Members Welcome
16 th	Intermediate Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30 am	All welcome
16 th	Keiser Pinning Ceremony	5:00 - 9:00 pm	Keiser students and staff
17 th	TC Rare Fruit Club Meeting.	6:00 - 9:00 pm	All welcome
18 th	Summer Propagation	9:30 - 11:30 am	All welcome
19 th	Summer Propagation	9:30 - 11:30 am	All welcome
23 rd	Intermediate Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30 am	All welcome
26 th	Orchids, Orchids and More Plant Sale	9:00 am - 1:00 pm	All welcome
26 th	TC Bonsai Society Meeting	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	All welcome
26 th	Children's Program: All About Orchids	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration Requested Call 772.337.1959
30 th	Intermediate Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30 am	All welcome
30 th	Ft. Pierce Jazz & Blues Jazz Jams	6:30 - 9:30 pm	\$6 Donation, \$5 Members

The Gardens is closed Monday's & Tuesday's • For more information on events, please call 772.337.1959

Propagation **Garden Center** *at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens*

**PROPAGATE PLANTS
FROM CUTTINGS –
IT'S LIKE MAGIC!**



SUMMER PROPAGATION SCHEDULE - 2017

Friday & Saturday: 9:30AM – 11:00AM

August 11 & 12	September 9 & 23
August 18 & 19	

US! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND APPRECIATED!

Learn to grow new plants from existing plants – and have fun at the same time!

You will learn and have fun while:

- identifying & taking cuttings from around the Garden
- propagating the cuttings
- up-potting, dividing and replanting plants
- moving and organizing plants throughout the garden center
- weeding & plant trimming the potted plants
- fertilizing & watering
- identifying plants
- preparing soil for planting
- pest management
- keeping a propagation area neat and orderly
- planting seeds – assist with our new seed planting program!
- Assisting with plant sales



Join our team of Propagating Gurus at the Garden Center propagation center headed by “Top Propagation Guru”, Ben Woodruff, Propagation Chair.

Bring garden gloves and hand clippers. Covered shoes are required. Hats and sun screen recommended. We have water available and lots of advice.



STUDENTS: EARN YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS!
Call the Gardens at 772-337-1959 to sign-up.

Are you a Member of Friends? Friends Membership is...



Horticulture



Education



Preservation



Community



Become a Member of a Growing Community...
Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc.



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



NAME THE UPCOMING VETERANS' GARDEN PROGRAM

The Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens will be hosting a gardening program for Veterans in collaboration with the American Red Cross - Service to the Armed Forces and the St. Lucie County Master Gardeners.

Activities include educational hands-on workshops, opportunities to interface with other Veterans and the many friends of gardening, and volunteer community service. The program will kick off this Fall, but organizers are busy now with planning, scheduling, resourcing, promotional development, and outreach.

We are looking for your help in naming this program to represent the value of gardening, community service, and the pride of our Veterans. If you have a naming suggestion, are interested in working with this program or would otherwise like to support it, please email Judy Nash-Wade at judy.nash-wade@redcross.org.



JAZZ JAMS

AT THE GARDENS



Wednesday

August 2nd & 30th

6:30 - 9:30 pm

Presented By



GARDEN OF THE MONTH: HIBISCUS GARDEN

Maintained by the Treasure Coast Hibiscus Society

The Treasure Coast Hibiscus Society continues to work the first and third Tuesday of each calendar month to maintain the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens Hibiscus Garden Room. A core group of the society's membership, Tony Rubeo, Bea Cooper, Laurie Heart, Ena Vilabrera, Blanca Borges, and Bill Manning work diligently every month weeding, re-planting, mulching, repairing sprinkler problems, fertilizing, spraying for insects and diseases, and participating in monthly plant sales at the Botanical Gardens, etc.

The membership of the Society holds meetings on a quarterly basis. The Society goals are as follows:

1. Continue to reach out to the community and recruit new membership.
2. Continue to raise Hibiscus plants from seed; once they reach flower stage, graft them onto a Pride of Hakens root stock; name the plant; and then add to the American Hibiscus Society list of names.
3. Continue to re-plant the garden room with Hybridize Hibiscus plants with proper nomenclature.

**Bill Manning, President
Treasure Coast Hibiscus Society**



Upcoming Featured Garden Areas: September • Rose Garden / October • Orchid Room / November •

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Lets
grow
together



University of Florida IFAS Extension Central Florida Gardening Calendar — August

What to Plant

Annuals/Bedding plants: The hottest days of summer limit planting to heat-tolerant vinca, coleus, salvia, and celosia. **See Annuals:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_annual_landscape_plants

Bulbs: Aztec lily, butterfly lily, walking iris, and spider lily can be planted any time of the year, even late summer. **See Bulbs for Florida:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_bulbous_flowers

Herbs: Herbs that can be planted from plants (not seeds) include bay laurel, ginger, Mexican tarragon, and rosemary. **See Herbs:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_herbs

Vegetables: Start planting eggplant, okra, peppers, pumpkin, squashes, and tomatoes for the fall garden. **See Vegetable Gardening in Florida:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening

What to Do

Palms: Check older fronds for yellowing as it may indicate a magnesium or potassium deficiency. Apply an appropriate palm fertilizer. **See Palm Nutrition and Fertilization:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_palm_nutrition

Vegetables: Solarize the vegetable garden for 4–6 weeks in preparation for fall planting if not done in July. **See Soil Solarization:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_soil_solarization

Poinsettias: Pinch back poinsettias and mums before the end of the month to allow time for buds to form for winter bloom. **See Poinsettias:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_poinsettia

Ornamental plants: Fertilize those plants that show signs of deficiencies. Rapid growth and leaching rains may result in nutrient deficiencies in some plants. **See Nutrient Deficiencies (Landscape Plants):** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_nutrient_deficiencies_landscape_plants and **Landscape Fertilization:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_landscape_fertilization

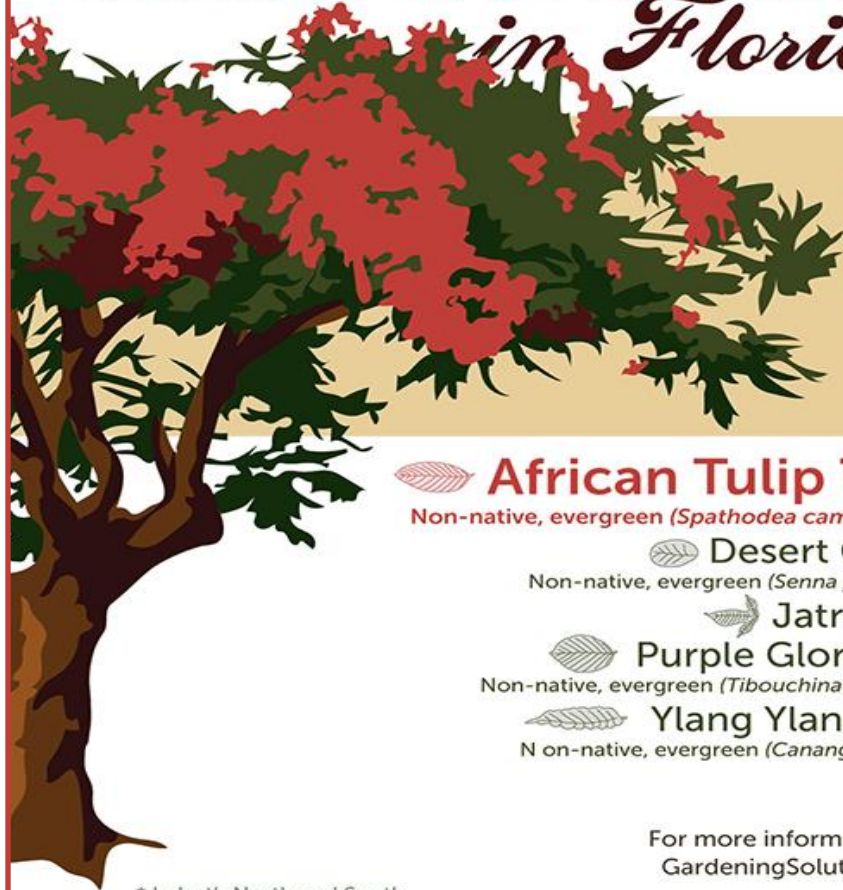
Fertilizer Bans: Numerous municipalities in south Florida prohibit the application of fertilizer to lawns and/or landscape plants during the summer rainy season (June–September). See if such an ordinance exists in your area.

Annuals/Bedding plants: Remove spent blooms, cut back, and fertilize flowering annuals and perennials to extend the bloom season into the fall months. **See Annuals:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_annual_landscape_plants and **Perennial Landscape Plants:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_perennials


WHAT'S FLOWERING

in Florida?

AUGUST



**NORTH/
CENTRAL**

- Jatropha* 
Non-native, evergreen (*Jatropha integrerrima*)
- Thryallis 
Non-native, evergreen (*Galphimia glauca*)
- Plumbago 
Non-native, evergreen (*Plumbago auriculata*)
- Swamp Mallow 
Native, deciduous (*Hibiscus coccineus*)



African Tulip Tree

Non-native, evergreen (*Spathodea campanulata*)



Desert Cassia

Non-native, evergreen (*Senna polyphylla*)



Jatropha*



Purple Glory Tree

Non-native, evergreen (*Tibouchina granulosa*)



Ylang Ylang Tree

Non-native, evergreen (*Cananga odorata*)

SOUTH






UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



For more information, please visit
GardeningSolutions.ifas.ufl.edu

* In both North and South.

EDIBLES TO PLANT IN AUGUST

	North	Central	South
 Easily Survives Transplanting	Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Eggplant, Endive/Escarole, Kale, Peppers, Tomatoes	Eggplant, Endive/Escarole, Peppers, Tomatoes	Eggplant, Peppers, Tomatoes
 Survives Careful Transplanting	Carrots, Celery, Mustard	Carrots	
 Use Seeds	Beans (bush, pole, lima), Cucumbers, Onions (green, shallot), Squash (summer, winter), Turnips	Beans (bush, pole, lima), Okra, Onions (greens, shallot), Peas (southern), Squash (summer, winter)	Okra, Pumpkin, Squash (summer, winter)



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SOLUTIONS**

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GardeningSolutions.ifas.ufl.edu

A message from the County of St. Lucie and the UF/IFAS Extension:

PREPARING YOUR YARD FOR HURRICANE SEASON



Is your yard ready for hurricane season? June is right around the corner and the official start of hurricane season.

One of the best preparations is to inspect your trees in your yard. What kind of condition are they in? Are there any limbs that are too close to your home or are weak and

could act as a projectile, causing damage, should a storm hit?

This is the time to take action and prepare your trees for the storm season. It is always best to call a licensed tree service with adequate liability insurance. Get written estimates from two or more companies and a detailed description in writing before you hire anyone to do the work. Remember to include cleanup and debris removal.

Paying attention to trees before there is a potential problem can save you hundreds of dollars in the long run and stress from cleanup and recovery.

For additional information:

http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/master_gardener_disaster_resources.html

Learn how to properly prune your Palm trees, and AVOID "hurricane pruning," which can actually cause more damage to the Palm! Go to: <http://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/care/pruning/pruning-palms.html>

Furthermore, residents are reminded to trim trees now and not wait until a storm is threatening our area. Once St. Lucie County is in a storm's projected path, vegetative debris might not be picked up before the storm impacts our area, causing more damage and debris to be pickup during the post-storm recovery.

Please contact Kate Rotindo (Urban Horticulture Agent) at the St. Lucie County Extension Office for more information: krotindo@ufl.edu or 772-462-1660.



HORTICULTURE HAPPENINGS...

Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens

Horticulture Class Series 2016

Pre- and Post-Hurricane • Landscape Preparations

1. Basic safety first: wear real shoes, no flip flops, preferably work boots, work gloves, eye protection. Training in the use of power tools, especially chain saws. Watch for power lines. Watch for sharp debris - metal, glass, etc. Most people get hurt by hurricanes after the hurricane, not during it.
2. Pre-Hurricane: most important issue is plant, especially, tree health. Properly selected and cared for trees survive hurricanes and do not add to the damage being caused. Consider what type of damage your property is subject to when you are selecting plants: wind, salt spray, fresh water flooding, salt water flooding, and damage from windblown debris. Select your trees to survive storm damage.
3. Selection and location: trees that are from hurricane prone areas, i.e. natives, will survive storms better than others. Also trees from areas that traditionally have cyclones. Generally, short trunks, short round or oval canopies, low center of gravity, strong branches and trunk. Natives



especially are well adapted. Plant location can limit health by limiting the size of the root ball. Most uprooted trees have damaged roots or very limited root balls. Do not plant large trees where the branches will over top or rub against your roof.

4. Healthy plants survive better and recover faster than other plants. Generally and always true. Check your plants for general health. Dead limbs, damaged trunks, damaged roots from excavations, paving, etc. Poor pruning leads to "witches broom growth" and often breaking limbs.
5. Palms: Do not 'hurricane prune' palms. In a storm the loose material will fall to the ground quite early and will stay where put. Neither fronds nor fruit (except for coconuts, which should be removed) will become a damage issue

in a storm. So called "hurricane pruning" leads to pencil pointing with a resulting weak trunk that may break off during a storm.

6. Container plants: my storage policy is to lay them down on the ground in sheltered locations – shrub borders, fenced vegetable areas, etc. I have never lost a plant doing this - Andrew, Frances, Jean.
7. Post- hurricane: remember the safety issue. Also think about heat and how much work you can do comfortably. Pick up the debris. Cut off any seriously wind damaged materials, especially materials that are hanging free. If it looks likely to survive leave it on. Wash off salt. Otherwise do nothing.
8. Downed trees: if you have down trees or shrubs that will take a while to get raised, protect the root ball. Cover the root ball with anything except plastic; cloth, palm fronds, branches, etc. Keep the root ball moist. Keep in mind that you can do as much damage to the roots raising the tree as the wind did taking it down. You only want to raise a tree once. Be prepared with stakes, ties, help, etc. Pick it up, stake and tie it, water well, trim off any obvious dying materials but do not prune until you see new growth which may take a while. Pruning of any plants tends to encourage new growth and should be left till later if the roots have been damaged.
9. What trees to choose: native live oaks, gumbo limbo, native figs, sea grapes, pigeon plum, capers, coconut palms, sabal palms. Drive around the old residential areas and look at the big trees - they survived the storms and hurricanes.



Orchids, Orchids & More...



**Please join us at the
Port St. Lucie Botanical
Gardens On Saturday,
August 26, 2017
for a plant sale featuring
Orchids, Orchids, & More...**

**The plant sale will begin at
9am and run through 1pm,
featuring everything
Orchids and much more,
Including numerous vendors
who are sure to delight
all who attend.**

**Saturday - August 26, 2017
9am - 1pm**

Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens Children's Event

All About Orchids

**Saturday • August 26th
11 am to Noon**

**Explore our orchid
garden, learn about
different types of
orchids, and make
a fun take home
orchid project.**



**Please Call
772.337.1959 to register.**

Free • Ages 5-12 & Families