Field Trip Opportunities – Saturday, March 29, 2014

Enchanted Forest Sanctuary (Tour limited to 25 people)

Itinerary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:15pm</td>
<td>Load bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45pm</td>
<td>Depart Radisson Resort at the Port</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45-1:15pm</td>
<td>Travel to Enchanted Forest Sanctuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-3:00pm</td>
<td>Guided upland hike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00-4:00pm</td>
<td>Nature center visitation and Q&amp;A with guides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00-4:15pm</td>
<td>Load bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15-4:45pm</td>
<td>Bus returns to Radisson Resort at the Port</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description:
The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary was the first property that was purchased by the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program. This 470 acre forest is part of a sanctuary network that the EEL Program is working to establish in the county. Located in the southern limits of the City of Titusville, the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary preserves a diversity of natural habitats. Several miles of hiking trails allow visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of the region. A wonderful wealth of plant life also abounds as both temperate (northern) and subtropical (southern) species grow in the Sanctuary together. The Management and Education Center interprets the Sanctuary’s unique natural features for visitors of all ages and abilities.

There are five basic habitat types found at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary: Oak scrub, mesic and hydric hammock, wet prairie, and pine flatwood. Wildlife species found here include the Eastern indigo snake, Florida scrub lizard, gopher tortoise, white-tailed deer, and bobcat.

The conference tour will include a guided upland hike, followed by nature center visitation time and a question & answer session with on-site tour guides.

What to Wear & Bring: Dress for walking – hiking boots or tennis shoes, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug spray.

Food Provided: Lunch and bottled water.

Driving Distance: Enchanted Forest Sanctuary is located in Titusville, approximately 22 miles from the Radisson Resort at the Port.

Cost of Tour: $30.00 per person (includes lunch, transportation, and any admission fees)

For Questions about the Tour Site, contact:
Joanie Faulls, Sanctuary Steward
Phone: (321) 264-5185 | Email: joan.faulls@brevardparks.com

For Questions about Tour Logistics, contact:
Jasmine Garcia, Conference Coordinator
UF/IFAS Office of Conferences & Institutes
Phone: (352) 392-5930 | Email: j.garcia@ufl.edu
Field Trip Opportunities – Saturday, March 29, 2014

A Day Away Kayak Tours *(Tour limited to 30 people)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:15pm</td>
<td>Load bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45pm</td>
<td>Depart Radisson Resort at the Port</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45-1:45pm</td>
<td>Travel to Haulover Canal kayak tour launch site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-4:00pm</td>
<td>Guided kayak tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15-4:30pm</td>
<td>Load bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30-5:30pm</td>
<td>Bus returns to Radisson Resort at the Port</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description:**

A Day Away Kayak Tours offers tours at various sites across Central Florida, but the base of the company’s operation is in the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, one of the most diverse estuaries in North America. In the Refuge, manatee, dolphin, alligator, and a large variety of birds are frequently encountered. Pigs and turkeys sometimes make an appearance, too!

The A Day Away Kayak Tour owners enjoy using the business as a tool for learning. In the rushed electronic-driven world that often leaves people nature-deprived, the owners have made the goal of A Day Away to offer quality tours with quality equipment led by people of excellence, ensuring every participant a reconnect with nature that leaves them in awe of the amazing creation surrounding them.

The conference tour will include a guided kayak tour through the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge.

**What to Wear & Bring:** Lightweight T-shirt or long-sleeved shirt, shorts or pants, closed shoes or sandals, bathing suit if desired, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug spray

**Food Provided:** Lunch and bottled water

**Driving Distance:** The Haulover Canal launch site is located near Titusville, about 35 miles from the Radisson Resort at the Port

**Cost of Tour:** $60.00 per person *(includes lunch, transportation, and any admission fees)*

For Questions about the Tour Site, contact:
Elisabeth Mahan, Owner
Phone: (321) 268-2655 | Email: info@adayawaykayaktours.com

For Questions about Tour Logistics, contact:
Jasmine Garcia, Conference Coordinator
UF/IFAS Office of Conferences & Institutes
Phone: (352) 392-5930 | Email: j.garcia@ufl.edu
Field Trip Opportunities – Saturday, March 29, 2014

Ritch Grissom Memorial Wetlands at Viera (Tour limited to 15 people)

**Itinerary:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:15pm</td>
<td>Load bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45pm</td>
<td>Depart Radisson Resort at the Port</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45-1:15pm</td>
<td>Travel to Viera Wetlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-4:00pm</td>
<td>Wildlife photography hike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00-4:15pm</td>
<td>Load bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15-4:45pm</td>
<td>Bus returns to Radisson Resort at the Port</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description:**

Located between the Moccasin Island Tract of the River Lakes Conservation Area and the Brevard Zoo, the wetlands are a popular site for birders, photographers, and eco-tourists. Also known as the Viera Wetlands, the area consists of 200 acres divided into four cells of approximately 35 acres each, plus a central lake. The cells were designed to maintain differing depths of water, reflecting diverse wetland conditions. The wetlands are an integral component of Brevard County’s water reuse system. Providing increased water quality and savings over traditional water treatment methods, the constructed wetland system polishes reclaimed water for irrigation or overflow into the adjacent Four-mile Canal. A special mitigation littoral zone along the lake’s shoreline is carefully monitored to assess wetland health and wildlife utilization. The wetlands provide for a biologically diverse ecosystem, affording visitors a wonderful, close-up opportunity to view Brevard County’s native wildlife and vegetation. The entire wetlands central lake perimeter, approximately one mile of shoreline, has been seeded with Florida wildflower species. A covered gazebo serves as a visitor information center overlooking the lake and is surrounded by a butterfly garden and demonstration rain barrel irrigation system. Approximately 60,000 visitors pass through the main entrance to the wetland system each year, many drawn by the site’s breathtaking views and stunning abundance of wildlife.

The conference tour will include a 2-mile wildlife photography hike led by teaching photographer and FMNP graduate Robert Amoruso. Tour discussion will include an overview of bird species and ethical wildlife photography techniques.

**What to Wear & Bring:** Dress for walking – hiking boots or tennis shoes, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug spray

**Food Provided:** Lunch and bottled water

**Driving Distance:** The Ritch Grissom Memorial Wetlands at Viera are located in Melbourne, approximately 25 miles from the Radisson Resort at the Port

**Cost of Tour:** $60.00 per person (includes lunch, transportation, and any admission fees)

**For Questions about the Tour Site, contact:**
Raleigh Berry, Environmental Land Manager
Phone: (321) 633-2016 | Email: raleigh.berry@brevardcounty.us

**For Questions about Tour Logistics, contact:**
Jasmine Garcia, Conference Coordinator
UF/IFAS Office of Conferences & Institutes
Phone: (352) 392-5930 | Email: j.garcia@ufl.edu

Photo credit: Harry Behret
Field Trip Opportunities – Saturday, March 29, 2014

Wildside Tours (Tour limited to 16 people)

Itinerary:
12:15pm Load bus
12:45pm Depart Radisson Resort at the Port
12:45-1:00pm Travel to Wildside Tours
1:30-4:00pm Dolphin/pontoon boat tour
4:00-4:15pm Load bus
4:15-4:30pm Bus returns to Radisson Resort at the Port

Description:
Wildside Tours is a nature boat business providing a variety of different excursions in the beautiful Thousand Islands Nature Preserve of Cocoa Beach and the Banana River Lagoon. Sightseeing in this incredible, fragile, and dynamic ecosystem is exciting; the manatees, dolphins, and many varieties of birds exemplify nature at its finest. Practicing ethical, sustainable ecotourism, Wildside does not chase, feed, or touch the animals. They engage in passive viewing and respect the environment. Both Captain Ben Evans and Captain Jeanette Vasbinder are certified Florida Master Naturalists, and Wildside Tours is Florida SEE Gold Certified.

The conference tour will include a dolphin/pontoon boat tour in the Thousand Islands Conservation area of Cocoa Beach. This daily 2 ½ hour excursion is Wildside’s most popular trip. The tour will leave from Ramp Road City Park in Cocoa Beach. March is manatee season, and these gentle, curious giants will likely be found in the canals, as well as the open channels. The captain or mate will narrate, sharing his or her knowledge and appreciation of the diverse habitats and species. Each 6-15 mile tour is unique, as there is no set route or presentation, but the captain will consider the weather, animals’ location, and passengers’ wishes to provide the most enjoyable experience for all. The quiet motor catamaran with comfortable wrap around seating will allow passengers to move around for optimal viewing and to interact with the crew and other passengers. The stability of the boat provides an excellent platform for photographing wildlife, and there will be some binoculars available for use. There is also a sun cover and on-board restroom available to add to the comfort and relaxation of this educational and exciting tour.

What to Wear & Bring: T-shirt, shorts, light jacket, sneakers or sandals, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, camera

Food Provided: Lunch and bottled water; soft drinks and water available on-board

Driving Distance: Wildside Tours is located in Cocoa Beach, approximately 6 miles from the Radisson Resort at the Port

Cost of Tour: $60.00 per person
(includes lunch, transportation, and any admission fees)

For Questions about the Tour Site, contact:
Jeanette Vasbinder, Captain
Phone: (321) 799-5495 | Email: capt.jetv@yahoo.com

For Questions about Tour Logistics, contact:
Jasmine Garcia, Conference Coordinator
UF/IFAS Office of Conferences & Institutes
Phone: (352) 392-5930 | Email: j.garcia@ufl.edu

Photo credits: Captain Ben Evans, M.S. and Captain Jeanette Vasbinder, B.A.
Field Trip Opportunities – Saturday, March 29, 2014

Barrier Island Sanctuary (Tour limited to 25 people)

**Itinerary:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:15pm</td>
<td>Load bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45pm</td>
<td>Depart Radisson Resort at the Port</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45-1:45pm</td>
<td>Travel to Barrier Island Sanctuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45-4:15pm</td>
<td>Sanctuary activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15-4:30pm</td>
<td>Load bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30-5:30pm</td>
<td>Bus returns to Radisson Resort at the Port</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Description:**

The Barrier Island Sanctuary is a modern educational facility with classrooms, an interactive exhibit room, a library, offices, auditorium, restrooms and a gift shop. The center provides a focal point for the Archie Carr Refuge and the associated barrier island by providing exhibit space, a presentation hall, and ongoing educational programs that promote stewardship of the area’s fragile natural resources. This 34 acre sanctuary offers visitors an invitation to explore the barrier island’s diverse habitats through interactive exhibits at the Center, and along a hiking trail that winds from the ocean to the Indian River Lagoon.

The conference tour will include a butterfly survey along a 1-mile walking trail, seineing, and review of fish traveling through a mosquito impoundment culvert.

**What to Wear & Bring:** Dress for walking and seineing (feet will get wet) – hiking boots or tennis shoes, water shoes, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug spray

**Food Provided:** Lunch and bottled water

**Driving Distance:** Barrier Island Sanctuary is located in Melbourne Beach, approximately 40 miles from the Radisson Resort at the Port

**Cost of Tour:** $30.00 per person
(includes lunch, transportation, and any admission fees)

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**For Questions about the Tour Site, contact:**

Joy Winet, Sanctuary Steward  
Phone: (321) 723-3556 | Email: joy.winet@brevardparks.com

**For Questions about Tour Logistics, contact:**

Jasmine Garcia, Conference Coordinator  
UF/IFAS Office of Conferences & Institutes  
Phone: (352) 392-5930 | Email: j.garcia@ufl.edu