



Empowering Educators, Inspiring Youth!

Project Learning Tree 2014 Annual Report

Florida PLT Expands Early Childhood Program

Last year, Florida PLT received a grant to further develop their Early Childhood Experiences program. Through this grant PLT was able to establish key connections in the early childhood community. Those connections have led to numerous workshop and conference presentations including: the North American Association for Environmental Education and the League of Environmental Educators in Florida (LEEF).



- ⇒ **500,000+ students will be taught PLT activities by the 1000 teachers trained in one of 52 workshops conducted in 2014!**
- ⇒ **40,500 educators, parents, and students were engaged in PLT activities at designated PLT Schools, PLT Environmental Education Centers, and at professional conferences.**
- ⇒ **15,000+ volunteer hours were donated to the program**

Inaugural Arbor Day Reading

Students planting a tree on Arbor Day at St. Paul Lutheran School, pictured below. This was part of the new Arbor Day program developed by the Florida Forest Service and PLT to promote reading as a way to increase awareness about trees.



Charting the Course with PLT!

The 2014 PLT Conference at Brooker Creek Environmental Center, Tarpon Springs was a huge success. A sponge boat trip kicked off the training. The virtual classroom, GPS, exploration and field ID, and early childhood activities were on the program. A silent auction and raffle raised \$1200 for Florida PLT!



www.sfrc.ufl.edu/plt



Congratulations to our 2014 Florida PLT Award Recipients

We would like to recognize **Annie Oxarart**, Florida Facilitator of the Year, **Bryce Forrester**, Florida Educator of the Year and **Rayonier**, Florida Business Partner of the Year. There were also several Certificate of Appreciation recipients; **Greg Barton**, **Vicki Crisp**, **Steve Lowrimore**, and **Eileen Tramontana**. Recipients were honored at the 2014 PLT Annual Conference "Charting the Course with PLT!" in Tarpon Springs, FL. To learn more about our award winners visit sfrc.ufl.edu/plt/supporting_PLT/fl_plt_awards.shtml



Annie Oxarart



Bryce Forrester



Mike Bell, Rayonier



Nancy Peterson, Greg Barton, Vicki Crisp, Eileen Tramontana, and Robin Will (Not pictured: Steve Lowrimore)

Welcome to new PLT EE Centers and Schools!

- FAU Pine Jog Environmental Center Coordinator, Susan Toth
- FIU Nature Preserve Coordinator, Ryan Vogel
- Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County Coordinator, Brian Elkins
- Everglades Youth Conservation Camp Coordinator, Janice Kerber
- Cahoon Magnet Elementary School, Coordinator, Jane Wells



Can't get to a PLT workshop? Take it online!

- ⇒ **The Prek-8 EE workshop** was revised in 2014 with additional video and activities. It can now be taken any time.
- ⇒ **The Places We Live** secondary workshop is also offered online.
- ⇒ Click "on-line training" on left menu bar of our website.

Resources

[PLT's Branch Newsletter](#), a national e-newsletter with up-to-date information.

Get curriculum resources from Florida PLT at sfrc.ufl.edu/plt or the national PLT website at www.plt.org

Nancy Peterson, Coordinator
School of Forest Resources
and Conservation, UF/IFAS
P.O. Box 110410
Gainesville, FL 32611
(352) 846-0848
njp@ufl.edu

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Thank You PLT Volunteers

Over 15,000 Hours Donated in 2014

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