***Gardening for Life***

***65th Annual***

***Tropical Short Course***

NGC Tri-Refresher

Master Gardener Continuing Education

January 19 & 20, 2022

**Greenacres Community Center**

501 Swain Blvd.

Greenacres, FL 33463

(561) 642-2195



Michelle Maguire, Chairperson

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**Wednesday, January 19**

8:00 – 8:30 Registration

8:30 – 8:45 Welcome and Introductions

8:45 – 10:00 **Nature’s Best Hope Speaker Doug Tallamy**

 **Learn how to join Homegrown National Park**

 Douglas W. Tallamy awakened thousands of readers to an urgent situation: wildlife populations are in decline because the native plants they depend on are fast disappearing. His solution? Plant more natives. He will outline his vision for a grassroots approach to conservation.Since more than 80% of the land in the United States is privately owned*,*Tallamy proposes homeowners everywhere turn their yards into conservation corridors that provide wildlife habitats by planting native plants.  Because this approach relies on the initiatives of private individuals, it is immune from the whims of government policy. He calls this approach Homegrown National Park. Even more important, it’s practical, effective, and easy—you will walk away with specific suggestions you can incorporate into your own yard.

10:00 – 11:00 **Landscaping with Natives Speaker Rose Béchard Butman**

**Rooting For Our Future: Restoring Nature One Garden at a Time**

Rose Béchard-Butman, NatureScape Program Coordinator, ISA Certified Arborist, Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Natural Resources Division of Broward County

Any native planting can help — at least in a small way — to bridge the gaps in our fragmented, overdeveloped habitat. But what should you emphasize? We will explore how to incorporate recommended native Florida plant species that would be great additions to our urban landscapes.

11:00 – 11:30 **Break**

11:30 – 12:30 **Forest Bathing Speaker Reina Snyder**

 **Nature: Primal Healer**

 Reina Snyder is the Environmental Chairman for District X, Green School Ambassador and Green School Judge for the FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, Green School Recognition Program as well as a Garden and Environmental Consultant. She will present the accumulating scientific evidence of the past 40 years as to the powerful effects of nature on human physiology, psychology and well-being. Humans are designed to be part of nature yet recent data indicates ninety-three percent of our time is spent indoors - much of it on electronics. This is exacting a significant health toll; yet the remedy maybe under our noses, or rather our feet. Take a walk outside for 20 minutes every day. Experience the shift! In this talk, Ms. Snyder presents a complete plan for improved health and well-being – and it isn’t about exercise!

12:30 – 1:00 **Lunch**

1:00 – 2:00 **Gardening Refresher Tour -- Flamingo Gardens – Chris Maler, Director of Horticulture**

 **The Enduring Garden -- Lessons from a nearly 100-year-old South Florida garden.**

  As Flamingo Gardens approaches its 100th year, we look at what this mature sub-tropical garden can teach us about tree longevity, culture, and hurricane damage.

2:00 - 3:00 **Floral Design Speaker John Speziale**

 **Floral Splendors of the World**

 John Speziale is the owner of Petals on the Sand LLC and is a Master Designer with 48 years of experience. He will present the many uses of flowers in any container that one may have at home,. with several simple arrangements that even a novice can do.

**Thursday, January 20**

8:00 - 8: 30 Registration

8:30 – 8:45 Welcome and Introductions

8:45 – 9: 45 **Natives for Your Neighborhood Speaker George Gann,** Executive Director, The

 Institute for Regional Conservation

 **Why planting local matters**

 Since 2005, The Institute for Regional Conservation (IRC) has provided easy-to-use free online resources on more than 600 species of native plants recommended for landscaping in southern Florida, and some of the wildlife that utilizes them. Lead author George Gann will describe the conservation and ecological restoration underpinnings of this program, and how it differs from other resources. To maximize success and optimize conservation results, IRC recommends designing gardens using native plants within their local native ranges, accounting for climate and other environmental change. These recommendations are based on George’s more than 40 years’ experience in the native plant trade, as an ecological restoration practitioner, and as a global leader in the development of restoration guidance. 2021-2030 is the United National Decade on Ecosystem Restoration – join IRC and people all over the world by planting native, attracting wildlife, and helping to heal the Earth. It can start with just one plant,

9:45 – 10:45  **Ocean to Everglades: South Florida Depends on Clean Water**

 **Speakers:**   [**Eric Eikenberg**](https://www.evergladesfoundation.org/staff/eric-eikenberg)**,** Chief Executive Officer, The Everglades Foundation

              [**Mac Stone**](https://www.evergladesfoundation.org/board-members/mac-stone)**,** Conservation Photographer, Board Member of The Everglades Foundation

  The bountiful systems of streams, aquifers, lakes, estuaries, and springs feed the widest river in the world: The “River of Grass” – America’s Everglades. Water is the key to understanding the Everglades and the manmade environment that surrounds it. The Everglades provides the daily water supply for nearly 9 million Floridians, and is the foundation of the tourism, real estate, and recreation industries. The survival of the Everglades depends on the quality of its water. But restoring the beloved ecosystem will require more than restoring the flow of desperately needed water to the Everglades and Florida Bay. Eric Eikenberg will explain how we can restore and protect this beautiful and vital ecosystem right in our backyard. Mac Stone will share his story of how he began his career in photography and conservation in the Everglades.

10:45 – 11:15 **Break**

11:15 – 12:15  **Something Old – Something New Speaker Larry Grosser**

 **How Changing Environmental Conditions Have Affected Backyard Farming.**

 Larry Grosser is a retired Environmental Scientist, 24-year Master Gardener, past president of the Palm Beach Rare Fruit Council and a Docent at Mount’s Botanical Garden & Unbelievable Acres Botanical Garden.

 Among the topics he will address:

 • How recent algae blooms on both coasts have led to local fertilizer restrictions

 • How BMP’s (Best Management Practices) can be applied in the home landscape

 • How warming temperatures have led to changes in edible gardening

 • Plant pests & diseases that are spreading through Florida

 • New varieties of citrus, tropical fruits & vegetables for south Florida

 • Changes to irrigation methods including hydroponic gardening

 • How tissue culture has changed the way we buy some tropical fruit plants

12:15 – 12:45 **Lunch**

12:45 – 1:45 **Gardening Refresher Tour**—Local Native Tree and Shrub Park and Hydroponic and Aquaponic Garden For our Gardening Tour, we are happy to welcome CJ McCartney, Palm Beach County Master Gardener and Native Plant Landscape Designer and Installer. CJ will demonstrate hands-on practical application of the knowledge we have gained through this two-day conference. You will visit a sterile lawn converted to a vibrant pollinator garden and be able to query CJ concerning the design and types of plants that you will see as you tour. If you are Zooming, we will share a YouTube link with similar information. A display of a down-sized aquaponic and hydroponic garden also will be included in this presentation. Contact information: CJ McCartney, cjmpbc@gmail.com

1:45 – 2:45 **Floral Design “Ikenobo Ikebana: Beauty and Harmony of Flowers“**

**Demonstrators/Speakers: Kaoru Vrana,** President, South Florida Chapter of Ikenobo Ikebana

 **Kathy Jones**, Vice President, South Florida Chapter of Ikenobo Ikebana

 Ikenobo Ikebana has a long history, with a tradition of more than 550 years. It has continued developing, influenced by the cycle of the seasons and changing lifestyles. There are three main styles of Ikenobo Ikebana - Rikka, Shoka, and Free Style. The traditional forms, developed by the ancient masters had specific rules and guidelines. Over time, the art form has undergone an evolution, still respecting the philosophy of the original principles.  They will demonstrate how to create these various styles of arrangements.