



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
THE FORT MYERS-LEE COUNTY GARDEN COUNCIL, INC.  
2166 VIRGINIA AVENUE, FORT MYERS, FL 33901  
FMLCGARDENCOUNCIL.COM

## **Berne Davis Botanical Garden**

**Open to the Public  
Tue. & Thur. 10 AM - 1 PM**

### **Docent Schedule 2025-2026**

11/4	The GC of Lehigh Acres
11/11	Kelly Greens GC
11/18	Punta Gorda GC
11/25	Fiddlesticks Garden Club
12/2	Alva Garden Club
12/9	American Hibiscus Soc.
12/16	Bonsai Society of SW FL
12/23	Florida Herb Enthusiasts
12/30	Caloosahatchee Brom. Soc.
01/6	Carissa Garden Club
01/13	Florida Native Plant Soc.
01/20	Crown Colony GC
01/27	GC of Cape Coral
02/3	Gulf Coast Garden Club
02/1	UF/IFAS MG Volunteers
02/17	McGregor Garden Club
02/28	Periwinkle Garden Club
03/3	The Poinciana GC
03/10	Potpourri Designers
03/17	Royal Palm Garden Club
03/24	Shell Islands GC
03/31	SW FL Orchid Society
04/2	Bonita Springs Trop. FC
04/7	District IX Judges' Council
04/14	Estero Island GC
04/28	Tidewater Tillers
May	FMLCGC Board Members

Each club is responsible for finding members to work or finding another club willing to trade dates.

**Problems/concerns—contact  
First VP Wendy Sprague:  
239-728-6543  
ibseafax@aol.com**

## **P r e s i d e n t ' s   M e s s a g e**

Welcome members and friends it is hard to believe that the holiday season is upon us.

There will be lots of ways to enjoy and celebrate this special time of year with your fellow Council members. You will be able to listen to music, create holiday crafts and decorations, tour holiday homes, exchange Christmas cookies and recipes and of course shop for holiday décor and gifts. Always feel free to invite others to enjoy these activities with you.

Please read through this Courier and take special note of all the special events listed through out this edition.

We have been impacted by the “Larchmont Ave. Project” that began in May. This was implemented by the City of Fort Myers to improve infrastructure and to support the The Edison Ford Winter Estates Master Plan.

\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT ACCESS TO THE COUNCIL BUILDING IS ONLY FROM VIRGINIA AVENUE AND THE PARKING AREA INSIDE THE GATE IS FOR HANDICAPPED AND DROP-OFF ONLY. ALL OTHERS MAY PARK ALONG VIRGINIA AND EUCLID AVES.\*\*\*

\*\*\*Larchmont Ave. is scheduled to reopen by the end of November and we will keep you updated when that happens. \*\*\*

The Strolling Flower Show “Awesome Blossoms” is scheduled for Feb., 10, 2026, 10 am to 4 pm. We are seeking designers. The artist is a local painter, Shah Hadjebi, who’s is titled “Translucence, Reflections and Light”. His art will be a great back drop for our wonderful flower arrangers. Please email or call the Council if you are interested in participating.



Wishing everyone a peaceful Holiday Season,  
Sue Fero  
President

**WWW.FMLCGARDENCOUNCIL.COM**

## Garden Council Meeting Dates

### GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

For All Society and Club Members. Please invite a spouse or friend .

**Friday, Jan. 10, 2026**

**"20 Easy to Grow Wildflowers"**

Sara Burke - Chair, FL Wildflower Foundation

**Friday, Mar. 13, 2026**

**"Plants in the Caribbean "**

Dan Skean - *Alva Garden Club*

**Friday, May 8, 2026**

**"Edible Landscaping"**

David Outerbridge - Director,  
*UF/IFAS Extension Service Lee County*

**Location :**

**Garden Council Headquarters  
2166 Virginia Ave.  
Fort Myers, FL 33901**

**HOSPITALITY: 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM**

**MEETING: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM**

*ALL are Welcome!  
Refreshments are provided.*



## PROGRAM

**GENERAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 14th 9:30 AM**

**"Simply Succulents"**

**Presenter: Nancy Colgan  
Potpourri Designers and  
The Poinciana Garden Club**

## *Edison - Ford Winter Estates*

2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers FL 33901

**Web: EdisonFord.org**

### Monthly Garden Talks

Jan. 10 Staghorn Ferns  
Check the website for future Garden Talks

### Garden Classes

Dec. 11 Holiday Horticulture  
Jan 27 Intro to Florida Gardening Part 1  
Jan 31 Intro to Florida Gardening Part 1

Check the website for future Classes  
*Don't forget to visit the Garden Shoppe!*

### Social Events

Nov. 22-23 Autumn Garden Festival  
Dec. 6-7 Bromeliad Show & Sale  
Feb. 14-15 Spring Garden Festival  
April 11-12 Grow FM Workshops & Plant Sale

Check the website for details

## GARDEN COUNCIL NEWS



## Why join the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs?

**Who can join:** Garden clubs, plant societies, botanical gardens, conservation organizations and floral design clubs.



Call Susan Lawson 941-979-0615 or Sandy Troy 239-994-8147



### FFGC Benefits for Garden Clubs\* & Affiliate Members\*\*

- Receive *The Florida Gardener* (web)\*\*\*
- Receive an invitation to Annual FFGC Conventions\*\*
- Logo & web link published on FFGC Affiliate Website page.\*\*
- Club FB or web link on club name in FFGC web Club page\*
- Receive member rates for ads in *The Florida Gardener*\*\*\*
- May post events to FFGC website calendar and may apply to the Chairs of NGC flower shows to participate\*\*
- Open to the Public\*\*\*: 4 NGC schools, DS & NGC Scholarships
- Grants\*

### District IX Benefits for Garden Clubs & Affiliate members

- Your event flyers are published in the quarterly District IX newsletter sent to 1900+ members (22 garden clubs, 4 FFGC Affiliate Members, 6 Circles in 7 counties)
- Your event flyers published to the District IX Facebook site
- Your membership is invited to the Fall and Spring District IX Meetings
- Access to the DIX Speakers Bureau
- Plus, FFGC Benefits

\*\* FFGC Affiliate Member organizations: \$50 annual fee and does not include National Garden Club membership.

8/31/2025 5:50 PM

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

(Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs)

November 7, 2025

February 6, 2026

May 1, 2026

December 5, 2025

March 6, 2026

January 2, 2026

April 3, 2026

Time: 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Location:

Garden Council Headquarters



## GARDEN COUNCIL NEWS - Continued



**National Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Environmental School, Series XI, Course 4, Zoom Only**

**Course 4: Water & Related Issues**  
**Offered Thursday & Friday, November 20 & 21, 2025**  
**8:30 am – 4 pm Cost: \$55 pp**

*Classes open to all Garden Club members and the general public!*

**Sponsored by**  
**Fort Myers – Lee County Garden Council, Inc.**  
**A member of District IX, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.,**  
**Deep South Region**

### **Environmental School Series**

The Environmental School provides continuing education about the land, water, air, and earth on which we live. Course content is established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). Four sequenced courses (1 through 4) comprise a series.

Each course consists of ten hours of instruction, which will include field trips and tours to related locations.

These four courses must be completed within 7 years. To become a Consultant, you must be a member in good standing of a Federated Garden Club. Exams are optional, however, if you wish to be an accredited Environmental Consultant, you must take the exams. After passing two courses, a student becomes a Provisional Consultant and may join an Environmental Consultants Council. To remain in Good Standing, every five years Consultants must continue their education by attending an ES Refresher or Course, no exam required. After a Consultant's fourth refresher, the Consultant becomes a Master Consultant. Consultants or Master Consultants may earn refresher credit only once within a calendar year.

### **Course 4**

This class will include 8 hour-long lectures with a 5 question exam after each. There will also be a virtual Field Trip that must be attended to complete the course.

Exams will be administered via ClassMarker software. All students must participate via laptop or desktop computer. Smartphone participation will not be allowed.

You must submit an online version of NGC Form 6 or 7, with all appropriate approval signatures from state & regional chairperson, depending on your status.

For questions, registration form or more information, Please contact:

Judy Francino, [jfrancino@att.net](mailto:jfrancino@att.net), 248 425-8713 Or

Bernadette Hamera, [bhamera@outlook.com](mailto:bhamera@outlook.com), 239 233-1166

***Deadline for Registration: NOV 7***  
***Number of students will be limited! Register Early!***



## GARDEN COUNCIL NEWS - Continued

## FMLCGC NATURAL DECORATIONS COMMITTEE

Fort Myer-Lee Council Garden Council  
Natural Decorations Committee  
10 am to 12 pm  
**JOIN US**

2025: 10/7, 11/18 (10 to 2),  
2026: 1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 5/5, 9/1, 10/6, 11/17  
Co-Chairs: Diana & Cindy  
RSVP 239-218-1905

Location: Berne Davis Gardens  
FMLCGC 2166 Virginia Ave Fort Myers  
across from Edison Ford  
Free parking in the Larchmont Ave. Lot.



## EVENTS IN THE GARDEN

Music in the Garden  
SWFL Fiddlers Concert  
Dec. 16, 2025, 10 am to noon, free.



**SPECIAL Saturday Opening**  
**Berne Davis Gardens 11/22/2025**  
2166 Virginia Ave, Fort Myers

**Free Garden Tours by**  
**Volunteer Master Gardeners 10 to Noon**  
See the Fall Natural Decoration



Lots of Shade  
Bring your lunch  
Stroll the Gardens  
Cuttings available  
at the sign in desk.





## GARDEN COUNCIL NEWS - Continued

## FMLCGC SOCIAL COMMITTEE

## DECEMBER HOLIDAY SOCIAL AND COOKIE EXCHANGE

Friday, December 12, 2025 , 1 PM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters  
RSVP: Susan Lawson 941-979-0615

Please bring 3 dozen cookies with ingredients and recipe if you would like to share it.

You are welcome to attend the social and not participate in the exchange.



## MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS

## AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY James E. Hendry Chapter

Would you like to learn how to create a unique tropical hibiscus bloom?

If so, plan to join us at our General Meeting on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at the Garden Council Building. Two of our most successful hybridizers, Micki and Valerie, will present "The ABC's of Hybridizing." The winter months are the perfect time to try hybridizing, since the process is most successful in the cooler winter temperatures. Every new hybrid tropical hibiscus is the result of hybridization – the more than 25,000 blooms currently registered in the International Hibiscus Society database are all derived from only EIGHT ancestral varieties! Our meetings start with a Mini-Show at 1:30 PM where you will be able to view many beautiful blooms entered by our members. The presentation will begin at 2:00 PM. Don't miss this great opportunity to learn more about the fascinating process of creating a new and unique hybrid hibiscus!



"Kay Janssen" – hybridized by our Speaker Valerie and named after one of our former Chapter Presidents!

## MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS - continued

## GARDEN CLUB OF CAPE CORAL

## Tropical Plant Sale



We took part in the Tropical Plant Sale at Rotary Park on October 18 and sold a lot of plants. Nearly 400 plants were donated by 16 of our members. All plants are labeled with the correct botanical name and care information. The sunny breezy weather kept things comfortable. Foot traffic was lighter than past years, but we still sold a lot of plants. Our members will have the option of having the leftover plants at our November meeting.

Tropical Plant Sale Plant booth manager, Colleen Carty, assists a customer at the Pollinator table

## October Meeting – The Art and Practice of Bonsai



October's guest speaker, Richard Owen, brought a stunning selection of bonsai plants from his collection.

When asked how many he has, his wife laughed: "too many!" He fielded questions with ease, and many wished the talk could have gone on much longer. Continuing the Bonsai theme, on Friday October 17<sup>th</sup>, members toured Wigert's Bonsai Nursery in N. Fort Myers, learning more about bonsai care and cultivation, and then enjoyed a farm-to-table lunch at Blossom and Brie.



## Holiday Bazaar

Our Holiday Bazaar, the brainchild of member Debbie Cooper tragically killed on Sept 28<sup>th</sup>, will soon be reality. Debbie's handcrafted pieces – and many many more from our hardworking talented 'crafty' members – will be on sale, with teams polishing details right up to the wire. Please help us by sharing the date on your own social media, and join us on the 15<sup>th</sup> November with family, neighbors and friends.



## MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS - continued

**GARDEN CLUB OF CAPE CORAL (CONTINUED)****Cups of Cheer**

Peggy Cruz and Linda Spadaccini, who lead our Cups of Cheer Garden Therapy project, kicked off our new season on Oct. 8 with residents of the Atrium at Liberty Park Assisted Living facility. The Cups of Cheer team, eight members strong, prepped blooms for the workshop and then headed to the Atrium to help residents design coffee-cup arrangements. It was a great crowd, and everyone is already looking forward to the next session in December.

**ESTERO ISLAND GARDEN CLUB****Florida-Friendly Landscaping for Barrier Islands**

By Lee County Extension

Nov. 15, 2025, 10 am to 12 pm

Sanibel Library  
770 Dunlop Road  
Free; Register on Eventbright

Get the barrier island perspective from shore-loving Master Gardeners on how to use nine simple principles in creating a sustainable yard.



Living on Florida's barrier islands comes with unique challenges and rewards, from sandy soils and salt spray to protecting the fragile coastal environment we call home. This seminar introduces the **Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles**, adapted for island living, to help residents create beautiful, resilient landscapes that thrive in coastal conditions.

You'll learn how to select salt- and drought-tolerant plants, reduce stormwater runoff, protect water quality, and support local wildlife—all while conserving resources and reducing maintenance. Whether you're new to island gardening or looking for fresh ideas, you'll leave with practical strategies for landscaping that protects our shores and enhances your property.

Presented by UF/IFAS Extension, this program is ideal for homeowners, HOA members, and anyone who wants to enjoy a thriving coastal landscape while safeguarding Florida's natural treasures.

**Join in Person or Remotely by Zoom.**



## MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS - continued

## THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB



## Bus Trip Sponsored by The Poinciana Garden Club Open to The Public

**Wed Feb. 18, 2026**

Bus trip, admission, lunch  
\$105.

Call to save a seat and obtain  
the registration & lunch order  
form.

**Arrive 6:30 am.**

**Bus depart 6:45 am  
from the Garden Council  
2166 Virginia Ave.  
Fort Myers**



Register by Dec 1<sup>st</sup> . Sandy: 239-994-8147



**Tues Oct 14, 2025**  
**Vegetable Gardening in  
Florida**  
with Phil Sollecito,  
Award Winner 2024  
U. of Fl. Edible  
Landscapes



**Full House!  
Great  
Meeting!**





## MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS - continued

## THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB (CONTINUED)



## Plant and Treasure Sale

**Location: Berne Davis Gardens**

**2166 Virginia Ave  
Fort Myers**

Free parking

Free admission to gardens

Free garden tours by Master Gardeners

Save these dates: Cash only

- **Sat Nov 22, 2025 7 to 1**
- Sat Feb 14, 2026 7 to 1
- Sat Nov 28, 2026 7 to 1
- Sat Feb 13, 2027 7 to 1



## The Poinciana Garden Club GARDEN HOP

**Private Historic Home & Garden Tour**





## MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS - continued

## THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB (CONTINUED)



## The Poinciana Garden Club Fabric Pumpkin Social

## PUNTA GORDA GARDEN CLUB

Holly Days Home Tours –  
“Christmas Around The World”,  
December 5 & 6, 2025

31<sup>st</sup> Year of Holly Days Events. PGGC  
Major Fundraiser. Each location  
carries a unique theme and takes place  
in the historic district of Punta Gorda.

**SAVE THE DATE**

# Punta Gorda Garden Club

presents

## Christmas Around the World

**GET YOUR TICKETS HERE!**




**2025 Holly Days Home Tour**  
In Historic Punta Gorda  
December 5 & 6, 2025  
10 am ~ 4 pm  
**DONATION \$25.00**

**Charlotte Prep Carolers**  
Sat Dec 6, 2:30-4:30pm Gilchrist Park  
In the large Pavilion  
<https://.pggc.writing.io>

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

**FOR SALE**

**All proceeds fund community projects & scholarships**



## MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS - continued

## PUNTA GORDA GARDEN CLUB (CONTINUED)



## *Floral Design Course*

### *FFGC Design Series 7, 8 & 9*

All Fridays: January 16, 23, 30, 2026  
9:00am ~ 3:00pm

Buttonwood Village Clubhouse  
701 Aqui Esta  
Punta Gorda, FL

\$90 for all three design Classes

Lunches Available for sale

Or Bring your own . lunch and beverage

**LAST DAY TO RESERVE A SPACE IS DECEMBER 10, 2025**

**REGISTER ONE OF 3 WAYS:**

1. With the QR code
2. Online at [PGGC.writing.io](https://PGGC.writing.io)
3. Send a check to:



**PGGC, P.O. BOX 511167 Punta Gorda, FL 33951-1167**

**Please include your email address**

**Punta Gorda Garden Club is a 501(c)3 organization**

**Questions,**

**[larryandstephaniegreen@gmail.com](mailto:larryandstephaniegreen@gmail.com)**

**BERNE DAVIS GARDEN UPDATE****Meryl O'Rourke, Master Gardener Volunteer**

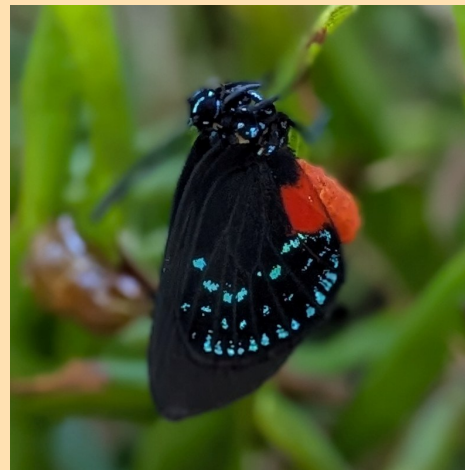
As we move into the cooler fall months here at the Berne Davis Gardens, we've had continued gardening activity, as well as planning for the future. Tended lovingly by the MGV's, 99% of the transplants from the Pollinator Pathways are happily growing in their new homes! The Edison-Ford Project continues on, with Larchmont Street close to being paved. With that, most of the sidewalk that comes from our garden to Larchmont has been laid, and we eagerly await the completion of that area so that we may begin planting fresh pollinator plants.

Our intrepid MGV's will be donning their leather gauntlets to thin the Bromeliad section. We're looking forward to allowing the plants there a chance to breathe.

The current class of MGV's had the opportunity to practice both their digging and pruning skills, under the watchful eyes of Sheryl van der Heiden, Extension Agent UF/ IFAS Extension. There was a Bahama Strongbark that benefitted from their suggestions and expertise. BD Gardens is also grateful to them for the addition of the Florida Prince Peach that was planted in the Food Forest area. Thank you for your assistance and additions to our garden!

Berne Davis Gardens will be hosting a wedding this month! We are thrilled the Bride and Groom have chosen our venue to begin their life together. Best wishes and congratulations to you both!

Junior Garden Club will be meeting on second Wednesday of the month from 3:30 to 4:30.



We were very fortunate to have a large crop of Starfruit, or Carambola this season. There was definitely jelly made and given to the hard working MGV team. Mangos were plentiful as well. Butterfly Blue Pea flowers are continuously being harvested for future tea sachets.

New hibiscus have been planted in the area near Lorelei, our lovely lady statue. We eagerly await those gorgeous blooms! December 13th will see the graduation of both last year's MGV's, as well as this year's class. We welcome the new group to the fold!

The Master Gardener Team thanks the Lee County Garden Council for their continued support. With their assistance, we are able to provide a wonderful experience to all of our visitors.



**ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS****Carolyn France**

The participants of the Preserving Paradise Course had an air boat ride into the Everglades as their last class. I reported on this course awhile back. Captains For Clean Water, The Everglades Foundation and San-Cap Chamber invited members of the business community to participate in a course to learn about the Everglades and what they can do to help preserve it. At this last class they heard presentations from Dr Meenaksli Chabla from the Everglades Foundation and Curtis Osceola of the Miccosukee Tribe. This group of business people has learned a lot. They now know that in order to keep their businesses going, the Everglades National Park needs to be protected and preserved. Our beaches are not the only tourist attraction we have in SWFL.

The Green Sea Turtle is no longer on the “endangered” list. Now it is on the “concerned” list. SCCF, Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation, has reported their sea turtle count. It is very encouraging. The foundation has been doing this count for several decades. They found:

- 868 loggerhead nest
- 27,083 hatchlings
- 21 green turtle nests
- 607 green turtle hatchlings



The October 28, News Press had a very good article on the Everglades and the wildlife that live there. The Everglades National Park and the Big Cypress National Preserve encompass more than 2 million acres of some of the most unique land and wetlands in the nation. Some of the animals that live there are:

American Crocodile This is the only place in the world the Crocodile and Alligator share the same habitat.

Florida Panther The panther has been around for thousands of years. The Florida Panther has been on the endangered list since 1967. There has been some progress. There were only a few dozen panthers in the 1990's. Now there are 230, mostly in the Everglades. They will remain on the endangered list till there are 3 separate populations of 240.

Snail Kite This bird only eats the apple snail. This snail is large, lives in shallow water but lays its eggs above water level. This makes them easy for the kite to see and snatch them. There is now a larger, invasive African apple snail. Luckily, the snail kite likes these invaders, too.

Loggerhead Sea Turtle In Florida this is the most common sea turtle.

Kemp's Ridleys Sea Turtle Is the world's most endangered sea turtle.

Bald Eagle Our national bird, seen across the country.

## *Garden Council Meeting Hosts*

**2025-2026**

November 14, 2025

January 10, 2026

March 13, 2026

May 8, 2026

**ESTERO GARDEN CLUB****FIDDLESTICKS GARDEN CLUB****ROYAL PALM GARDEN CLUB****GARDEN CLUB OF CAPE CORAL**

Problems/concerns contact: Susan Lawson  
941-979-0615; slawson921@gmail.com

## HORTICULTURAL TIDBITS

Wendy Sprague

## Free Bird Food!

As I work around my yard I am constantly reminded of nature's response to the needs of migrating birds. My grass has seedheads popping up (needs to be mowed), but what a feast for birds! Fiddlewood (*Citharexylum spinosum*, Native), have both flowers and seeds right now (a boost for pollinators). My Strawberry Tree (also known as Jamaican Cherry) (*Muntingia calabura*) continues to bloom and fruit as does my Barbados Cherry (*Malpighia puniceifolia*). Firebush (Native and Non-native varieties, *Hamelia patens* var. *patens* is native) have both blooms and berries. Last but not least, my Wild Coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*, Native) is full of berries. What a treat for local and migrating birds...and I didn't have to lug a single bag of bird seed nor fill a feeder!



Fiddlewood  
(Source Etsy)



Jamaican Cherry



Barbados Cherry  
(Source Britannica)



Firebush  
(source Boundbybeauty.org)

## Your Board Members 2025-2027

President: Susan Fero  
Tel: 239-332-4942  
Email: fmlcgardencouncil@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Assist. Treasurer: Joyce Stanley  
Tel: 219-613-7506  
Email: Jdstanley51@gmail.com

First VP: Wendy Sprague  
Tel: 239-728-6543  
Email: ibseafox@aol.com

Second VP: Elizabeth Meska  
Tel: 757-390-7814  
Email: elizabeth.meska@gmail.com

Recording Sec: Paula Smith  
Tel: 412-915-1517  
Email: pacmss2023@gmail.com

Corresponding Sec: Sylvia Lightbody  
Tel: 239-233-5634  
Email: slightbody@comcast.net

## FMLCGC DATES TO REMEMBER

### Bonsai Society of SW Florida Annual Bonsai Show & Sale

November 1-2, 2025, Saturday  
9AM-5PM, Sunday 9AM-3PM  
FMLCGC, 2166 Virginia Ave.,  
Fort Myers, FL  
Admission is free

### The Poinciana Garden Club Felt Flowers Craft

November 11, 2025, 11AM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters  
RSVP: 239-994-8147

### GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING & PROGRAM

Friday, November 14, 2025,  
9:30AM-11:30AM  
"Simply Succulents"  
Nancy Colgan - *Potpourri Designers*  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

### Garden Club of Cape Coral Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 15, 2025,  
9AM-3PM  
Cape Coral Historical Society,  
544 Cultural Park Blvd., CC

### FMLCGC NATURAL DECORA- TIONS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 18, 2025,  
10AM-12PM  
FMLCGC, 2166 Virginia Ave.,  
Fort Myers, FL  
RSVP: 239-218-1905

### Periwinkle Garden Club Fundraising Auction

Tuesday, November 18th, 2025,  
5:30PM  
Finemark Bank, College Pkwy,  
Fort Myers, FL

### The Poinciana Garden Club Trash Off Trails

Thursday, November 20, 2025, 9AM  
Billy Creek Preserve

### Edison Ford Winter Estates Autumn Garden Festival Edison Ford Winter Estates Bromeliad Show & Sale

November 22-23, 2025

### The Poinciana Garden Club Plant and Treasure Sale

Saturday, November 22, 2025,  
7AM-1PM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters  
Open to the Public

### Garden Club of Lehigh Acres Cups of Cheer for Hope Hospice

December 3rd, 2025, 9:30AM  
Fountain Crest Retirement  
Community

### Punta Gorda Garden Club Holly Days Home Tour

December 5 & 6, 2025  
Historic Downtown Punta Gorda  
Open to the Public

### Bonita Springs Tropical Fruit Club Tropical Fruit Tree Sale

December 6, 2025, 9AM-1PM  
St. Mary's Church, Bonita Beach  
Road, Bonita Springs

### Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Annual Plant Sale and

BSI Standard Judged Show  
December 6, 2025, 9AM-5PM,  
December 7, 2025, 10AM-3PM  
Edison Ford Winter Estates  
Admission is free and open to the  
public

### Edison Ford Winter Estates Garden Class

December 11, 2025  
Holiday Horticulture

### FMLCGC HOLIDAY SOCIAL

Fri., December 12, 2025, 1PM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters  
RSVP: Susan Lawson 941-979-0615

### SW FLORIDA FIDDLERS CONCERT IN THE GARDEN

Tuesday, December 16, 2025,  
10AM-noon  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

### Garden Club of Lehigh Acres Wings Over Water Plant Sale

January 2026, (Date TBD)  
Harnes Marsh

### Shell Island Garden Club Art in Bloom

January 2026 (Date TBD)

### GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING & PROGRAM

Friday, January 10, 2026,  
9:30AM-11:30AM  
"20 Easy to Grow Wildflowers"  
Sara Burke - Chair, Florida  
Wildflower Foundation  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

### The Poinciana Garden Club Trash Off Trails

Thursday, January 15, 2026, 9AM  
Yellow Fever Creek Trail

### FLORIDA ARBOR DAY

Friday, January 16, 2026

### FFGC Floral Design Units 7-9

Sponsored by Punta Gorda Garden  
Club  
Jan. 16-30, 2026, 9AM-3PM  
1201 Aqui Esta Drive, Punta Gorda  
RSVP:  
[puntagordagardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:puntagordagardenclub@gmail.com)

### SW FLORIDA FIDDLERS CONCERT IN THE GARDEN

Tuesday, January 26, 2026,  
10AM-noon  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

### Edison Ford Winter Estates Garden Class

January 27, 2026  
Intro to Florida Gardening Part I

### Edison Ford Winter Estates Garden Class

January 31, 2026  
Intro to Florida Gardening Part I



**Naples Garden Club 2026****House & Garden Tour**

"Stroll through Paradise"  
Saturday, January 31, 2026, 8AM-4:30PM

**FMLCGC NATURAL DECORATIONS COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, February 3, 2026,  
10AM-12PM  
FMLCGC, 2166 Virginia Ave.,  
Fort Myers, FL  
RSVP: 239-218-1905

**Edison Ford Winter Estates Garden Class**

February 3, 2026 – Intro to Florida Gardening Part II

**Edison Ford Winter Estates Garden Class**

February 7, 2026 – Intro to Florida Gardening Part II

**FMLCGC STROLLING FLOWER SHOW**

Tuesday, February 10, 2026,  
10AM-4PM  
Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

**District IX Judges Council Annual Flower Show**

February 12, 2026 (Regular Meeting)  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

**Edison Ford Winter Estates Spring Garden Festival**

February 14-15, 2026

**The Poinciana Garden Club Plant and Treasure Sale**

Saturday, February 14, 2026,  
7AM-1PM  
Admission is free  
Open to the Public

**SW FLORIDA FIDDLERS CONCERT IN THE GARDEN**

Tuesday, February 17, 2026,  
10AM-noon  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

**The Poinciana Garden Club Annual Bus Trip**

Wednesday, February 18, 2026,  
6:45AM  
Fairchild Botanical Gardens  
Open to the Public, RSVP Required:  
239-994-8147

**Royal Palm 70<sup>th</sup> Year Placement Flower Show**

February 19, 2026, 10AM-3PM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

**FMLCGC FEBRUARY SOCIAL**

Friday, February 20, 2026, 1PM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters  
RSVP: Susan Lawson 941-979-0615

**The Poinciana Garden Club Trash Off Trails**

Thursday, February 26, 2026, 9AM  
Caloosahatchee Regional Park

**FMLCGC NATURAL DECORATIONS COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, March 3, 2026,  
10AM-12PM  
FMLCGC, 2166 Virginia Ave.,  
Fort Myers, FL  
RSVP: 239-218-1905

**Edison Ford Winter Estates Garden Class**

March 3, 2026  
Intro to Orchid Growing

**Edison Ford Winter Estates Garden Class**

March 7, 2026  
Intro to Orchid Growing

**SWFL Orchid Society Orchid Auction**

March 10, 2026, 6PM  
Faith United Methodist Church  
15690 McGregor Blvd

**GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING & PROGRAM**

Friday, March 13, 2026,  
9:30AM-11:30AM  
"Plants in the Caribbean"  
Dan Skean - *Alva Garden Club*  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

**Naples Garden Club Standard Flower Show**

March 13-14, 2026  
Naples Botanical Garden

**Alva Garden Club Strawberry Festival and Plant Sale**

Saturday, March 14, 2026, 9AM-1PM  
Alva United Methodist Church

**Garden Club of Cape Coral March in The Park**

March 14, 2026, 9AM - 3PM,  
(2nd Saturday in March)  
Rotary Park, Cape Coral

**Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Annual Auction**

March 15, 2026, 2-4PM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

**DEEP SOUTH REGION 63rd ANNUAL CONVENTION**

March 16-21, 2026  
Royal Caribbean Cruise Ship

**SW FLORIDA FIDDLERS CONCERT IN THE GARDEN**

Tuesday, March 17, 2025,  
10AM-noon  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

**The Poinciana Garden Club Trash Off Trails**

Thursday, March 19, 2026, 9AM  
Billy Creek Preserve

**American Hibiscus Society Rotary Park Tropical Plant Sale**

March 21, 2026, 9AM-2PM  
Rotary Park  
5505 Rose Carden Road, Cape Coral

**Edison Ford Winter Estates Garden Class**

March 24, 2026 – Palm Reading

**Edison Ford Winter Estates Garden Class**

March 28, 2026 – Palm Reading

**17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BERNE DAVIS  
HONORARY SERIVE AWARD  
LUNCHEON**

April 2026, (Date TBD)  
Fiddlesticks Country Club

**FMLCGC SPRING SOCIAL**

Friday, April 10, 2026, 1PM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters  
RSVP: Susan Lawson 941-979-0615

**Edison Ford Winter Estates  
Grow Fort Myers Plant Sale &  
Workshops**

April 11-12, 2026

**FFGC 99<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNUAL CONVENTION**

April 12-17, 2026  
Embassy Suites, Lake Buena Vista  
South, Orlando, FL

**The Poinciana Garden Club  
Trash Off Trails**

Thursday, April 16, 2026, 9AM  
Daniels Preserve at Spanish Creek

**NATIONAL ARBOR DAY**

Friday, April 17, 2026

**American Hibiscus Society  
73rd Annual Hibiscus Show  
and Sale**

Saturday, April 18, 2026  
Covenant Presbyterian Church,  
2439 McGregor Blvd., Ft Myers

**Bonsai Society of Southwest  
Florida Annual Auction**

April 18, 2026, 9AM—1PM  
FMLCGC, 2166 Virginia Ave.,  
Fort Myers, FL  
Admission is free, free food and open  
to the public

**AVON PARK CORRECTIONAL  
FACILITY PLANT SALE**

Saturday, May 2, 2026, 9AM-2PM  
Avon Park Correctional Institution

**NATIONAL GARDEN  
CLUBS, INC.  
NGC 2026  
ANNUAL CONVENTION**

May 4-6, 2026  
St. Louise, MO

**FFGC DISTRICT IX  
SPRING MEETING**

Tuesday, May 5, 2026  
Port Charlot, FL

**Garden Club of Lehigh Acres  
Cups of Cheer for Woman's  
Shelter**

May 6th, 2026, 9:30AM  
Fountain Crest Retirement  
Community

**GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING  
& PROGRAM**

Friday, May 8, 2026,  
9:30AM-11:30AM  
"Edible Landscaping"  
David Outerbridge - Director,  
UF/IFAS Extension Service LC  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

**CREATIVE FLORAL  
ARRANGER OF THE  
AMERICAS, INC.**

May 28-30, 2026  
Tampa, FL

**NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK**

June 7-13, 2026

**2026 National Convention  
of the**

**American Hibiscus Society**

Hosted by Fort Myers American  
Hibiscus Society  
James E. Hendry Chapter  
Thursday, June 25 -  
Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>

**The Poinciana Garden Club  
Decoupage 2.0 Craft**

July 14, 2026, 10AM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters  
RSVP: 239-994-8147

**The Poinciana Garden Club  
Tatakizome(Japanese Flower  
Pounding) Craft**

August 11, 2026, 10AM  
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters  
RSVP: 239-994-8147

**NATIONAL GARDEN  
CLUBS, INC.  
NGC 2027  
ANNUAL CONVENTION**

May 13-17, 2027  
Madison, Wisconsin

**All Events are subject  
to change.**

**Please submit any  
additional dates or  
changes to:  
[fmlcgardencouncil@gmail.com](mailto:fmlcgardencouncil@gmail.com).**



# Our Favorite Native Plants & Why

A Panel Discussion

**FREE and  
open to  
the public**

**Florida Native  
Plant Society  
Experts**

**Saturday,  
December 13,  
2025,  
10 am**

**Bonita Springs Library  
10560 Reynolds St.  
Bonita Springs, FL 34135**

- Interested in adding plants to your landscape that attract pollinators and wildlife?
- Want to save money on your landscaping?
- Having trouble getting started?

Then this talk is for you!

Join us for this fun and informative gathering with live plants and learn how to incorporate native plants into your yard or community.

The Naples Chapter Annual Meeting and The Coccoloba Chapter Meeting will start at 11 am or after presentation.

Visit <https://www.fnpscoccoloba.org/> for more information.



# THRU THE DECADES



CELEBRATING 70 YEARS

Thursday February 19th, 2026

10:00 am - 3:00 pm



A placement Flower Show  
Presented by Royal Palm  
Garden Club Organized in 1956





**Garden Club of Cape Coral's**

# **HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

at the

**Cape Coral Museum of History**

**544 Cultural Park Blvd**

**Saturday,**

**November 15th**

**9:00 AM-3:00 PM**

## **HOLIDAY GIFTS, CRAFTS & DECOR!**

- ornaments
- outdoor decor
- decorations
- centerpieces
- jewelry
- THRIFT TABLE

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society  
presents its 2025

# Bromeliad Sale & Show



**EDISON and FORD**  
**Winter Estates**

2350 McGregor Blvd Fort Myers

**\*Outside Venue \*Ample parking \*Food vendors**

(Judged Show - Dec 5th 2025)

**Saturday Dec.6th 2025 9AM-5PM**

**Sunday Dec.7th 2025 10AM-3PM**

Contact Julie Stein for info @ [FLAGIRL56@aol.com](mailto:FLAGIRL56@aol.com)