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Coastal Plain Chapter

Georgia Native Plant Society

Members of Coastal Plain Chapter of GNPS Newsletter July 2022

Congratulations are in order

Heather Brasell, the immediate past president of our Coastal Plain Chapter, GNPS, has been selected as Georgia Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year by the American Tree Farm System. A team of representatives from the American Tree Farm System and Project Learning Tree recently came to Heather's farm to shoot an 8-minute video that will be presented at the Georgia Forestry Association Conference on July 30, 2022, when Heather is to be honored by the association. We will post that video on our Coastal Plain Chapter Facebook page, once it is available.

Save the Date

The fall meeting of the Coastal Plain Chapter, GNPS will be **Sat., Nov. 12**, at the Okefenokee Swamp Park, just south of Waycross. We will meet in-person at the OSP's Cypress Cove Annex building, Covid levels permitting. Jimmy Lindsey, CPC Vice President, is working on event details. He will announce speakers and agenda items in the coming months.



Photo above: At the first Tiftarea Junior Gardeners' meeting, children enjoy an activity matching seeds to flower packets.

CPC Member starts Junior Gardener program

One of our newest CPC members, Ky Tanton, has begun the process of forming a garden club for young people, ages 7 - 17, in Tifton. The first meeting of the Tiftarea Junior Gardeners was June 18, with 9 young people (and parents) in attendance. CPC member Marilynne Marshall is helping Ky in this process.

Ky is a student at ABAC, planning to pursue a career in agronomy. Ky has been an active CPC volunteer, helping at plant sales and assisting with kids' native plant activities at Camp OSCAR. Her newest project is working with the young gardeners to create a native plant pollinator garden at the Tifton - Tift County Public Library.

The library staff applied for funding for the garden from the Georgia Public Library Service in partnership with the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail. Marilynne Marshall plans to help Ky apply for additional assistance from our chapter and the Magnolia Garden Club of Tifton. The garden will be registered on the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail.



Photo above: View of restoration site adjacent to the Creekside Education Center at Chehaw Park, Albany, Ga.

Update on Restoration Project at Chehaw Park

Work is underway at the Chehaw Park Native Plant / Pollinator Project in Albany. CPC Vice-President Jimmy Lindsey is spearheading this GNPS Restoration project that involves nine volunteers who have put in over 100 hours since July 2021. They have identified and labeled the existing native plants and removed undesirable plants.

Tasks ahead are plant selection (based on soil type and sun light) and securing a watering system. The restoration team is very excited about the possibilities created by the recent approval of their GNPS Restoration Site grant request, the proceeds of which will be used exclusively for the purchase of native plants to be planted in the late fall of this year.

Great Georgia Pollinator Census

On August 19 and 20, 2022, CPC members are encouraged to participate in the [Great Georgia Pollinator Census](#), organized by the University of Georgia. Anyone can do this at home, but there are other locations available, including Gaskins Forest Education Center in Alapaha and the Okefenokee Swamp

Park near Waycross. To learn how to do the count, you can sign up for a newsletter or participate in a virtual training session on July 11.

Planning for Fall Projects?

The Coastal Plain Chapter has been assisting with native plant gardens in public places by providing up to \$100.00 for plants or supplies related to the project. If you are considering a project in your area, such as a school garden, be sure to contact Amy Heidt ameidty@bellsouth.net for the application.

State Botanical Garden of Georgia

The SBOG in Athens offers classes toward a [Certificate in Native Plants](#). For further information on the CNP program, email Sean Cameron sbgeduc@uga.edu or call 706-542-6156. [July Classes](#) are listed below.

July 16: Medicinal Plants of the Southeast, online

July 23: Native Plant Propagation, Chattahoochee Nature Center, Roswell, Ga.

Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia

The Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia's [annual conference](#) is set for Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2022 at Unicoi State Park. Check out the EEA website to find a number of [resources for environmental education](#) and outdoor learning.

Strategic Planning to further CPC's Mission

The Coastal Plain Chapter board will brainstorm for ideas to further our mission at our July 20th CPC BOD meeting. If you have an idea to share, please email it to maryalice.applegate@gnps.org. Our mission is to conserve and protect the native plants in natural communities of Georgia and to promote the use of native plants in landscaping and restoration plantings.

CPC Board meetings The next meeting of CPC Board of Directors is July 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. via zoom. Board meetings are open to all CPC members. Contact Mary Alice Applegate maryalice.applegate@gnps.org to request a zoom link.

CPC Board of Directors

Mary Alice Applegate, President

Jimmy Lindsey, Vice President

Katie Antczak, Secretary

Elizabeth King, Treasurer

Heather Brasell, Past President and CPC Education Committee Chair

Erin Cork, CPC Conservation Chair

Paul Sumner, CPC Membership Chair

Amy Heidt, CPC Propagation Chair

Gail Farley, Representative, East Coast
Mary Beth Cary, Representative, West Georgia

The Coastal Plain Chapter of the Georgia Native Plant Society focuses on native plant species
and ecosystem issues in the Coastal Plain region of Georgia.



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