

# Nature Ops News

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Created by Nature Operations Division Staff

Beauty Berry, *Callicarpa americana*  
Photo by Susan Nassif, Naturalist Instructor



## September 2004

A Monthly Publication of  
Nature Operations Division,  
Recreation and Parks Department,  
City of Gainesville

# What's Fun In Your Nature Parks?

## **Barnyard Buddies- FREE**

Join us every Wednesday afternoon at 3pm to meet and greet our farm animals. After the animal introductions, help with afternoon feeding. Toddlers and preschoolers will love learning about our Living History Farm barnyard buddies. Meet at the cabin porch at 3pm at Morningside.

## **Discussion Group- “Ocean and Human Health”- FREE**

Join us at Morningside Nature Center the 2nd Sunday of the month at 2pm for an adult reading and discussion group. Readings posted at [www.natureoperations.org](http://www.natureoperations.org). Meet at the Morningside education office, 3540 E. University Ave.

## **Discover and Do- “The Spring Scene” Materials fee \$2**

Hey Kids! Bring your favorite adult along for a fun activity and make a cool craft to take home! Please RSVP to 334-3327. In September we will explore aquatic life at Boulware Springs. Meet at 2pm at the waterworks building pavilion at 3300 SE 15<sup>th</sup> St.

## **Nature Walk and Talk- “Following Timucua Footprints”-**

A free naturalist guided walk is on the last Saturday morning every month at 9am. The walk is 1-1.5 hours, wear comfortable walking shoes. Meet at the Morningside education office. In September we'll walk in the footprints of Florida's first people and learn how they lived off the land. Meet at the Morningside education office, 3540 E. University Ave.

## **By the Light of the Moon- “Night at the Owlery”- FREE**

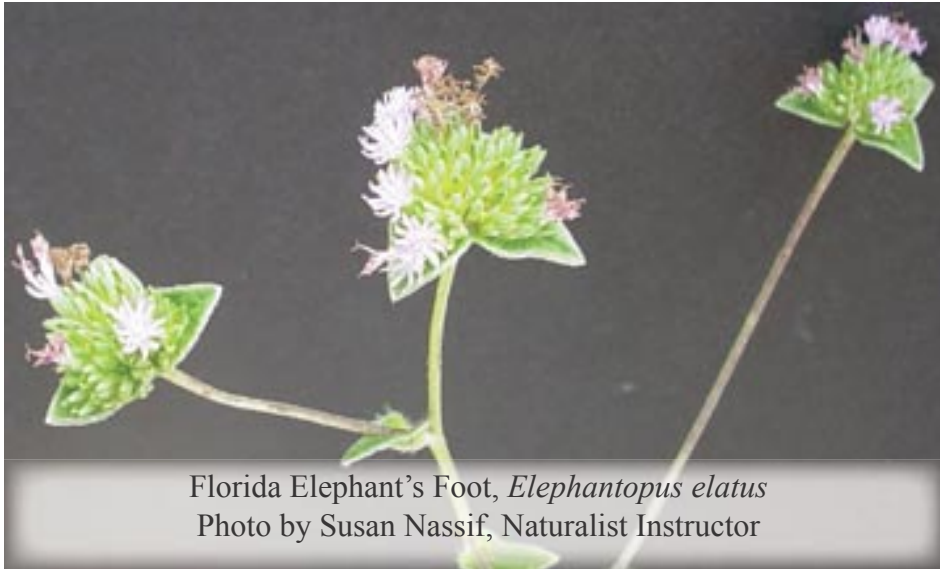
By the light of the silvery moon with the owls and frogs we'll croon... and we hope you'll join us each Saturday nearest the full moon at one of our nature parks! Come with family and friends for a lively variety of talks, songs, hikes, fires, and fun! In September Florida Wildlife Care's Leslie Straub will help us meet and greet our noisy nocturnal neighbors, the Owls, at Boulware Springs Historic Waterworks. Meet at 7pm at the waterworks building pavilion at 3300 SE 15<sup>th</sup> St.

**For more information, call us at 334-2170 or visit  
[www.natureoperations.org](http://www.natureoperations.org)**



Slender Goldenrod, *Solidago stricta*  
Photo by Gary Paul, Program Coordinator

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="font-family: serif;">September 2004</h1> 						
			1 Barnyard Buddies 3pm MNC Farm	2	3	4
5	6 Florida Master Naturalist Program registration cutoff masternaturalist.org	7	8 Barnyard Buddies 3pm MNC Farm	9	10	11
12 Discussion Group Morningside office 2pm	13	14	15 Barnyard Buddies 3pm MNC Farm	16	17 Fall Native Plant Sale Members Night 4:30-6:30pm	18 Fall Native Plant Sale at MNC 8:30am-1:00pm Wildflower Walk 1:00pm
19 Discover and Do Boulware Springs 2pm	20	21	22 Barnyard Buddies 3pm MNC Farm	23	24	25 Nature Walk and Talk 9am MNC  By the Light of the Moon- Owls 7pm Boulware Springs
26	27	28	29 Barnyard Buddies 3pm MNC Farm	30		



Florida Elephant's Foot, *Elephantopus elatus*  
Photo by Susan Nassif, Naturalist Instructor

## Do You have a Passion for History?

...then we need you!

We're looking for a few people who would enjoy telling the story of North Florida Crackers. This is a chance to learn and practice the following skills on an 1870 Living History Farm:

- Woodworking- make and repair furniture, farm tools, or toys
- Foodways- wood stove cooking of traditional recipes; food preservation
- Textiles- spinning, weaving, natural dyes, quilting, knitting, crocheting
- Gardening- grow heirloom vegetables and cash crops
- Crafting- basketry, broom making, soap and candle making and other traditional Southern handcrafts
- Music- perform and teach traditional instruments, songs and dances
- Blacksmithing- use tools and techniques at our 1870's forge
- Livestock- care and management of heritage breed animals
- Medicinal Herbs and Folk Medicines- grow and use herbs

If you are interested in expanding your horizons and those of our guests, please contact us at (352)334-3326 or [reclader@natureoperations.org](mailto:reclader@natureoperations.org)

**BETTER PARKS BETTER ROADS**

Visit [www.betterparksbetterroads.org](http://www.betterparksbetterroads.org) for information on this initiative that will benefit all of our nature parks and please vote November 2nd!

## Fall Native Plant Sale

The largest Native Plant Sale in North Florida comes to Morningside Nature Center on September 17th, 4:30-6:30pm and 18th, 8:30am-1pm. A guided wildflower walk will follow the sale at 1pm Saturday. The sale features information booths to help you choose your plants and park-a-plant, where we haul and load your plants for you so you can shop till you drop hands free. Friday evening is a special preview sale for Friends of Morningside and Florida Native Plant Society members. If you aren't a member you can join at the gate Friday. For more information call Angela Yau at 334-3327 or email [admin@natureoperations.org](mailto:admin@natureoperations.org)



Earth Academy camper meets dragonfly nymph at Boulware Springs  
Photo by Gary Paul, Program Coordinator

## Curious about Florida's Coastal Systems?

The City of Gainesville's Nature Operations Division (NOD) will be Sponsoring the Florida Master Naturalist Program Coastal Systems training this September 9th-October 30th. This is a University of Florida environmental education program developed for adult audiences to promote increased awareness and appreciation of Florida's unique environmental resources among Florida residents and visitors.

The training is offered in 3 modules of 40 hours each: Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Systems, and the Uplands (debuting in February 2005). This fall, NOD will be offering the Coastal Systems module on Thursday evenings from 6-9pm, three Saturdays, and one Sunday for field trips to experience the East and West coasts. For more information call Angela Yau at 334-3327 or email [admin@natureoperations.org](mailto:admin@natureoperations.org) Register at [www.masternaturalist.org](http://www.masternaturalist.org) or call (352) 392-5930.