

TROUT LAKE NATURE CENTER



Issue: August 2025

Dig into the Past

Saturday, August 9, 1:30 PM

TLNC Naturalist Series

Join Bill Heim for an afternoon learning about what a fossil is and about the types of fossils. He will tell you about his adventures finding fossils and where fossils are found throughout the US, not just in Florida, but other states too. Learn why dinosaur fossils aren't found in Florida. Heim will share his knowledge and tell exciting stories about our ancient past.

This presentation is held in the TLNC Education Building and no reservation is required. There is a \$5/vehicle entry fee charged to all non-TLNC members. For more information on this program call 352-357-7536. Photo credit: Florida Museum, Gainesville.



TLNC Staff Visits Eustis Library

August 6 from 2 to 3 PM.

TLNC is going to the library with one of its animal ambassadors to tell about the importance of gopher tortoises. Troubles and Claudia Rowe, TLNC Educator will be at the Eustis Library from **2 to 3 PM on August 6**. Rowe will tell about the importance of gopher tortoise burrows for hundreds of species of animals and how burrows are used during wildfire for animals to take refuge in.

Troubles is a male gopher tortoise that resides at TLNC and is non-releasable due to missing a front leg. Troubles became tangled in litter which cut off his circulation got infected and had to be amputated. He is an example of how can impact wildlife through thoughtless actions. He resides at TLNC and helps people learn about wildlife in our area.

The Eustis Memorial Library is located at 120 N. Center Street, Eustis



We're Closing for One Week

From Monday August 12 through Friday August 15.

Each summer, TLNC closes for 5 days to prepare for the coming cooler season which brings increased visitors and school programs. This year we hope the maintenance building will be completed and allow us to move equipment and materials into this structure. This will require cleaning, reorganizing and in many cases moving all closets, bathrooms, office areas (yes, we use our bathrooms and offices for storage) into a rented storage trailer. It will be a lot of work in hot weather but we are looking forward to getting into the new building and being able to be more organized with the new space.

Gardening Help is Needed

Saturday August 16 from 8 to 11 AM.

We need help with improving our landscaping for wildlife, butterflies and other pollinators. **Every other Saturday, from 8 to 11 AM**, we are gardening. Weeding our pollinator garden, planting seeds and plants to improve our habitat and more.

If you like gardening or just want to help improve the habitat in our area for wildlife, call 352-357-7536 to volunteer to help with our gardening efforts. Dress to work outdoors, bring gloves (if you want to use them), any special tools that you like to use when you garden, a hat, sunscreen and water bottle. We have bug spray if needed and a water bottle refill station along with gatorade.



Photo: Leatherflower on the vine

Nature Sprouts

Wednesday, August 27, 10:30 to 11:30 AM

Calling all 2 to 5-year olds for our Nature Sprouts program. This program is designed for younger children using age-appropriate activities to engage the children and provide a positive experience in nature.

The PAWS Therapy dogs will be coming to this program to provide your child with a chance to interact with some gentle, well-trained dogs while they learn about how to approach a strange dog and how to care for a dog if they ever own one.

Each child must be accompanied by an adult. Dress to go outdoors and probably get dirty. **Call 352-357-7536 or email TLNC.info@gmail.com.** Your registration is important so we have enough materials for every child.

Fall Fairy House Judging

What is a fairy house? They are small structures inhabited by fairies, gnomes, and woodland creatures. Fairies are nature lovers and environmentalists. They live lightly on the earth. Their houses are built sustainably, using natural and dropped materials, to blend into the habitats where they live.

Use the child inside you or work with your children to create a fairy house. You mix imagination, whimsy and natural materials to create a structure a fairy would love to live in.

Let your imagination go, build a house and submit your creation to the Trout Lake Nature Center between Nov. 5 and noon on Nov. 7th. All houses will be judged at the Nature Magic and Crafts Funday on Saturday, Nov. 8th and then placed along TLNC trails for viewing by the public. Categories range from Little Sprites to Adult.

Now is the time to start thinking about your design. The building criteria will be placed on TLNC's website in August.





Nature Magic and Craft Day

Saturday, November 9, 1 to 3 PM

Many things in nature can look like magic from the folding of the leaf of a sensitive plant to the emerging of a butterfly. This event will feature activities that show the magic of nature and teach a little natural science. In addition to encourage people to use their imaginations, crafts made with natural items or about nature will be demonstrated so you can learn about the fun of crafting and, maybe, decide to pursue it further.

We are looking for "crafters" willing to share their skills and passion with others and volunteers to become TLNC nature magicians. Call 352-357-7536 or email TLNC.info@gmail.com if interested in helping. Photo: Mimosa leaf folding



Jungle Feast is Coming...

Thursday, October 9, 6 to 8 PM

We're completing Phase 2 of our Education Complex expansion and are onto Phase 3. Phase 3 includes building a new museum, community meeting spaces, offices and renovating the existing Education Building to meet future needs. We anticipate construction starting in 2026.

The Jungle Feast is an annual fundraiser which will be held at TLNC so you can see our progress, have up close and personal encounters with wildlife, watch a sunset on the lake, sip some beverages from local

businesses and more. All proceeds support the expansion and our education programs. Use the button below to learn more and reserve your tickets.

Jungle Feast



Trout Lake Nature Center

520 East CR 44, Eustis
352-357-7536
troutlakenaturecenter.com



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.
View this email [online](#).

Trout Lake Nature Center 520 East CR 44 | Eustis, FL 32736 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.