



Issue: May, 2025

Mark Your Calendars

Coming this Weekend!

Naturalist Series: Treat Your Landscape like Nature Would

Saturday, May 10 starting at 1:30 PM Certified arborist and palm expert Eric Scovack will be speaking about how to prepare your trees for the hurricane season and how to trim your tree to do the least amount of damage. Scovack is a palm expert so bring you questions about the palms in your yard.

Entry fee to the property is \$5/vehicle with TLCN members entering for free. For more information, call 352-357-7536.



Children's Watercolor Classes

Thursday, June 5: Alligator

Saturday, June 21: Blue Crab

Ellen Westerholm will once again hold water color painting classes for children ages 6 to 12 years old. All materials are supplied and the children learn how to use watercolors to bring out their creativity. In addition, at each painting class, they learn a little about the nature subject chosen.

Cost is \$35/child and includes cost of entry fee to the property. Both programs start at 10 AM and run until Noon.

[Click to Register for Gator Class](#)

[Click to Register for Crab Class](#)



Reading Tails

June 10 from 2 to 3:30 PM

July 1 from 2 to 3:30 PM

Summer can be the time to grab a good book and do some reading as the hot afternoon passes. Children often lose reading skills over summer vacation but we have a way to get them to enjoy reading. The PAWS Therapy dogs will be at TLNC for your child to read to from a book about nature. Bring your own book or use one of ours to learn about nature and read for the dogs.

After reading to the dogs, Claudia Rowe, TLNC Education Coordinator will read to the children about Florida nature which is followed by a discussion about the story or nature information. You must register your child to attend and children must be accompanied by an adult to attend.

[Register for June 10 Reading Tails](#)

[Register for July 1 Reading Tails](#)

SAVE THE DATE--OCTOBER 9, from 6 to 8 PM

2025 Jungle Feast is being planned for October 9 from 6 to 8 PM at the Trout Lake Nature Center. We are looking for people or businesses to become sponsors for this event. Available sponsorship levels are:

Presenting Sponsor: \$5,000

Cocktail Sponsor: \$2,500

Photo Sponsor: \$1,000

Panther Sponsor: \$1,000

Sweet Treat Sponsor: \$750

Fear Factor Sponsor: \$500

[I want to be a Sponsor](#)

Ticket are on sale soon for this event. Cost is \$99/person. Funds raised are used to support the Education Complex expansion and programming at the Trout Lake Nature Center.

[Get Tickets](#)

We've Reached our Goal...

Today, we reached our goal of collecting an additional 1,000 lbs to earn a recycled materials or Trex bench. To date we have collected 3,000 lbs. of soft plastics which is equivalent to 282,000 plastic bags. Trex turns the materials collected into useful items and we keep these plastics from littering our roads, waterways, fields and forests. We will continue to collect this plastic to remove it from our natural areas.

This will be our third bench which we place on our trails to replace our wooden benches that don't deal well with the Florida sun, rain and our damp wetland conditions.

We are grateful for all the help the many organizations and individuals gave us in collecting soft plastics that include grocery bags, bread bags, shrink wrap, bubble wrap, Amazon mailers and more. We began the collection of this 1,000 lbs on January 22 and managed to collect the needed amount in about 3.5 months instead of the 12 months we are given to collect. We will continue to collect this plastic to keep it out of our natural areas and work on a fourth bench.



Ladies from the Mt. Dora Women's Club pose with Eileen Tramontana, TLNC Executive Director and one of benches earned by recycling soft plastic. MDWC delivered final pounds of plastic needed to reach our 1,000 lbs. goal.

Opportunities for Environmental Educators (EE)

What's an Environmental Educator? Anyone who teaches about the environment. It may be a parent showing their child about nature, church group leader, 4H leader or a formal educator.

In cooperation with our education partners, the Guy Harvey Foundation provides a limited number of Educator Professional Development Grants, up to \$300, for K-12 Educators participating in Guy Harvey Conservation Educator Professional Development opportunities. This grant program is open to all elementary, middle and high school educators interested in becoming a Guy Harvey Conservation Educator. Click button to go to the Guy Harvey Foundation site.

[Guy Harvey Foundation Grant](#)

Exploring Environmental Education Curriculum Options (ECO) Teacher Training Workshop, June 23 to 27, Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center.

The aim of this workshop is to provide participants with tools and information to interpret the natural world and impart the need for resource conservation to their audience. Using local, state, and national curricula correlated to Florida Standards, participants will be given activities and resources to help foster environmental knowledge and good environmental stewardship in their students.

The University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Extension Pinellas County's Natural Resources Agent has teamed up with St. Petersburg College, College of Education Professor to offer this nationally award-winning, week-long environmental education workshop for pre-service elementary and ESE

education students, current elementary and ESE teachers, and non-formal educators. Note: Middle school educators are welcome to participate as well!

ECO Workshop

Professional Organizations Membership. As a teacher, you inspire the next generation, and now you can also enjoy the beauty of Florida’s native plants and become part of a professional networking. Join the League of Environmental Educators in Florida (LEEF).

For a limited time, when you purchase an **Individual Membership** (for PreK-12 educators) in the League of Environmental Educators in Florida (LEEF), you will ALSO receive a **1-year membership to the Florida Native Plant Society**—absolutely FREE!



TLNC has partnered with LEEF, professional EE organization for Florida, on many projects and be conducting a Project WET workshop on July 30 for K to 5 grade teachers.

Become a LEEF Member



Trout Lake Nature Center

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



This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.