To our members and friends,

Looking back at EPAF 2007, I would like to thank and congratulate Past-President Maia McGuire for chairing a successful conference. It was the very first time that FANREP was in captain’s chair and Maia did an outstanding job. We’ve come a long way since that first informal meeting of natural resource agents at what was called FAEP back in 2001. The FANREP events at EPAF were very successful with nearly thirty members present at the membership meeting and the abstracts well attended by members of all the associations. Now we start looking forward to 2008 and the challenges ahead.

First up will be ANREP in Madison, Wisconsin beginning on May 20th. Several of our members had abstracts accepted and will be representing FANREP at the National level. We expect several members to receive ANREP communication awards at the conference as well.

Unfortunately, the Extension Symposium which was to follow the ANREP meeting has been cancelled, a casualty of the State budget cuts to IFAS. There are discussions about making some of the planned sessions into PolyCom or web based modules, so you may still want to keep May 28-30th open.

It’s not too early to begin thinking about submitting materials for the 2008 FANREP communication awards and for the abstract session at EPAF 2008. Watch your e-mail for announcements on both. Note that EPAF is a month earlier this year, running August 11th through the 14th in Orlando.

Finally, we would like everyone to “Save the Dates” of August 25th and 26th, 2008. Georgia ANREP has invited FANREP and Alabama ANREP members to join them at Skidaway Island, GA for their annual conference. The meeting will focus on low impact development and include multi-state planning and sharing. The cost is expected to be around $100 which will include three meals, a boat trip, and Monday night lodging. For an additional night’s lodging ($29), participants can arrive on Sunday and take a kayak trip (cost TBD).

With everyone experiencing budget constraints, the GA ANREP meeting will be a relatively inexpensive opportunity to network with each other and our northern neighbors. Also remember that FANREP does have a scholarship committee to assist members who are presenting at regional and national conferences.

It will be a challenging year, but I look forward to representing you.

Andrew Diller
apdiller@ufl.edu
## Officers and Committees 2007-08

### 2008 Membership Stats
38 paid members (as of February 1, 2008)

Did you work with a colleague who is currently not a member of FAN-REP?
If so, please...

take a few minutes to share information about our organization and encourage them to become a member!

### Board Position

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<td>Andrew Diller</td>
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<td>President Elect</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Jennifer Seitz</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Scott Jackson</td>
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<td>ANREP Southern Regional Representative</td>
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### DISTRICT DIRECTORS

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<td>Rebecca Jordi</td>
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<td>District 3 (Central)</td>
<td>Gus Koerner</td>
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<td>District 4 (South Central)</td>
<td>Tom Becker</td>
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<td>District 5 (South)</td>
<td>Christian Miller</td>
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### COMMITTEE

#### CHAIR

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Florida Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals
FANREP Website Feedback Needed

I’m sure that many of you are aware that FANREP has a website http://anrep.ifas.ufl.edu/ If you have visited the site recently you may have noticed that a lot of the content is out of date. The goal of the FANREP website committee is to make the website a useful tool for its members. In order to accomplish this we need your input. Please take the time to visit the webpage and provide any suggestions/ideas on what ways it could be revamped to be a more useful tool. Please email your comments or suggestions to Christian Miller at millec4@ufl.edu.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
FANREP Awards Entries Due March 17th

The FANREP Awards Program fosters high standards among its members and helps expand the use of high quality, innovative educational materials and programs by honoring the outstanding members and partners who developed them.

All awards will be presented at the Association of Florida Extension Professionals (EPAF) Conference in August. Award winners also will be announced on the FANREP web page.

Please Note: Entries will not be automatically entered in the national ANREP awards competition. For information about the national awards program, please go to http://www.anrep.org

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS is March 17, 2008. Judges must receive materials by this date.

Questions about this program can be directed to the FANREP Awards Program Committee.

Award Categories:
- Early Career Leadership Award
- Career Leadership Award
- Individual Program Leadership Award
- Innovative Program Award

Creative Works Awards Program Categories:
- Promotional Materials
- Short Publication
- Long Publication
- Newsletter
- Series of Articles
- Slide Set/Computerized Graphic Presentation
- Radio
- Video/Video Disk
- Television/Videconference
- Computer Software/Application
- Web Page
- Mixed Materials

EPAF Abstracts Due May 9th

May 9th is the deadline for submitting abstracts for the Extension Professional Associations of Florida (EPAF) annual meeting to be held at the Buena Vista Palace in Orlando. If your abstract is selected, you will present during the FANREP abstract session. Details and guidelines will be available soon at: http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu.

FANREP Awards Submission Deadline: March 17, 2008
Send nominations via mail to:

Ken Gioeli
St. Lucie County Extension
8400 Picos Road, Ste 101
Fort Pierce, FL 34945
Phone (772) 462-1660

EPAF Abstract Deadline: May 9th, 2008
More details coming soon!
2008 ANREP Awards Program
Guidelines and forms have been revamped by the national Awards Committee Chair, who is Florida's very own Dr Joan Bradshaw. Thanks Joan for doing such a professional make-over of our awards information! The Executive Board has approved the document, and it will be up on the ANREP Web site soon. Watch your e-mail for an announcement from Joan.

New for 2008 is the guideline that if you wish to submit a piece of work for consideration in more than one category, you must submit a full (duplicate) entry package for each such category.

Member Survey
An ANREP member services survey will be distributed by e-mail around March 1, 2008. One of the survey authors is Florida's own Eleanor Foerste. Thanks go to Eleanor too for working with Survey Monkey to get the instrument on the Web for ALL of us to fill out. Watch your e-mail for a request from President Sue Donaldson, with a hot-link to the survey. Please participate! Your responses will inform Executive Board discussions about what the association's priorities for new member-services should be, as money becomes available to fund more stuff.

Speaking of money, it is my privilege to serve as your ANREP Treasurer for 2008. Thank you for your trust with the purse. It is truly rewarding to be able to work with dedicated and like-minded colleagues from across the nation on projects such as the 2008 ANREP conference in Madison, the 2008 Galaxy Conference in Indianapolis, and the month-to-month business of keeping the association running, so that ANREP can sponsor and support all of these good things like professional recognition awards and conferences, that benefit all of us in our Extension careers.

For more information contact Will Sheftal at: SheftalW@leoncountyfl.gov

UF-IFAS Faculty Will Share Their Work at ANREP’s 2008 Conference
Several Extension faculty will be presenting their work at this year’s ANREP conference including:

- **Sustainable Angling Outreach Program** – Bryan Fluech, Collier County Extension
- **Wood to Energy Outreach Program: Fostering Informed Community Discussions** – Martha C. Monroe, Lauren McDonell, Annie Oxarart, Gainesville
- **Exploring Citizen Involvement in the Restoration of the Florida Everglades** – Alyssa Dodd, Palm Beach County Extension; Mark Brennan, Gainesville
- **“Deep Sea Safari”: An Extreme Student Learning Adventure** – Brian Cameron, Bay County Extension; S. Jackson, Wakulla County Extension; A. Diller, Escambia County Extension
- **The Effectiveness of Using Injured & Non-injured Wildlife as Ambassadors of Natural Resource Conservation Messages** – Nicholas E. Fuhrman, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Blacksburg, VI; Howard Ladewig, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- **Green Camps Certification** – Will Sheftal, University of Florida
- **Naturalist Education, Empowerment, & Action: A Dialogue on New Horizons in Natural Resources Outreach & Service** – Robert M. Emanuel, Oregon State University Sea Grant Extension, Tillamook, OR; Martin Main, University of Florida, Immokalee, FL; Mark Larese-Casanova, Utah State University Extension, Logan, UT; Michelle Haggerty, Texas Parks & Wildlife/Texas Cooperative Extension, Kerrville, TX; Michelle Prysby & Peter Warren, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Charlottesville, VA; Elizabeth Haynes, University of Illinois Extension, East Moline, IL; Amy Rager, University of Minnesota Extension, Morris, MN
ANREP 2008 Conference will be held May 19-23rd in Madison, Wisconsin. Registration will be available through the ANREP Web http://anrep.org/conferences/2008/ beginning around February 15th. Early-bird registration is scheduled to close April 21, 2008.

Start thinking about your plans for Madison now! Watch your e-mail for the official, ribbon-cutting announcement when registration opens. You definitely don't want to miss "Leopold's Legacy: Extension's Response to a Changing World.

The venue is a LEED-certified, Frank Lloyd Wright-designed, lakeside conference center with gigantic plate-glass-panoramic vistas of one of Madison's huge natural lakes ringed by bike and jogging paths. Landside, the state capitol (looks like the big one in DC), our two conference hotels, and UW's famous State Street of restaurants from 'round the world are within easy walking distance.

Or you can ride a "red bike" left lying around and leave it where YOU'RE finished with it, for the next user of cooperative, free, green, alternative transportation around town. (Take note, aspiring green-villes in Florida).

Chow down on anything from brats to Afghan fare on State Street. And yes, WI is a state known for lots of liquid, locally processed agronomic commodities. The South has a church at every country crossroads; WI has a bar. Open on Sunday mornings, too. And populated by the faithful. Come see for yourself on the pre-conference country-road cycling "Tour des Baraboo Hills," led by ANREP Pres-elect Mike Reichenbach. (That's not on the Web site. Let me know if you're interested. Could use some help carrying the ANREP flag!)

Road cycling is a green way to tour the 10,090 acres that TNC protects in the Baraboo Hills of Sauk and Columbia counties -- "all that remain of one of the most ancient rock outcrops in North America. A forested sanctuary underlain by durable rock called Baraboo quartzite, the Hills are an ecologically unique part of the Midwest. The oak, maple, and basswood forests of the Baraboo Hills constitute the largest block of upland forest still standing in southern Wisconsin. They provide habitat for more than 1,800 kinds of plants and animals." For more info on TNC programs there, see http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/wisconsin/preserves/art5035.html

For you hard-rock hounds who want a primer on the geography and geology, see http://www.uwm.edu/geography/baraboo/baraboo.htm

For a quick overview of an interesting case study of effecting forest conservation in this unique ecological area of private and public ownership, don't miss a description of the impact of Wisconsin's Forest Legacy Program on "one of the Western Hemisphere's Last Great Places" at http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/legacy/baraboo.html

This is the sort of cutting-edge conservation, and sustainable solution-innovating, that Wisconsin is known for -- and that will be showcased on many of the conference field trips. So if you're not a road cyclist, or don't want to plan a pre- or post-conference driving tour, don't despair! Great (and I mean REALLY great) field trips and plenary session presentations -- including local ecology and conservation history -- have been planned for the conference proper. Leopold's Legacy will be a theme running through both. The County NR Agent in Madison and a colleague have done a fantastic job putting together a full slate of simply outstanding field trip choices. The hard part will be choosing which ones to forego...

Last conference announcement: New for 2008 is an afternoon of skill-building workshops on the front end - the day before our opening plenary. Check 'em out on the Web registration pages. Lots of good choices. For more information contact Will Sheftal at:SheftalW@leoncountyfl.gov

UF Extension Faculty Strikes Gold!

Congratulations to Mark Hostetter, Martha Monroe, and Lauren McDonell, for receiving 2007 Gold Achievement and Educational Materials Awards from ANREP.

Dr. Hostetter, a wildlife extension specialist, won two gold Achievement Awards including an Innovative Program Award and Outstanding Team Award for his Program for Resource Efficient Communities. He also picked up an Educational Materials Award for best Televised Conference/Videoconference for his “Living Green” PBS Series on Conservation Easements. http://www.wec.ufl.edu/faculty/hostetterm/

Dr. Monroe, associate professor in the School of Forest Resources and Conservation and Lauren McDonell, project coordinator for the Wood to Energy Program were awarded an Educational Materials Award for best Video/DVD/CD for their work on "When Nature is at Your Doorstep", a production that explores wildland-urban interface issues. http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/faculty/mcnor牟/index.html
Climate change awareness was brought to the forefront recently when Focus the Nation launched an all out effort to bring awareness to global warming solutions. More than 1750 colleges, universities and faith based organizations conducted activities to focus the nation.

Visit the website at http://www.focusthenation.org, view the webcast “2% Solution” that originated on University of Central Florida campus for the national broadcast. The webcast is now available for Extension faculty to show to local clientele groups or to encourage viewing from home. In addition, participants are encouraged to vote for their top choices for climate change solutions. The results of the vote can then be shared with local, state and federal elected officials.

UF faculty on campus were involved in a teach-in, where they shared climate change information through classes and presentations. In addition, Extension faculty conducted a variety of activities across the state, helping reinforce the idea that the University of Florida is not just in Gainesville.

Climate change is perceived as a major issue in the scientific community with potential impacts to coastal communities, agriculture, business, economy, land use and policy. Citizens may be unaware of how their actions may contribute to climate.

Extension is planning educational programs that can prepare faculty and residents to address the issues locally. **Faculty have formed a Climate Change Discussion Group and plan to meet on Feb. 26 to make plans for a distance education effort to replace the program track that was to be offered at the Extension Symposium.** A comprehensive web based climate change resource is being developed and accessible at: http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/bushnell.shtml

*If you are interested, join the Climate Change Discussion group. Contact Eleanor Foerste at efoe@osceola.org or call 321-697-3000 for more information on upcoming plans.*

The UF Office of Sustainability http://www.sustainable.ufl.edu/ is working to promote President Machen’s sustainable campus goals. Check out IFAS involvement at: http://sustainability.ufl.edu/newsletter/jan08/

The Office of Sustainability is also working with UF/IFAS Extension to implement a pilot effort to improve the sustainability of our off-campus offices.

Fasten your seatbelt and join us on this important journey!

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**SARASOTA COUNTY:**

**Focusing on Global Climate Change**

The Sarasota County workshops of the national 2008 Focus the Nation event on Global Warming Solutions were successfully organized and held on January 30-31, 2008. These workshops provided a free community forum for science-based information on global warming and about the local initiatives and opportunities for global warming solutions.

Under the leadership of Sarasota County Extension, a partnership was developed with the county’s Environmental Services to organize a community-based effort for these two days of educational activities, using the expertise of Extension, county agencies, and community groups. Sarasota County Extension served as the host site for the organized educational activities.

On Jan 30th there was the live Web Cast of the “2% Solution” from Focus the Nation. On January 31st there was a full day of educational presentations that included topics such as Sustainable Sarasota Initiatives, Urban Trees & Canopy, Sarasota Network for Climate Action, Alternative Energy, Water Management, the Built Environment, Energy-based Solutions, and Agriculture. These presentations were broadcast live on Sarasota County Access TV and rebroadcasts are planned for the future. In addition, the Sarasota County Extension partnership organized events at two county libraries which featured Web Cast rebroadcasts and educational presentations, as well as supported other local host site activities in two public schools, a local college and the City of Sarasota.

Plans are underway to continue the successes of these workshops to promote civic engagement and informed decision making by the general public and elected officials on the issue of global warming.

For more information contact Robert Kluson at rkluson@ufl.edu.
A New Candidate for Biological Control of Brazilian Peppertree *Schinus terebinthifolius* (Anacardiaceae)

Brazilian peppertree (BP), *Schinus terebinthifolius* Raddi, was introduced into Florida, USA, from South America as an ornamental in the 1840s. It eventually escaped cultivation and has become an aggressive invader of disturbed and natural areas in peninsular Florida. BP is a serious threat to the state's biodiversity, especially over large areas of southwest Florida and the Everglades where it is displacing native vegetation. In the 1980s, this invasive weed was targeted for classical biological control because of the extent of the infestation and the absence of native congeners in the continental USA. In May 2007, a thrips, *Pseudophilothrips ichini* (Hood), from Brazil was recommended for field release by the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for biological control agents and is currently undergoing an Environmental Assessment by the USDAY Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ). Surveys conducted recently in southeastern Paraguay revealed the presence of additional natural enemies of BP. One of these, a weevil identified as *Apocnemidophorus pipitzi* (Faust), was collected from the plant at several locations. Adults (Fig. 1) resemble bird droppings and feed mainly on the upper surface of subterminal leaflets, where they produce a characteristic notching pattern. In March 2006, adults were transported under permit to the Florida Biological Control Laboratory located at the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry, Gainesville, FL, and caged on potted BP plants in the maximum security room to establish a colony for biological and host range studies. A laboratory colony of the weevil was established in 2007 by caging the adults on cut branches of BP supplemented with leaf bouquets. Females deposit eggs in the twigs and larvae feed under the bark where they damage the vascular cambium. A new generation of the weevil is produced in 3 months. Preliminary results of laboratory host range tests suggest that *A. pipitzi* probably is a BP specialist. In addition, the stem boring habit of the larvae should protect this BP natural enemy from most biotic and abiotic mortality factors the insect is likely to encounter if it is found to be sufficiently host specific to release in Florida.

For more information please contact Dr. James P. Cuda, Associate Professor, Biological Weed Control, UF/IFAS Entomology & Nematology Department, Gainesville, 352-392-1901 ext. 126.

PINELLAS COUNTY: Offering More than Local Flavor at the Market

Market in the Park attracts about 1,000 visitors each week. It’s more than just a farmer's market. Each Saturday, Market in the Park brings together healthy, farm-fresh local produce, delicious gourmet foods, beautiful plants and much, much more. As a unique touch to the market experience, County Extension experts and Master Gardeners hold educational seminars on green home products, healthy lifestyles and Florida Friendly practices during market hours. To make sure the whole family gets involved there are activities for children as well.

To learn more visit Market in the Park on the web at Pinellas County Extension - [http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/market/index.html](http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/market/index.html). While you’re surfing the web, check out the Sustainable Living website at Pinellas County Extension - [http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/sustainability/sustain_living.shtml](http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/sustainability/sustain_living.shtml).
Globally, coral reefs are in decline, mostly as a result of human actions. To raise awareness of human contributions to coral reef decline, 2008 has been designated as the International Year of the Reef (IYOR). The Northeast Florida Extension Program held a poster contest in late 2007 with IYOR as the theme. Almost 200 posters were submitted, mostly from two schools. At Indian Trails Middle School, in Palm Coast, students learned about coral reefs in their science, geography and English classes before creating their posters. Almost all of the posters contained messages about the ways people can protect coral reefs.

As a result of the successful collaboration between the guides and participating agencies, future clean ups are currently being scheduled for the Santa Lucia and other reefs in the county.

For more information, contact Bryan Fluech, Collier County Sea Grant Agent at: Fluech@ufl.edu.
One of the most successful Citrus County FYN programs during 2007 was the 4H/FYN Wet & Wildlife Day Camp, which ran July 30th through August 3rd. Fifteen youth, ages eight to eleven years old, learned about the hydrologic cycle, watersheds, ecosystems, wildlife and water conservation. At $35.00 per child, the camp was extremely affordable to all youth and full scholarships were offered for low-income youth.

Intensive hands-on learning and immersion in nature were employed to develop a sense of stewardship for natural resources and a level of comfort in the natural world. It is critical to expose youth to nature at an early age in order to develop these values, which in turn may be passed on to the parents. Campers received a Florida State Park Passport, which was stamped at each of the four state parks that were visited, with the hope that parents would continue to bring their child to other state parks.

While the primary objective of the camp was to educate the fifteen participants, it was also extremely important to have the youth educate the parents as well. To facilitate the exchange of information, each day the parents received a letter that detailed what their child learned about that day and provided additional information on water conservation and protection. The letters encouraged parents to work with their child to explore different ways to conserve and protect water inside and outside of the home, such as testing the outputs of showerheads and faucets using the water flow bag that they received. The letters also offered parents topics of discussion to engage their child, such as “What would a world without insects be like?”

The campers visited the Crystal River Preserve State Park on the first two days and participated in a trail hike and a boat tour of the estuary. The campers learned about the importance of insects, participated in an insect mouthparts relay race, received two real insect specimens and decorated bluebird boxes that were provided to them by a Master Gardener. After watching “Water’s Journey: Hidden Rivers of Florida,” the campers enjoyed an “edible aquifer.”

On day three, the campers visited Rainbow Springs State Park, where they learned about first magnitude springs, sinkholes, snakes and invasive plants. Enthralled campers could not be distracted from the park ranger’s lecture about Florida’s snakes, which included a live snake.

On day four, the youth visited Manatee Springs State Park, where they learned about wetland ecosystems, spring runs and floodplains. Campers watched sturgeon jumping in the Suwannee River and scuba divers emerging from the “Catfish Hotel,” a duckweed-covered sinkhole with an underground connection to Manatee Springs, several hundred feet away. The Home Depot provided each child with a cactus and tomato plant to reinforce the lesson about “thirsty” and drought-tolerant plants.

On day five, the campers learned about and observed native and exotic wildlife at Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park, including cougars, bears, bobcats, otters, deer, alligators, manatees, hippopotami, wading birds, birds of prey and songbirds. Campers visited the Fish Bowl, a floating underwater observatory, the Reptile House and the Children’s Education Center.

One child’s experience was so influential that he persuaded his mother to home school him because he wished “school could be more like camp.” The child in now enrolled in 4-H and is part of a home school group.

In 2008, maximum enrollment for the camp will be increased from 15 to 20 youth. The camp will be offered during the school district’s spring break (March 31-April 4) and two times during the summer vacation (June 23-28 and August 4-8).

For more information contact Audrey Durr, Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program Coordinator, Citrus County Extension, audrey.durr@bocc.citrus.fl.us.
ST. LUCIE COUNTY: TAME Invasives...A Solution for Your Life

According to a review of 2005 expenditures, federal, state and local governments spent over one billion dollars to manage invasive exotic pests. Brazilian pepper-tree, lygodium microphyllum, melaleuca and tropical soda apple are four high-priority invasive exotic pest plants. Often times these invasive plants can not be adequately managed utilizing traditional mechanical, chemical and cultural practices. Biological control is another proven, yet under utilized, management strategy that can be undertaken in our efforts to manage invasive pest plants.

A web portal entitled "TAME Invasives: A Solution for Your Life" is currently under development at http://pesticide.ifas.ufl.edu. This portal features research-based information, multimedia products and online coursework that focuses on the management of these four high priority invasive pest plants in South Florida.

Online courses have been developed to teach course participants how to 1) manage these high priority invasive pest plants; 2) use herbicides in the most effective manner that is safe for people and the environment; and 3) understand the role of biological control as an essential Integrated Pest Management (IPM) tool for the management of these invasive plant species. The primary audience for this coursework includes pesticide applicators licensed through the Florida Department of Agriculture and

Creating Tools to Assist Landowners with Invasive Exotic Plant Control

Many agencies and organizations who work with private landowners know that there is never a "one size fits all" approach to dealing with private landowners and it is advantageous to provide flexible funding options, training, assistance and incentives according to landowner needs. A new partnership, the Florida Invasive Species Partnership (FISP), has been developed to better assist landowners with invasive plant species management on private lands and coordinate these efforts with invasive species control measures on public lands.

Although there are numerous technical and financial sources available to private landowners, it is often difficult for a landowner to discern which program they are qualified for. FISP is developing a dynamic "Incentive Program Matrix" database of existing federal, state and local funding sources, incentive programs and technical assistance for private landowners in Florida. The plan thus far is to house the Matrix on the UF-IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants Web site and link to it from other Web sites most commonly used by landowners and managers.

The partnership includes the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Division of Forestry, The Nature Conservancy, UF-IFAS and others. For more information about this project contact Chris Demers at cdemers@ufl.edu or 352-846-2375.

MIAMI-DADE: Rain Barrels Rule!

Water use is an issue throughout Florida. The Miami-Dade County Rain Barrel Workshops focus on key South Florida water use issues, and provide practical methods for homeowners to conserve water.

A survey was conducted of past workshop participants to ascertain the impact of the program. Of 81 surveys sent, there were 32 respondents. These respondents had acquired a total of 48 rain barrels through our workshops, of which 37 had been set up and were actively being used to collect rainwater.

Respondents indicated an average weekly water savings of 50 gallons/week. Due to the demand for more workshops, we are currently exploring avenues to increase partnerships with other organizations. For more information contact Chris Miller at Millec4@ufl.edu.
Meet Your Specialists

Dr. Michael Andreu
Assistant Professor
Forest Systems
School of Forest Resources and Conservation
Gulf Coast REC, Plant City
(813) 757-2274
mandreu@ufl.edu

Dr. Michael Andreu is an Assistant Professor of Forest Systems located at the Gulf Coast REC in Plant City. He is a native of Florida, having grown up outside of Jacksonville, FL. Michael earned a B.A. degree from the University of the South, Sewanee TN, a Masters degree from Duke University, NC and his Ph.D. from the University of Washington. He teaches numerous classes to support the Natural Resource Conservation degree program at Plant City including, Dendrology and Forest Plants, Fire Ecology and Management, Forest Ecology, and Natural Resource Sampling. In addition, he has an extension appointment and is working on projects involving the issue of managing forests in the face of rapid urbanization.

For his extension work, Michael works closely with a team of individuals composed of research staff (Melissa Friedman), extension faculty (Rob Northrop) and graduate and undergraduate students. In the last year his extension work has focused on the development of the Tampa Bay Watershed - Forest Working Group and completing an inventory of the forests of the city of Tampa and surrounding watersheds. The information garnered from this inventory will drive many of the extension activities this team will be involved with over the next several years. One of these is the Community Forest Stewards Program which he is developing with Rob Northrop from the Hillsborough County Extension Office. This program will train volunteers to become informed leaders about community forests in the Tampa Bay Area. They will be putting on a 5 week course this summer to train the first cohort of volunteers.

For more information contact Dr. Andreu at mandreu@ufl.edu.

Dr. Francisco Escobedo
Assistant Professor
Urban Forestry
School of Forest Resources and Conservation
Gainesville
(352) 378-2169; fescobed@ufl.edu

Dr. Francisco Escobedo is an Assistant Professor and State Extension Specialist with experience in urban forest management, policy analysis, soil quality, emergency response assessments, and forestry best management practices.

His current extension and research work focuses on the environmental and community functions of urban forests and the effects of urbanization, hurricanes, and fire on urban forests and the wildland urban interface.

He received his PhD. In Forest Resources Management—Urban Forest Policy and Management from State University of New York -ESF and his M.S. in Watershed Management—Fuel and Fire Effects, from the University of Arizona.

Some of his current projects include:

- Rapid assessment of the urban forest following a hurricane
- The benefits of Florida’s urban forests on environmental quality
- Analyzing a cost-effective framework for educating Spanish speaker
- Urbanization effects, ecosystem structure, and function in Florida.
- Tree canopy dynamics in Miami, Broward and Gainesville’s urban forests
- Assessing Fuels Treatments in Florida’s Wildland Urban Interface

Dr. Amy Shober
Assistant Professor of Landscape Nutrient/Runoff Management
Soil and Water Science
Gulf Coast REC
Wimauma
(813) 633-4150
alshober@ufl.edu

Dr. Amy Shober is an assistant professor of landscape nutrient and runoff management. Her research and Extension appointments focus on nutrient management in Florida’s urban landscapes. Dr. Shober received a PhD in Plant and Soil Science from the University of Delaware and an MS in Soil Science from Pennsylvania State University. Learn more about her research and Extension programs on the web at:

http://www.gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/clce/faculty/shober.shtml
Selected UF/IFAS Conferences & Events

February 27-28  
UF Water Institute Symposium  
http://www.waterinstitute.ufl.edu/symposium/  
Gainesville

March 3-8  
Vegetation Monitoring—Natural Areas Training Academy  
http://nata.snre.ufl.edu/schedule.htm  
Lake Placid

March 4  
Carbon Credits Conference  
9 am—11am, Contact Brian Cobble at (386) 364-5314  
Live Oak

March 10-14  
Geostatistical Analysis of Environmental Data  
http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/soils/geostats/index.html  
Gainesville

March 11-13  
Working Across Boundaries—Natural Areas Training Academy  
http://nata.snre.ufl.edu/WAB.htm  
High Springs

April 3  
Tree Farm Tour at Gould Tree Farm  
Call the Washington County Extension Office at (850) 638-6180  
Washington County

April 10  
Forest Stewardship Workshop: Marketing Your Forest Products  
Call the Washington County Extension Office at (850) 638-6180  
Washington County

April 14-18  
UF/IFAS Water Quality Concepts, Sampling, and Analysis  
http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/ufwq/index.htm  
Miami/Homestead

April 15-17  
Restoration Planning & Techniques For Forested Lands  
Natural Areas Training Academy  
http://nata.snre.ufl.edu/rest_planning_2008.htm  
Thonotosassa

April 15-17  
39th Annual SAF/SPRC Spring Symposium  
Sustaining Private Forests  
http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/events.html  
Gainesville

April 22  
Forest Stewardship Workshop: Marketing Your Forest Products  
Contact Columbia County Extension at (386) 752-5384  
Columbia County

April 25-27  
Florida Marine Educators Association Conference  
http://www.fmsea.org/  
Tampa

May 5-8  
2008 Aquatic Weed Control Short Course  
http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aw/index.html  
Coral Springs

May 5-8  
Biochemistry of Wetlands: Science and Applications  
http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/soils/wetland08/index.htm  
West Palm Beach

May 13  
Forest Stewardship Workshop: Tree/Plant ID For Forest Owners  
Near Gainesville  
Contact Chris Demers at cdemers@ufl.edu or (352) 846-2375

June 10-13  
Climate Information For Managing Risks: Partnerships and Solutions for Agriculture and Natural Resources  
http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/CIMR/index.htm  
St. Pete Beach

June 23-27  
20th Salt Water Intrusion Meeting  
http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/swim/index.htm  
Naples
# Upcoming Events Calendar

## Selected Conferences & Events in Florida

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 24-26</td>
<td>Southern Forestry and Natural Resources GIS Conference</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td><a href="http://soforgis.net/2008/">http://soforgis.net/2008/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4-7</td>
<td>Florida Water Resources Conference</td>
<td>Tampa</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fwrc.org/">http://www.fwrc.org/</a></td>
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## Selected National Conferences

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