

**Naturalist Series** 

Raptors: Owls, Eagles, Hawks and More

Saturday, Sept. 21 at 1:30 PM

The Audubon Birds of Prey Center is coming to TLNC to share their awesome avian ambassadors and knowledge about their feathered friends. You will learn about the importance of our natural systems to the survival of our raptors and what you can do to help.

Entry fee is \$5/vehicle for non-members. TLNC members enter free.

### Is Mars Really a Dangerous Planet

Saturday, October 19 at 1:30 PM

Mars, the Red Planet has sparked many myths and stories. In recent times, it is the object of many scientific studies. From our vantage point on Earth, Mars appears to move backwards. Expert Mike Ryan will explain this optical illusion and what would be involved in journeying to the Red Planet.

The program is free to attend but all non-TLNC members must pay a \$5/vehicle entry fee.



Naturalist Series

Talking with the Biologists
Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 PM

A team of biologist from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will discuss important topics related to Florida's wildlife and ecosystem management. Topics include:

- Invasive species with a special focus on the Swamp Eel
- Endemic species highlighting the Lake Eustis Pupfish.
- Vegetation management with an overview of both invasive and native vegetation
- Fisheries enhancement, with an in-depth look at enhancement projects in our area.



## Be the Change!

In the past eight years, TLNC has reached almost half a million people with its education programs. We see parents, and even some grandparents, who visited TLNC in their childhood returning with their children and grandchildren to learn about the natural world and connect with nature. Through your support, we have grown from a small idea into a vibrant and vital nature center in Lake County serving the Central Florida region.

As a growing non-profit, TLNC depends on the generosity of our visitors and donors, and grants from different sources. As you make plans for your end-of-the-year donations, consider putting TLNC into your planned giving.

**Go to** *https://tinyurl.com/3cjdxts6* or use the button below to check out the ways you can make a difference. From a one-time or recurring donation, to becoming a Sustaining Sponsor, to contributing to our Capital Building Campaign or endowment fund, or giving a donation in memory of someone or a life event, setting up legacy giving or recurring donation.

Or, mark you calendar to make your donation during **Giving Week (from Dec. 3 to noon, Dec. 9)** through the Mt. Dora Community Trust. Donations made during Giving Week help us qualify for additional funding.

Learn how you can be the change by clicking the button below.

Be the change!

### Mini-conference

Join us as we gather at the 2024 LEEF (League of Environmental Educators in Florida) Mini-Conference on **Saturday, October 26, 2024 at The Environmental Learning Center in Vero Beach** to share best practices in PreK12 education, learn new environmental learning activities, explore professional development opportunities, and discover exciting new research!

To learn more about the conference and/or register to attend, click the button below.

Mini-conference

# **EE Landscape Analysis**

In 2020, the Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance, also known as SEEA, embarked a landscape analysis of environmental education (EE) efforts in eight southeastern states including Florida. There was a need to gain an enhanced understanding of the environmental education providers who are working towards similar goals.

To understand the landscape of EE, more than 700 EE providers were surveyed. This analysis looked at the field as a whole and will be used to build and strengthen EE programs and networks across the Southeast and Florida.

The Trout Lake Nature Center was an integral part of developing and conducting the Analysis in Florida. Through a partnership with LEEF (the professional organization for EE in Florida), TLNC is now conducting one-hour workshops virtually and in-person on what was learned, where the gaps exist and what the barriers are.

Workshops are designed to look at how EE in Florida can improve and help solve some of our natural resource challenges.



In-person presentations are being held at:

- Florida Association of Science Teachers conference--October 24-26, Tampa
- Florida Association of Zoo Educators conference, October 24, Naples
- LEEF Board Retreat, September 21, Davenport
- LEEF Mini-conference, October 26, Vero Beach
- ANCA Regional meeting, October 8, West Palm Beach

To learn when the virtual workshops will be held and how you can register, click the button below.





#### **Trout Lake Nature Center**

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