

LEARN TO ENHANCE YOUR YARD WITH NATIVE PLANTS
**2ND TRANSFORMING LANDSCAPES
 FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

FEBRUARY 2, 2018

AT THE

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

7955 58TH STREET

VERO BEACH, FL 32967

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE



8AM	Registration \$10 in advance, \$15 at door
8AM	Vince Lamb , How to photograph your garden plants & butterflies
9AM	Dr. Craig Huegel , Joy of Native Gardening
9:45AM	Chris Waltz , Treasure Coast plants for your yard
10:30AM	Break to visit demonstrations
11:15AM	Michelle Peterson , Gardening for Native Bees
12PM	Break for lunch
1PM	Dr. Marc Minno , Gardening for Butterflies
1:45PM	Kirsten Hines & Dr. James Kushlan , Gardening for birds in South Florida
2:30PM	Michael Kuras , Planning for a Sustainable Garden & Landscape
3:30PM	Summary & Discussion: What can we do to improve our Lagoon and our Plants and Animals

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 \$10 in advance (\$15 at the door)**

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. Craig N. Huegel, Adjunct Faculty, St. Petersburg College, owner and operator of Hawthorn Hill Native Wildflowers, and is the author of *Native Plant Landscaping for Florida Wildlife and Native Wildflowers*, *Other Ground Covers for Florida Landscapes*, and *Native Florida Plants for Shady Landscapes*. Interests are: wildlife and wildlife habitat - especially the concept of creating habitat in otherwise developed landscapes; native plants; gardening; music, film and literature; winemaking; photography; and sports.

Chris Waltz, a 4th generation Floridian, has a love and passion for the real/natural Florida. As a member of the Florida Native Plant Society and Florida Wildflower Foundation for nearly 10 years, his landscape is nearly 100% Florida native plants, which recently was on the Conradina Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society's Yard tour.

Michelle Peterson, an avid gardener, became concerned about bees nine years ago after noticing a scarcity of honeybee pollinators and learning about Colony Collapse Disorder. Soon after, she founded and was president of the Treasure Coast Beekeepers Association. She later became interested in the plight of native bees and other forgotten pollinators, and was certified as a Florida Master Beekeeper specializing in Native Bee Apiculture. She served as a Florida Master Gardener in St. Lucie County for the last seven years, and recently became a Florida Master Naturalist for Coastal and Upland Habitats. Michelle has a strong interest in supporting backyard beekeepers, promoting and encouraging native pollinators in residential gardens and landscapes, and discouraging the use of harmful pesticides. She is currently working to create native bee habitats in local preserves and public gardens.

Dr. Marc Minno has a Ph.D. in zoology and more than 30 years of professional experience as an interdisciplinary scientist. He is currently a Water Resource Coordinator with the Suwannee River Water Management District in Live Oak, Florida. In addition to his many years of experience with wetlands, Dr. Minno is also keenly interested in conservation biology and has conducted field research throughout the Southeastern US as well as in the western US, Central America, South America, Caribbean, Europe, and India. Dr. Minno is currently working with biologists in Cuba to better understand the ecological relationships of imperiled butterflies in southern Florida. He has authored/ coauthored six books and five book chapters on butterflies and plants. Some of his books will be available for purchase.

Kirsten Hines is a Coconut Grove-based author, photographer and conservationist with an M.S. in biology. Her writing and photography highlight nature and wildlife around the world, as well as closer to home where, among other conservation work, she aims to inspire the re-greening of South Florida's urban corridor. Her photography illustrates her co-authored books *Attracting Birds to South Florida Gardens* (2015 Florida Book Awards winner, Home & Garden), *Birds of Fairchild* (2015 Florida Book Awards winner, Coffee Table Book), and the recently published book *Biscayne National Park*. She is also co-author of the award-winning book *Key Biscayne* and the *Institute*

for Regional Conservation's online native plant resource, *Natives for Your Neighborhood*. Kirsten's photography has appeared in *Shutterbug*, *Expressions*, *Audubon*, various nature photography showcases, public art programs, and solo and juried exhibitions locally, nationally and internationally.

Dr. James Kushlan is an ornithologist, educator, writer, and conservationist. His professional positions have included those of research associate Smithsonian Institution, director USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, professor and biology chair The University of Mississippi, professor Texas A&M-Commerce, and wildlife biologist National Park Service. He is past-president of the American Ornithologists' Union and the Waterbird Society and past-editor of the journal *Waterbirds*. He was chair and senior author of the North American Bird Conservation Plan, founder of Waterbird Conservation for the Americas and chair of the Bahamas Environment Fund. He also founded and chairs the IUCN Heron Specialist Group (Heron Conservation) and has served on the boards of the American Bird Conservancy, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, North American Bird Conservation Initiative-US, Tropical Audubon Society, Biscayne Nature Center, and History Miami and chaired the US Bird Conservation Alliance. He currently serves on the boards of the American Ornithologists' Union, Waterbird Conservation for the Americas, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Zoo Miami Foundation where he is chair, and the Everglades Foundation and on the BirdLife International and University of Miami College of Arts and Sciences advisory councils. He has a PhD from the University of Miami and has been awarded two honorary doctorates. He provided the impetus for the Bird Conservation Program at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, University of Miami's Chair of Waterbird Biology and Conservation, and Zoo Miami's Everglades waterbird exhibit. He has published over 200 technical papers and 10 books; the most recent (with Kirsten Hines) are *Attracting Birds to South Florida Gardens*, *Birds of Fairchild*, *Key Biscayne*, and *Biscayne National Park*.

Michael Kuras is a a native Floridian and second generation Florida landscape designer who provides informed, sustainable, native plant biased design. His work is shaped by decades of design influence from numerous art, architecture and landscape experiences, courses and discoveries. He was General Manager and lead Landscape Designer for Gold Coast Nursery and Landscape in Delray Beach, Florida an upscale, full service, container, field and retail nursery which provided landscape design, installation and maintenance services for residential and commercial clients specializing in water and oceanfront estates. As Chairman of several HOA landscape committees in Florida and Georgia he has advised and crafted design proposals for residential, commercial and institutional projects throughout the Southeastern United States and the Bahamas. His passion is design with a focus on aesthetics and sustainable ecologies utilizing native plants and incorporating environmentally friendly materials and methods. He has continued active participation in the landscape field with classes, memberships, seminar attendance and formal education in landscape, ecology and environmentally related subjects.
