

Suncoast Tropical Fruit and Vegetable Club

Meeting Notice

- Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 14, 2015
Where: Main Room Nokomis Community Center
234 Nippino Trail East, Nokomis, FL 34275
- Agenda:** 6:30 pm Chat and Tasting Table
7:00 pm Introduction and Presentation
8:30 pm Plant Raffle
- Speaker:** Laurel Schiller, Co-owner Florida Native Plants Nursery
- Topic:** Native Edibles for All....If you don't eat them wildlife will and that's a good thing.

Laurel Schiller is the co-owner of Florida Native Plants Nursery. For many years Laurel has grown and sold native and hardy Florida friendly plants. The nursery has hundreds of species trees, fruit trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, groundcovers, wildflowers, pond plants, edibles, herbs and eco-products. It is a truly unique collection.

Laurel has a degree in wildlife biology from Oregon State University and a degree in systematics and ecology from Indiana State University. Laurel taught biology at Roosevelt University in Chicago. She also worked as a mammalogist at the New York Zoological Society (Bronx Zoo) and at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. She is a former National Landscape Design Critic (Florida Garden Club) and a Florida Master Naturalist.

Both locally and state-wide, Laurel has been active and generous in committing her time and energy to the Florida Native Nursery Association and the State Education Committee for the Association, Sarasota County Parks Board, Sarasota Tree Advisory Council, Friends of Oscar Scherer Park, Manasota Chapter of the Florida Grape Growers Association, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens' Speaker's Bureau and many more.

She is an active speaker presenting programs and seminars on Florida native plants, natural Florida landscaping and eco-gardening to groups and societies throughout Southwest Florida. She is the co-author of Natural Florida Landscaping published in 2007 by Pineapple Press.