Wildlife & Invasive Species Education

May 23-25, 2018 UF/IFAS Sumter County Cooperative Extension Service

Continuing education for Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, UF/IFAS Extension Faculty, landowners and others promoting native wildlife and plants and controlling invasive species in Florida.































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Agenda

- Day 1: May 23, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- 8:30 a.m. On-Site Registration
- 8:45 a.m. Welcome Jim E. Davis (UF/IFAS Extension Director Sumter & Hernando Counties)
- 9:00 a.m. Wildlife Diseases Dr. Samantha Wisely, UF/IFAS Associate Professor, Department of Wildlife Ecology & Conservation
- 10:00 a.m. Break (Visit Booths and IFAS Bookstore)
- 10:30 a.m. Lionfish Brittany Scharf, (UF/IFAS Extension Hernando County Sea Grant Agent)
- 11:00 a.m. Africanized Bees Dr. Jamie Ellis, UF/IFAS Associate Professor of Entomology, Department of Entomology and Nematology
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Nature Coast CISMA
- 1:15 p.m. Invasive Rodents and their Control (Commensal, Coypu, Capybara) Dr. William Kern, UF/IFAS Associate Professor, Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center
- 2:15 p.m. Break (Visit Booths and IFAS Bookstore)
- 2:30 p.m. Bats and their Management in Structures Dr. William Kern, UF/IFAS Associate Professor, Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center
- 3:30 p.m. The Florida Black Bear Mike Orlando, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- 4:30 p.m. W.I.S.E. Adjourns

Day 2: May 24, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

8:30 a.m. On-Site Registration

8:45 a.m. Invasion and Disease Risks Associated with the Trade in Non-Native Amphibians and Reptiles - Dr. Elizabeth Pienaar, UF/IFAS Assistant Professor, Department of Wildlife Ecology & Conservation

9:30 a.m. Manatees – Gina Lonati, FWC Marine and Mammal Pathobiology Lab

10:30 a.m. Break (Visit Booths and IFAS Bookstore)

11:00 a.m. Aquatic Invasive Plants – Dr. Stephen Enloe, UF/IFAS Associate Professor, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Florida Urban Forestry Council – Linda Seufert

1:15 p.m. Air Potato Biological Control, Dr. Bill Lester (UF/IFAS Extension Hernando County Horticulture Agent)

1:45 p.m. Break (Visit Booths and IFAS Bookstore)

2:00 p.m. Landscaping for Native Pollinators – Dr. Jaret Daniels, UF/IFAS Associate Professor, Department of Entomology

3:00 p.m. Florida's Turtles – Dr. Steve Johnson, UF/IFAS Associate Professor, Department of Wildlife Ecology & Conservation

4:00 p.m. W.I.S.E. Adjourns

Day 3: May 25, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Field Trips – pick one; indicate your choice under "Tickets"

- 1. Dade Battlefield
- 2. Florida Bass Conservation Center/Hatchery
- 3. Chinsegut National Wildlife Refuge
- 4. Halfmoon Wildlife Management Area

Workshop Resource Contacts				
Jim E. Davis Multi-County Extension Director UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County 7620 SR 471 Ste. 2 Bushnell, FL 33513-8716 (352) 569-6862 dvisshdn@ufl.edu	Dr. Steven Johnson Associate Professor UF/IFAS Dept. of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation PO Box 110430 Gainesville, FL 32611 (352) 846-0557 tadpole@ufl.edu	Mike Orlando Wildlife Biologist Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 601 W. Woodward Ave Eustis, FL 32726 (352) 732-1225		
Dr. Jaret Daniels Associate Curator and Director McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity University of Florida PO Box 112710 Gainesville, FL 32611 (352) 273-2022 idaniels@flmnh.ufl.edu	Dr. William Kern Associate Professor UF/IFAS Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center 3205 College Ave Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314-7719 (954) 577-6329 whk@ufl.edu	Dr. Elizabeth Pienaar Assistant Professor UF/IFAS Dept. of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation PO Box 110430 Gainesville, FL 32611-0430 (352) 846-0643 efpienaar@ufl.edu		
Chris Demers Extension Program Manager UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation PO Box 110410 Gainesville, FL 32611 (352) 846-2375 cdemers@ufl.edu	Dr. Bill Lester Extension Agent UF/IFAS Extension Hernando County 16110 Aviation Loop Drive Brooksville, FL 34604 (352) 754-4433 wlester@ufl.edu	Linda Seufert Florida Urban Forestry Council PO Box 547993 Orlando, FL 32854 (407) 872-1738 Linda.Seufert@stpete.org		
Dr. Jamie Ellis Associate Professor UF/IFAS Department of Entomology and Nematology PO Box 110620 Gainesville, FL 32611 (352) 273-3924 idellis@ufl.edu	Gina Lonati Biologist FWC Marine and Mammal Pathobiology Lab 3700 54 th Ave S. St. Petersburg, FL 33711 (727) 893-2904 FWC Wildlife Alert Hotline number: 888-404-3922 Gina.Lonati@MyFWC.com	Brittany Scharf Sea Grant Agent UF/IFAS Extension Hernando County 16110 Aviation Loop Drive Brooksville, FL 34604 (352) 754-4433 bhallscharf@ufl.edu		
Dr. Stephen Enloe Associate Professor UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants PO Box 110610 Gainesville, FL 32611-0610 (352) 392-6841 sfenloe@ufl.edu		Dr. Samantha Wisely Associate Professor UF/IFAS Dept. of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation PO Box 110430 Gainesville, FL 32611 (352) 846-0645 wisely@ufl.edu		







Got Invasives?

Invasive exotic plant problem? Find a program to help by using Floridalnvasives.org.

The Florida Invasive Species Partnership has collected, evaluated and categorized assistance programs into a single resource, making it easier to find the financial and/or technical assistance available to Florida landowners to prevent or control invasive exotic species problems. Floridalnvasives.org has an online resource of management assistance programs to help in your fight against problematic plant species. This resource takes the guesswork out of finding the agencies or organizations offering assistance and will direct you to available programs. The Landowner's Incentives Database will also provide the requirements for each program, to help you decide if they are a good match for your needs.

Why was Floridalnvasives.org developed?

Invasive species have been identified as being costly ecologically and economically statewide in Florida. The Florida Invasive Species Partnership (FISP) is a collaboration of public and private entities in Florida, formed to link efforts at preventing and controlling invasive exotic plants across agency and property boundaries. FISP has developed an on-line tool of available financial and technical assistance sources to make it easier for landowners and land managers to find them.

How does Floridalnvasives.org help you?

FISP has created a searchable database, the <u>Florida landowner incentives database</u>, accessible at Floridalnvasives.org that allows you to find an assistance program for your needs. Search by your county, target species or other pertinent information into the online tool, and you will retrieve a current list of available programs. Floridainvasives.org will help provide focus to your search so that you can get the right person at the right program.

Floridalnvasives.org:

- Builds community awareness,
- Leverages limited resources through cooperation and
- May reduce individual land management costs.

This resource will be regularly updated with the most current program information to provide you the most up-to-date opportunities.

Go to Floridalnyasives.org to find out more.

Species Shown from top to bottom:

Mexican Petunia, Boston Fern, Mimosa, Cogongrass, Camphor



Think Locally, Act Neighborly

invasive species know no boundaries!

Do you want to be a Master Gardener?





Why Would I Want to Be a Florida Master Gardener?

Are you someone that enjoys plants and gardening or want to know more about gardening in central Florida? Do you enjoy volunteering in your community? Are you interested in the environment and water quality in Florida? Are you someone that looks forward to learning new skills through workshops or classes? And, do you enjoy sharing what you know with others? If you answered yes to any of these questions, the Master Gardener program could be for you!

How do I become a Master Gardener?

Here's how you apply to the Sumter County Master Gardener program:

- Complete and send in the Sumter County Master Gardener Application by July 1 and submit it to UF/IFAS Sumter County Extension, ATTN: Donna Lester, 7620 SR 471, Suite 2, Bushnell, FL 33513
- Interviews will start in July
- Pay Class Fee
- Complete a background check
- Complete over 50 hours initial training (which includes completing Green Industry Best Management Practices certification)
- Complete 75 volunteer hours and 10 hours of continuing education within the first year of certification through the Sumter County Extension office

The Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Program offered by UF/IFAS Sumter County Extension provides a program Classes will be held on Fridays from 9 am to 3:30 pm at the Sumter County Extension Office.

Formal classroom work consists of more than 75% of the intensive initial training. You'll learn about basic botany, soils, fertilizers, vegetables, entomology, citrus, turfgrass, use of (and alternatives to) pesticides, ornamentals, diseases and other related topics. All information is based on knowledge and research from University of Florida.

What do Master Gardeners do?

Master Gardeners are educators who answer horticultural questions for county residents, sharing unbiased, research-based information with the public. Other activities include:

- disseminating science-based information by phone, email, through plant clinics and event booths
- write newsletter or newspaper articles
- develop and deliver presentations for garden clubs, civic organizations and MG speaker series
- support youth programs
- garden in the Florida-Friendly Demonstration Garden in Bushnell
- become more knowledgeable through advanced educational opportunities

After Master Gardener Interns complete their first year, as Master Gardeners they will annually renew their recertification by completing 35 volunteer hours and 12 continuing education hours.

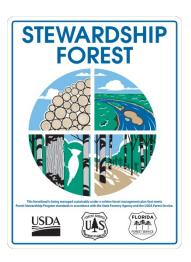
For any additional information or questions call Lisa Sanderson, the Sumter County Residential Horticulture Agent II and Master Gardener Coordinator at 352-569-6862.

UF/IFAS Extension programs are open to all persons without regard to race, color, sex, age, disability, religion, or national origin.

Florida's Forest Stewardship Program

Forest Stewardship is active management of forest land to keep it in a productive and healthy condition for present and future generations, and to increase the economic, environmental and social benefits of these lands. Forest Stewards are landowners who manage their forest lands on a long-term basis by following a multiple resource management plan.

The Forest Stewardship Program addresses the improvement and maintenance of timber, wildlife, soil and water, recreation, aesthetics, as well as forage resources.



Eligibility

Private forest landowners with at least <u>20 acres</u> of forest land and a desire to manage their ownerships according to Stewardship principles can participate in the Forest Stewardship Program. Also, <u>adjacent landowners</u>, with <u>similar management</u> <u>objectives</u>, may combine their holdings to meet this acreage limitation.

Benefits to Landowners

- A customized management plan that is based on the landowner's objectives. The plan will include forest stand characteristics, property maps, management recommendations, and a five-year time line for future planning. This plan also serves as documentation of active management on the property that may help reduce tax liability.
- An opportunity for public recognition as a certified "Forest Steward".
- Educational workshops, tours and the quarterly Florida Land Steward newsletter developed and distributed by the University of Florida, IFAS Cooperative Extension Service and other partners.

How to Enroll

Contact your local Florida Forest Service <u>County Forester</u> and tell them that you would like to have a Forest Stewardship Plan prepared for your property. More information and application online at: **http://FreshFromFlorida.com/ForestStewardship**



Tree Farm Program

The American Tree Farm System® is a program of the American Forest Foundation and was founded in 1941 to promote the sustainable management of forests through education and outreach to family forest landowners. Nearly 26 million acres of privately owned forestland and 80,000 family forest landowners in 46 states are enrolled in this program and committed to excellence in forest stewardship. About half of all Tree Farms are located in the South.

Eligibility

Private forest landowners with at least <u>10 acres</u> of forest land and have a desire to manage their ownerships according to sustainable forestry guidelines can participate in Tree Farm.

Benefits to Landowners

Tree Farmers are good stewards of their forestland committed to protecting watersheds and wildlife habitat and conserving soil. They manage their forestland for various reasons, including timber production, wildlife, recreation, aesthetics, and education/outreach. Tree Farmers receive many benefits:

- Representation on local, state, and federal issues affecting forestland owners.
- Exposure to a network of forestry professionals and landowners committed to sustainable forestry.
- Invitations to workshops, tours and the quarterly Florida Land Steward newsletter produced by University of Florida IFAS and other partners.
- Certification that meets international standards of sustainable forest management.
- Participation in local, state, regional, and national Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year awards and recognition.

Getting into the Program

Contact your local Florida Forest Service <u>County Forester</u> and tell them that you would like to join the Tree Farm program. More information here:

https://www.treefarmsystem.org/florida



Native Species in Florida — Online Resources

Supplement to WISE Workshop—May 2018

Prepared by: Chris Demers, School of Forest Resources and Conservation, University of Florida, cdemers@ufl.edu

Plants & Pollinators

Native Florida Plants Topic Area: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic native plants

Butterfly Gardening, Landscaping Topic Area: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic butterfly gardening

Bees and Beekeeping Topic Area: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic beekeeping

Forests

Forest Management and Stewardship:

https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic forest management and stewardship

Amphibians and Reptiles

Reptiles and Amphibians Topic Area: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic reptiles and amphibians

Mammals

Florida Panther: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw402, https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw390

Florida Black Bear Topic Area: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_bears

Other Mammals Topic Area: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic mammals

Other Wildlife

Wildlife Topic Area: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic wildlife

Safe Harbor Agreements for Endangered Species: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw403



Introduced and Invasive Species in Florida — Online Resources

Prepared by: Dr. Steve A. Johnson, Associate Professor, Dept. of Wildlife Ecology, University of Florida

<u>Invasive Species Websites of General Interest</u>

Florida Invasive Species Partnership—FISP: This website is an invaluable resource for land managers in Florida. An excellent resource provided by FISP is its "Florida Landowners Incentives Program", which lists more than 25 potential sources of funds available to managers of private and public lands for control of invasive species. Other features of this site include an up-to-date calendar of events and news on invasive species, details for Florida's Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAs), and information on reporting and mapping observations of invasive plants and animals. This is a MUST VISIT site for anyone responsible for managing Florida's natural areas! http://www.floridainvasives.org/index.html

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission—Nonnative Species: This site provides a general background on invasive species and the problems they cause, numerous links to invasive species resources, and rules and regulations governing non-native animals in Florida. This FWC site is especially valuable because it is the clearinghouse for information on the status of introduced animals in Florida. Here you will also find brief profiles for virtually all of the state's introduced animals.

http://www.myfwc.com/nonnatives

The National Invasive Species Council—NISC: NISC is consortium of US federal agencies working together to address a myriad of invasive species nationally. NISC provides high-level interdepartmental coordination of federal invasive species actions and works with other federal and non-federal groups to address invasive species issues at the national level. Be sure to check out the 2008-2012 National Invasive Species Management Plan, which can be downloaded from NISC.

http://www.invasivespecies.gov/index.html

INVASIVES.ORG Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health: The University of Georgia, in partnership with the USDA, hosts this great website and it's worth a visit. There you will find links to species profiles and a diversity of reports and publications, a library of digital images, and much more. This site provides information on invasive plants, invertebrates, vertebrates, and diseases. Click the "Maps" button at the top of the home page to go to the EDDMapS where you can report observations of introduced animals and plants. You will want to bookmark this web page for sure.

http://www.invasive.org/

USDA National Invasive Species Information Center: This site is a "gateway to invasive species information; covering Federal, State, local, and international sources." Although the information provided here for invasive vertebrates is relatively sparse, it is a great source of information for invasive insects, plants, and aquatic species. It also includes links to recent news and events on invasive species from a national perspective.

http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/index.shtml

Species Profiles and Management Resources

eXtension

- Feral Hogs: http://www.extension.org/feral-hogs
- Armadillos: http://www.extension.org/pages/8781/armadillo-damage-management#.Uo6eGulyga8

Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management

- Armadillos: http://icwdm.org/handbook/mammals/armadillos.asp
- European Starlings: http://icwdm.org/handbook/birds/EuropeanStarlings.asp

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

- Armadillos: http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/profiles/mammals/land/armadillo/
- Coyotes: http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/profiles/mammals/land/coyote/faqs/
- Outdoor Cats: http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/mammals/feral-cats/
- Feral Hogs: http://myfwc.com/media/2102702/6staffreport-wildhog-presentation.pdf
- Feral Hogs: http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/profiles/mammals/land/wild-hog/
- Mallard/Mottled Ducks: http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/profiles/birds/waterfowl/mottled-ducks/
- Mallard Ducks: http://myfwc.com/license/wildlife/nuisance-wildlife/mallard-control/

University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

- Armadillos: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw362
- Coyotes: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw397
- Feral Hogs: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw322
- Iguanas: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in528
- Cuban Treefrog: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw259
- Cane (Bufo) Toad: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw345
- Burmese Python: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw286

Florida Museum of Natural History

• Iguanas: http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/herpetology/kk/pdf/2007 Krysko et %20al- Iguana iguana.pdf

Emerald Ash Borer Information Network: http://emeraldashborer.info/

American Bird Conservancy

Outdoor Cats: http://www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/policy/cats/index.html

US Department of Agriculture

- Feral Hogs: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife-damage/stopferalswine
- Feral Hogs (Immunocontraception): <u>http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1102&context=icwdm_usdanwrc</u>

Education and Training Resources

University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

- <u>UF Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants</u>: is a multidisciplinary research, teaching and
 extension unit directed to develop environmentally sound techniques for the management of
 aquatic and natural area weed species.
 http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/
- <u>UF Wildlife</u>: This is a website with information about invasive vertebrates, their natural history, and management. Online guides to Florida's Snakes and Florida's Frogs & Toad can be found here too, as well as resources for educators. Be sure to check out the page for the *Invader Updater* (click the "Invasive Vertebrates" link), a quarterly newsletter focused primarily on providing information on invasive vertebrate animals in Florida and the southeastern US. http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu/
- <u>Reptile Early Detection and Documentation (REDDy)</u>: This is a free, online training module focused on identification and reporting of observations on large constrictors and carnivorous lizards in Florida. Numerous supplemental resources are provided. http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu/reddy.shtml
- <u>Buyers Guide to Pet Reptiles</u>: This brochure offers advice on the purchase of pet reptiles. It is available as a tri-fold brochure at the second link below. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw357
- Options for Unwanted Pets: This brochure offers advice on suitable options for unwanted exotic pets. A similar version is available as a tri-fold brochure at the second and third links below.
 http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw353
 http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/UW/UW35300.pdf
 http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu/pdfs/PARC%20Pet%20Brochure.pdf

The Nature Conservancy

 <u>Python Patrol</u>: The Nature Conservancy conducts workshops that provide participants with hands-on training for safe and effective methods to capture large constrictors. http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/florida/howwework/stopping-a-burmese-python-invasion.xml

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

• FWC Pet Amnesty Program: The FWC conducts several "Pet Amnesty" events each year throughout the state. Anyone is allowed to surrender unwanted, exotic pets (no dogs, cats, etc.) with no questions asked. After a veterinarian examines each animal, those deemed healthy are sent home with pre-approved, adoptive parents. FWC can also help place needy animals with adopters upon request.

http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/amnesty-program/events/

National Park Service

 <u>"Don't Let It Loose"</u>: This educational campaign provides numerous resources for educators on the issue of invasive species. The curriculum consists of numerous classroom activities targeted at middle school-aged students. "Interactive games and classroom activities instill students with the importance of responsible pet selection and ownership." http://www.nps.gov/ever/forteachers/dlil.htm

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force

 <u>Habitattitude</u>: This program is a partnership among several federal agencies—the USFWS is the lead—and the pet industry to educate the public about not releasing nonindigenous fish and aquatic plants.

http://www.habitattitude.net/

Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health

 <u>Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System—EDDMapS</u>: Developed by the University of Georgia with support from several federal agencies, EDDMapS is the portal for reporting and mapping observations of nonindigenous animals and plants in Florida. Here you can report observations and check current distribution maps for introduced plants and animals. You can also download smartphone apps for reporting your observations. http://www.eddmaps.org/

I hope you find these resources useful. If you have any suggestion, such as websites to add, please don't hesitate to email Steve Johnson at <u>tadpole.ufl.edu</u>.

Some Resources for Identifying and Controlling Invasive Exotic Plants



Miller, James H. 2003. **Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forests: A Field Guide for Identification and Control.** U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Research Station, Asheville, N.C., Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-62. 93pp.

http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/gtr/gtr_srs062/ To request a printed copy, call 828-257-4830, or email pubrequest@fs.fed.us nd ask for GTR-SRS-62.

Miller, James H., Erwin B. Chambliss and Nancy J. Loewenstein. 2010. A Field Guide for the Identification of Invasive Plants in Southern Forests, United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Research Station General Technical Report SRS—119. 126 pp. http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/35292 Hardcopies available without charge from the Southern Research Station, 200 W.T. Weaver Blvd., Asheville, NC 28804.

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service, Invasive Non-native Plants, http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/Forest-Health/Invasive-Non-Native-Plants

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council Invasive Plant Lists, http://www.fleppc.org/list/list.htm

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Invasive Plant Management Section, http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/invasive-plants/

Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Invasive Species, http://www.fnai.org/invasivespecies.cfm

United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Library, National Invasive Species Information Center, Florida, http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/unitedstates/fl.shtml

University of Florida/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants, http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/

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Florida Master Naturalist

http://www.masternaturalist.ifas.ufl.edu/

Florida Master Gardener

http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/

Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Extension Programs

http://www.wec.ufl.edu/extension/

School of Forest Resources and Conservation Extension Programs

http://sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/index.html