



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter
April 2017

**HAPPENING
THIS MONTH!**

**Arboretum
Gates Open**

8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Tuesdays and Thursdays:
8:00 AM -7:00 PM

**Volunteer
Workday**

Saturday, April 8
8 AM-11 AM

Nature Walk

Saturday, April 8
9:30 AM-10:30 AM

**Discovering Nature
Nearby**

Saturday, April 15
9:30 AM-10:30 AM

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

BRONZE PARTNER

Stuart & Haze Bergman
Laurence Gierum
Anthony John Rigney,
PA & Rigney Family
of Jacksonville, FL
Russell Blueberry Farm
Dr. Todd Sack & Barbara
Sharp
Denise Trad-Wartan of
Trad's Garden
Center/Trad's Pest Control
Allen Skinner

SILVER PARTNER

Eldon & Martha Bekkum
Kotas Family Foundation/
GE Foundation
Mary Anne & Anwar
Saadeh
Southern Wine & Spirits
Pat & Cliff Jeremiah
Robb & Pam Mitchell

GOLD PARTNER

bestbet Jacksonville
Kevin Driscoll -
The Driscoll Group
David & Bonnie Foster
Marcia Mederos

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Information, click
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Thank you!



Photo by Chuck Hubbuch

New Zealand Cabbage

New Zealand cabbage, or *Cordyline australis*, may be sold by name in nurseries but is often found at box stores labeled as "spikes." It is often treated as a summer annual but it can grow as a perennial in

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JAG Membership

By becoming a member or donor, you are supporting the Arboretum's operations and improvements. All donations are tax-deductible. Details are available on our website.

Membership Levels

\$ 40 Single
\$ 55 Dual
\$ 70 Family
\$100 Friend

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Jacksonville. In fact, it can grow to tree-like proportions - over fifty feet tall. As a young plant, it has a single stem topped by long, grass-like leaves. It branches as it grows larger and older. Cultivated plants may have green, reddish or white-striped leaves.

In New Zealand, where it is native, traditional uses include weaving with its leaf fibers, medicinal uses and various parts can be eaten. Strong fibers from the leaves have been used for making rope, fish traps, mats, baskets and sandals. In modern times, the fibers have been used to make paper. Medicinal uses include treatments of cuts and skin problems, treatment of diarrhea, stomach aches and colic, and use as a blood tonic.

The tender leaf buds are eaten, much like heart-of-palm. Stems and underground rhizomes contain sugars. They were cooked and eaten, and fermented to produce alcoholic beverages. In New Zealand, selections were made of plants that were particularly good to eat. The seeds are eaten, too.

New Zealand cabbage grows well in part shade to full sun. It requires some irrigation during prolonged Florida droughts. In the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens, young plants can be seen in the palm garden on the south side of the lake.

Bronze Partner \$250
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Gold Partner \$1,000

**John Bartram
Society**

Gatekeeper \$2500+
Steward \$5000+
President's Council
\$10000+

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gift membership, click

[JOIN](#)

Thank you!

Join us at the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens for a FREE program

Discovering Nature Nearby



3rd Saturdays - September 2016 through May 2017 at 9:30 a.m.
(No program in December)

Each presentation will be followed by a hands-on activity. Materials will be provided for you to make your own nature journal for recording your observations or storing your photos. Bring out the naturalist or artist in you by recording what you see, hear and feel, taking photos, drawing or painting pictures, making leaf rubbings, starting a lifetime bird list or writing a poem.

 <p>Nov 19 Larry Figart, UF Extension Agency Most common trees at the Arboretum Make leaf rubbings for your journal</p>	 <p>Mar 18 Instructor, GTM Reserve Education Talk on Climate Change and will Conduct a carbon experiment</p>
 <p>Jan 21 Jessica Spencer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Invasive Plants Examples and hands-on activity</p>	 <p>Apr 15 Joan Kramer, Bee & Butterfly Expert Talk on Native Pollinators and Butterfly release, Insect collections</p>
 <p>Feb 18 Jack Hernandez, Co. Forester Annalessa Winter, Fresh from FL Fire in Florida's Ecosystems Tools, safety gear, take-aways</p>	 <p>May 20 Amy Morie, Former Clay Co. Extension Agent, Wild Florida, Native Plants, Field ID exercise and/or walk</p>

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**Discovering Nature Nearby
Programs for 2017**



Global Warming March 18

About 15 were in attendance for the program on global warming that was presented by Kenneth Rainer, Education Coordinator and Emma Hanson, Public Outreach Educator, of GTM Research Reserve.

Their program was perfectly geared to the mixed age group with questions and experiments to keep them involved and thinking.

Particularly effective was their citizen science

approach. The children and adults traveled from one station to the other to discover how carbon moves around and is not lost from the environment. When they drew the carbon movements on their sheet, they were able to see the cycle for themselves. And, in the second experiment, it was fun for the young people to measure the width of the tree, use tools to triangulate the height, then use the electronic device to determine the amount of carbon the tree sequestered over its lifetime. They learned that there is a finite amount of carbon we can release from our excessive fossil fuel use before it over-saturates the system.

**Butterfly Release
April 15**

Join us on April 15 for a butterfly release and a discussion on native pollinators!

Show the World You Love the Arboretum

Show the world you love us, by posting your Arboretum photographs at [#jacksonvillearboretum](https://www.instagram.com/jacksonvillearboretum) & www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleArboretumGardens
We appreciate it!

OUR MISSION

*Cultivating a unique environment
for recreation, education, and inspiration.*

Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens, 1445 Millcoie Road, Jacksonville, FL 32225