

Members of Coastal Plain Chapter of GNPS

January 2021

Past Events

Annual Meeting: We were pleased with attendance and glitch-free presentations for our very first virtual annual meeting. Thanks to Mary Alice Applegate for her organization and follow-up making the presentations and plant lists available. We would like to build on this to have more virtual chapter events during the year, with more opportunity for members to interact..

NativeSCAPE: The Coastal Plain Chapter is featured in this month's issue of [NativeSCAPE](#), with focus on conservation activities. Be sure to check out this issue because I won't replicate the information here.

Minutes: In the next few days, I will send out minutes from two CPC board meetings and the annual meeting.

Covid may have slowed down our group events, but it hasn't made much of a dent in our ongoing activities on community and individual projects promoting native plants. I've heard lots of reports of planting and maintaining these projects. **Keep us posted with reports and photos for FaceBook and newsletters.**

Coming Events: New Information

Due to the covid situation, we currently have no events scheduled for the next couple of months. Most organizations are keeping their options open and are not committing to dates for events. We will keep you posted about dates for our usual spring events as they become available.

However, we are planning events on several fronts.

- We'd like help with **propagation** for community projects and plant sales. We can provide seeds for you to propagate. If you'd like more information, contact Amy Heidt at ameidty@bellsouth.net.
- We are planning **workshops or field trips** later in spring. These would satisfy requirements for Certificate of Native Plants. They would comply with covid recommendations – limit to 10 people who agree to wear masks. If you have requests or recommendations for specific events, contact Heather Brasell at heather.brasell@gmail.com.

- We are considering holding virtual **quarterly miniconferences** with short presentations like the annual meeting. If you have requests or recommendations for specific topics or presenters, contact Mary Alice Applegate at maapple@mac.com.

GNPS Symposium

The 2021 Symposium will be held virtually across two sessions on February 27 and 28 (2 hours each day).

Certificate of Native Plants – Virtual Courses

Note: GNPS has started a new scholarship program to support the Native Plant Certificate program administered by the State Botanical Garden. Two annual scholarships will be funded: one for a Piedmont resident, **one for a Coastal Plain resident**.

The Certificate of Native Plants (CNP) program has restarted with virtual courses, with flexible combinations of synchronous (Zoom sessions), asynchronous (pre-recorded presentations and demonstrations), and individual learning exercises. Visit the State Botanical Garden of Georgia website at <https://botgarden.uga.edu/education/adult-programs/> for more information about the CNP and Plants and Pollinators Specialization programs, descriptions of each course, and registration. *For help or even more information, contact Sean Cameron at cscamero@uga.edu or 706-542-6156.*

The following CNP courses and other virtual programs offered by State Botanical Garden are listed below.

- Jan 25 & 28: **Connect to Protect Leadership Program** (Plants & Pollinators Specialization class). Register at: <https://t.uga.edu/6wj>
- February 3, 7 pm. **Johnstone Lecture** (Free event): Speaker Doug Tallamy. Register at: <https://t.uga.edu/6Cz>
- February 6: **Hidden World: The Survival Systems of Plants** (CNP Elective Class). Register at: <https://t.uga.edu/6wk>
- February 10, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.: **Native Plant Symposium** (Counts as a CNP Elective Class). Register at: <https://t.uga.edu/6wn>
- February 15, 18 & 24: **Natural Communities of Georgia** (CNP Core Class). Register at: <https://t.uga.edu/6wl>

Monarchs Across Georgia Service Award

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond to create habitat for pollinators? Or how about someone or someplace that is ardent about monarch conservation? If so, honor the individual or facility by nominating them for the MAG Service Award or the Pollinator Habitat Award!

The **MAG Service Award** recognizes significant contributions to monarch education, conservation, and/or habitat restoration in the state of Georgia. Two Service Awards are available: one for an individual engaged in formal or informal education, and another to recognize a facility.

The **Pollinator Habitat Award** will recognize a MAG certified pollinator habitat that goes above and beyond the minimal certification criteria and has been established for at least three years.

Links to the award applications and scoring rubrics will be on the awards page at <https://www.eealliance.org/mag-awards.html> The submission deadline is February 1, 2021. Only one nomination per person or facility, please!

Ongoing Reminders

- Community Projects: Consider starting an individual project of your own, but keep us posted on what you are doing and share photos with us at heather.brasell@gnps.org.
- Plant Rescues: If you know of a place where we could do a plant rescue, contact Erin Cork at erin.cork@gmail.com
- Field Trips: Contact us if you have suggestions or requests for field trips or workshops at heather.brasell@gnps.org.
- Facebook: If you have information you'd like to post, send it to Paul Sumner at psum@bellsouth.net.
- Save the Date: Please let us know about events you'd like to have included at heather.brasell@gnps.org.
- Presentations and Publications: Please let us know about any presentations, publications, newspaper articles or other outreach activities. heather.brasell@gnps.org.

Current Coastal Plain Chapter (CPC) Board

- President: Heather Brasell – also member of GNPS Conservation Committee and Education Committee
- Vice President: Mary Alice Applegate – also member of GNPS Membership Committee and Representative for Central CPC
- Past President: Gail Farley – also Representative for East CPC
- Secretary: Amy Heidt – also Chair for GNPS Conservation Committee
- Treasurer: Eamonn Leonard – also member of GNPS Conservation Committee
- Conservation: Erin Cork
- Membership and Communication: Paul Sumner
- Representative for North CPC: Greg Lewis
- Representative for West CPC: tbd
- Advisors: Ed McDowell, Karan Rawlins

I would like to encourage other members to serve on the board in the future. New people bring new ideas and fresh commitment. *If you would like to become more involved in our chapter, contact Heather Brasell at heather.brasell@gnps.org.*