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# Coastal Plain Chapter

## *Georgia Native Plant Society*

### **2023 March Email to CPC Members**

#### **South Georgia Native Plant and Wildflower Symposium in Tifton**

The SGNPWS will happen soon! **Register by March 2, 2023** to get the early bird rate of \$45.00. After March 2, the rate increases to \$60.00. You will enjoy three educational sessions and have an early chance to purchase plants from native plant vendors.

The plant sale begins at 8:30 a.m.; indoor registration check-in starts at 9:00; and indoor sessions begin at 9:30 a.m. Speakers will focus on using native plants in the home landscape, including design and maintenance considerations. Registration fee includes brunch foods and lunch. Look [here](#) for more information, and to register.

#### **Whigham Rattlesnake Roundup**

CPC members Heather Brasell and Beth Grant will man an information table at the Whigham Rattlesnake Roundup on **Sat., March 4th**. For more information this conservation-focused event, go [here](#).



Photo above shows volunteers installing native plants in front of the Creekside Education Center, Chehaw Park, Albany, GA. On far right is CPC member Paul Sumner, and on far left is Amy Heidt.

### **Chehaw Park Restoration —Report from Jimmy Lindsey**

Thanks to a CPC GNPS Grant and an industrious group of volunteers, the [Chehaw Creekside Education Center](#) now has over 100 newly installed native plants. On Feb. 21, a crew of volunteers that included both local Master Gardeners and Coastal Plains members together made a HUGE difference in bringing this GNPS Restoration Project to life! In keeping with the purpose of the education center, functional identification signage was placed around the new plants.



### **Propagation by CPC Members Continues—Heather Brasell**

In the above photo, Phoenix Best stands behind half of Heather Brasell's outdoor propagation area. This year, Heather is germinating thirty-four species, 20 of which are local ecotypes and another 20 species from seed swaps. Seeds were kept in refrigeration for over two months and then planted in trays in early February (a bit later than her usual schedule.) Trays contain potting mix on the bottom, then seeds, then a thin layer of seed starter on top of the seeds. Propagation trays are hand-watered regularly. If there are lots of seeds of a species, she plants two trays, one for Coastal Plain GNPS plant sales, and another for her own use for in-field restoration projects at the Gaskins Forest Education Center and other properties. Heather also propagates from rooted tissue, using stems from coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*), Ashe's calamint (*Calamintha ashei*), and yellow jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*).



In photo above: l-r, Paul Sumner, Heather Brasell, Mary Alice Applegate, and Amy Heidt pause after digging *Yucca filamentosa* from the field. Photo was shot by Carol Bokros, from the Fringed Campion Chapter, based in Macon.

### **Plant Rescue, Berrien County**

On Sunday, Feb. 26, our chapter conducted an official GNPS native plant [rescue](#) on a timber-managed property in Berrien County. The forest property had been clearcut and will have herbicides applied later in the year, before it will be replanted in pines. Other species rescued include Carolina jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*), passion vine (*Passiflora incarnata*), fetterbush (*Lyonia sp.*), gallberry (*Ilex glabra*), wax myrtle (*Morella cerifera*), and primrose (*Oenothera sp.*)



Above, left to right: Heather Brasell, Mary Alice Applegate, Phoenix Best, Judy Branch, and Justin Smith pause after employing the "hack and squirt" and "cut stump and paint" methods using Garlon herbicide to eliminate invasive trees at the Weed Wrangle on Feb. 27. Photo by Triston Hansford.

### **Weed Wrangle, Georgia Museum of Agriculture**

At the Weed Wrangle event in Tifton, volunteers learned to identify several invasive species and how to control them, first in an orientation session and then by working as volunteers along a nature trail at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture. The event celebrating National Invasive Species Awareness Week was sponsored by [Gaskins Forest Education Center](#) and the [UGA Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health](#). The [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service](#), the [Georgia Museum of Agriculture](#), and the Coastal Plain Chapter, GNPS, were also co-sponsors. Participants removed hundreds of invasive camphor trees (*Cinnamomum camphora*), Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*), Japanese climbing fern (*Lygodium japonicum*) and coral ardisia (*Ardisia crenata*) along the nature trail, which isn't very "natural" with all the foreign plant invaders!

### **Invasive Species Cleanup Day at OSP**

Join other volunteers at the [Okefenokee Swamp Park](#) in Waycross on **March 11, 2023**, to remove invasive plant species from the park and prevent their spread into the [Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge](#). Activities start at 9:30

a.m. with an educational program and instructions. At the end of the day, enjoy a free boat tour. Register [here](#).

### **State Botanical Garden of Georgia**

The SBG in Athens offers [classes](#) toward a **Certificate in Native Plants**. Classes are also offered for the Plants and Pollinators Specialization. For further information, email Sean Cameron [sbgeduc@uga.edu](mailto:sbgeduc@uga.edu) or call 706-542-6156.

**March 11:** Soils of the Georgia Piedmont and Beyond, Athens

**March 17:** Plant Taxonomy: Online introduction; Part 4 concludes April 4

**March 25:** Spring Wildflowers of Upland Deciduous Forests, Athens

### **Field Trip Broxton Rocks, April 8**

Mark your calendar—Frankie Snow will lead a joint CPC GNPS / Georgia Botanical Society field trip to Broxton Rocks, a Nature Conservancy site in South Georgia. Also, Broxton Rocks is one of the featured sites in Edwards et al book, *Natural Communities of Georgia*, p. 417. To sign up, email Frankie Snow: [fsnow@sgc.edu](mailto:fsnow@sgc.edu). For more information, check the Georgia Botanical Society [website](#).

### **CPC Plant Sales are coming to a location near you!**

**April 1:** Coastal Wildscapes, Darien

**April 22:** St. Mary's Garden Club, St. Mary's

**April 29:** Wiregrass Farmers Market, Tifton

**May 5:** Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Symposium, Plains

Check our [website](#) for plant lists as they are updated.

### **CPC Board of Directors**

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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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