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Nancy LaPointe

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MAY 2025 CHAPTER NEWS

**THE FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY'S MISSION IS TO
CHAMPION FLORIDA'S NATIVE PLANTS AND THEIR HABITATS.**

Welcome New Members to Lake Beautyberry Chapter!

James Walworth
Leesburg

Janet Grier
Leesburg

Janet Gato
Mount Dora

Native Plant Article

**Can You Tell the Difference?
Porterweed: Native vs Non-Native**



Stachytarpheta jamaicensis



Stachytarpheta cayennensis

Features	<i>Stachytarpheta jamacensis</i>	<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>
Growth	Low-growing, 2', 3-4 ft spread	Tall-growing, 4-6'
Leaf shape	Somewhat oval to tapered point	Somewhat oval
Stem	Thin, non-woody, green	May have woody base, may be purplish
Leaf edge	Coarsely toothed	Coarsely toothed
Leaf texture	Coarse, wrinkled, textured	Coarse, wrinkled, textured
Leaf position	In pairs, opposite	In pairs, opposite
Flowers	Small, tubular, blue on thin slender stalks, often with white center	Tubular, slender spike, more flowers at once, dark purple to blue with white center
Bloom time	May be all year, sporadically	Spring - Fall
Light	Full sun – partial shade	Full sun – partial shade
Soil	Dry	Moist, well-drained
Range	Florida Native	Native to Mesoamerica, Caribbean, parts of South America down to Argentina and Paraguay

SOLD OUT! April 12, Chapter Native Plant Sale W.T. Bland Library

Thank you to all the shoppers and volunteers who contributed to the expansion of more native plantings in our community. All 250 plants sold out!



In addition to less water and pesticide usage with native plants, a survey commissioned by the National Wildlife Federation, in partnership with the National Gardening Association, found more people are gardening for wildlife by purchasing native plants and landscaping that help pollinators like at-risk butterflies, bees, and birds.

Upcoming Activities

Forest Preserve Guided Nature Walks

New topic each 3rd Saturday!

8:30 AM



March 15, 2025

April 19, 2024

May 17, 2025

June 21, 2025

July 19, 2025

August 16, 2025

Spring Blooms

Trees that Talk

Caterpillars

Basics to ID Plants

Florida Black Bear

Tree Defense Against Pests

Our knowledgeable naturalists will help all ages explore the intricate relationships between plants, animals and microorganisms that make up a sandhill forest ecosystem. **Program takes place at the north entry and pavilion at 8:30 AM and a guided hike on the dirt trail is available afterwards. No registration required.**

Sponsored by the GFWC Mount Dora Woman's Club

Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program or the views expressed by participants.



W.T. Bland Public Library
(352) 735-7180(option 5)

1995 N. Donnelly St. Mount Dora, FL 32757
library@cityofmountdora.com

May 24, Saturday, 8am-10am, Coral Ardisia Removal Workday Forest Preserve, W.T. Bland Library, 1995 N Donnelly Street, Mount Dora

Please join us at the trailhead (look for the 'Forest Preserve Work Day' sign) and bring your work gloves and garden clippers for this work day in the forest, with volunteers on hand to demonstrate proper removal techniques. Meet time is 8am at the entrance at the Forest Preserve located behind the library parking lot. W.T. Bland Library, 1995 N Donnelly Street, Mount Dora.

Next Chapter Meeting

May 18, Sunday, 1:30 pm, "Native Plants We Love...and Hate"
W.T. Bland Library, 1995 N Donnelly Street, Mount Dora

Find out how, and why Lake Beautyberry members John, Delphine, and Suzanne can love... and hate certain Florida native plants. You can add your experience too! Topics include: Don't let these shrubs Creep you out, Replacing lawn with ground covers, and Right plant, but my garden was not the right place. This event is free and open to the public.



Associate Chapter Event

You are invited!

FNPS The Villages 10th Annual Garden Tour and Plant and Refreshment Sale

Saturday, May 31, 7:30am-12:30pm, the tour is free

Again, The Villages Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society would like to extend an invitation to your current members to our self-guided Florida native garden tour being conducted throughout The Villages.

The tour is a free event for Florida Native Plant Society members and special invited guests. You'll enjoy ten plus, predominantly Florida native gardens on the tour. Some of the gardens are award winners. One garden has been featured on the TV show "Flip My Florida Yard" and an update is expected to air this summer. Many of the owners will be in their garden to answer questions or chat about gardening. Several groups will be viewing the gardens, as well as individuals. It's a great chance to share gardening tips and landscape ideas.

Over 100 garden enthusiasts attended the tour in the past. Please plan to stop for plant purchases and refreshments at the end of the tour and share your experiences to make the tour even better next year.

Please email lakebeautyberry@gmail.com attention Neta if you would like to attend this event.

Webinar Series

Don't forget about the six-part Botany in Context Webinar Series with Jim Folsom, PhD!

This series was highlighted in previous newsletters and worth a reminder! All classes are on Wednesdays at 2pm. **Note:** This is a Florida Wildflower Foundation sponsored event.

- Part 1, 2, 3 and 4: **Recording now available**
- Part 5: Botanical Jargon, May 21
- Part 6: Using Keys to Florida Plants, June 18

[Click here for additional details and registration](#)

Neta

Neta Villalobos-Bell

Co-President

Lake Beautyberry Chapter

Florida Native Plant Society

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