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| **Members of Coastal Plain Chapter of GNPS****September 2021** **Coming Events: September - October ...****September 25**: We plan to participate for the first time this year in **Water, Wings, & Wildlife** festival at the Flint RiverQuarium in Albany on Saturday September 25 from 10 am to 4 pm. [http://flintriverquarium.com/participate/annual-events/water-wings-wildlife](https://api.neonemails.com/emails/tracking/click-link/cQe--xh3BdwB1pB27enBXPXmNFXgacUTbD5REnP_lzA%3D/FIU0gW-c6052EDWjfoYhNXmSwGfFvJePe6-t4INy85I%3D). Our participation will involve an informational booth where we can also sell plants. They have short presentations from some of the vendors but we are not sure at this time whether that will include us. We’d like volunteers to help with this event. If you can help, please contact Heather Brasell at **heather.brasell@gnps.org** .**October 2: Native Grasses Workshop** will be held on Saturday, October 2 from 9 am to 3 pm at Gaskins Forest Education Center in Alapaha.  Note that we have changed the date from the newsletter last month. The workshop will be presented by Richard Carter, VSU. It should be very useful for anyone doing understory restoration or prescribed burning, or those who just want to learn more about grasses. Register with Heather Brasell – **heather.brasell@gnps.org**.Weather permitting, we will conduct a morning field survey for grasses in a variety of habitats, with emphasis on their field identification and habitat associations After lunch we will work indoors surveying diagnostic features useful in identifying representative species of this large, widely distributed family Characteristics useful in distinguishing grasses from other graminoids, including sedges and rushes, will be discussed and observed. Other topics to be covered are identification of invasive grass species, recent changes in nomenclature of grasses, and recommendations on references and equipment useful in identifying grasses. **November 6: CPC Annual Meeting Update**:  Plans are shaping up for the CPC annual meeting, set for Saturday, November 6 at the Okefenokee Swamp Park, 13 miles southeast from Waycross. Mary Alice Applegate is working on contingency plans for a virtual meeting in case covid is still a problem.The business session will include important items, so we’d like to have as many members attend as possible:* Budget for 2022
* Voting for officers for a two-year term
* Reports from chapter committees
* Reports from representatives on state committees
* Voting on new by-laws to be consistent with state GNPS and other chapters.

Presentation speakers and topics:* Eamonn Leonard, Invasive Plants in the Urban Landscape & How to Treat Them
* Erin Cork, Wildlife Habitat Garden Ponds
* Heather Brasell, Wetland Restoration.

Following our business session and educational presentations, our group will be treated to a nature walk led by Katie Antczak, Environmental Science Education Coordinator with the Okefenokee Swamp Park. Katie is also a CPC GNPS member. **Plant Sales**Our inventory of available native plants changes throughout the year. **Check our Facebook page for the most up-to-date inventory.** We can take only a limited number of plants to in-person sales. You can get plants from the full inventory only if you pre-order (on-line sales).* **September 18 Coastal Wildscape** plant sale will be held atAshantilly Center, Darien from 9 am to 1 pm. [https://www.coastalwildscapes.org/Native-Plant-Sources](https://api.neonemails.com/emails/tracking/click-link/cQe--xh3BdwB1pB27enBXPXmNFXgacUTbD5REnP_lzA%3D/FIU0gW-c6052EDWjfoYhNfOtirQgcVG5EPCBUJjzbbU%3D). We’d like volunteers to help with this event. Contact Amy Heidt atamy.heidt@gnps.org
* **September 25 Albany.** We will sell plants as part of our participation in Water, Wings, & Wildlife festival at the Flint RiverQuarium from 10 am to 4 pm.
* **Tifton** plant salesare being planned for fall at the Tifton Wiregrass Farmers Market. We need volunteers and a coordinator for plant sales. If you can help, please contact Mary Alice Applegate at **maapple@mac.com**
* **Online sales**: Minimum order of $25. See details for ordering and pickup on our Facebook page.

We use pots from 3” to one gallon**.** If you want to dispose of old pots, consider donating them to us for reuse.**Citizen Science Project Volunteering**We have just received information about a state-wide citizen-science project that should interest many of us. Some of us are interested in participating whether as individuals or as a chapter activity. We will be discussing this at our next board meeting. If you’d like more information or would like to be included in the discussion, contact Heather Brasell at **heather.brasell@gnps.org**.The UGA State Botanical Garden of Georgia in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service and iNaturalist is looking for Georgians of all ages to help document sun-loving native grasses and wildflowers that serve as pollinator habitats. Volunteer habitat hunters just need a smart phone and the iNaturalist app. The data collected will assist the U.S. Forest Service to develop botanical maps identifying habitats needed for supporting pollinators, other beneficial insects and birds.**Conservation Project Volunteering**Interested in getting your hands dirty for plant conservation? Reach out to CPC Conservation Director Erin Cork at **erin.cork@gmail.com** to learn about opportunities to assist with native plant conservation projects near you.**Longleaf Alliance** is offering their **Groundcover Restoration** 201 course online. This will involve a combination of on-demand activities (available from August 30) and live sessions (starting September 9). From personal experience, these are excellent courses. For more information: [https://longleafalliance.org/event/virtual-longleaf-groundcover-201-academy/](https://api.neonemails.com/emails/tracking/click-link/cQe--xh3BdwB1pB27enBXPXmNFXgacUTbD5REnP_lzA%3D/FIU0gW-c6052EDWjfoYhNXPSK6nXeD5hgUq0dFULFIY%3D) **Certificate of Native Plants** has several online courses scheduled. See the websites for more information about each course or email: sbgeduc@uga.edu.To register online, visit [www.botgarden.uga.edu/events](https://api.neonemails.com/emails/tracking/click-link/cQe--xh3BdwB1pB27enBXPXmNFXgacUTbD5REnP_lzA%3D/FIU0gW-c6052EDWjfoYhNdsC_o7X25e8uHtHbaPsUl8%3D)* **Sept 15: Fall Wildflowers of the Georgia Piedmont** (Elective) [https://t.uga.edu/79Z](https://api.neonemails.com/emails/tracking/click-link/cQe--xh3BdwB1pB27enBXPXmNFXgacUTbD5REnP_lzA%3D/FIU0gW-c6052EDWjfoYhNd8j2xw_E8gy8d-b9yh50h0%3D)
* **Oct 2: Plants We Love to Hate: Identifying and Controlling Exotic Pest Plants** (Elective) [https://t.uga.edu/6g5](https://api.neonemails.com/emails/tracking/click-link/cQe--xh3BdwB1pB27enBXPXmNFXgacUTbD5REnP_lzA%3D/FIU0gW-c6052EDWjfoYhNYX4ab97cT8b0JIX9n79foQ%3D)
* **Oct 6: Warm-Season Grasses of the Georgia Piedmont** (Elective) [https://t.ugaedu/7a1](https://api.neonemails.com/emails/tracking/click-link/cQe--xh3BdwB1pB27enBXPXmNFXgacUTbD5REnP_lzA%3D/FIU0gW-c6052EDWjfoYhNSgpUzr97viFjSM8RZUnC8g%3D)
* **Nov 13 & 15: Basic Botany: Lives of the Plants** (Virtual Core Course) [https://t.uga.edu/6lB](https://api.neonemails.com/emails/tracking/click-link/cQe--xh3BdwB1pB27enBXPXmNFXgacUTbD5REnP_lzA%3D/FIU0gW-c6052EDWjfoYhNUN-GuZQ0hX5vEpcFzN9eCg%3D)

**Coastal Wildscapes** has lots of events scheduled for the rest of the year. Check out their website for details [https://www.coastalwildscapes.org/EVENTS](https://api.neonemails.com/emails/tracking/click-link/cQe--xh3BdwB1pB27enBXPXmNFXgacUTbD5REnP_lzA%3D/FIU0gW-c6052EDWjfoYhNUuMRhIfaMslC0DD0k-8VNU%3D)* Sept 25 Fall Plant Walk at Altama Plantation

 **Past Events****Plant Rescue**We had just a few hours’ notice to meet with GDOT people and rescue some plants ahead of the bulldozers on a Highway 133 site north of Moultrie. The site was a very small wetland with abundant royal ferns but not much else of interest. Thanks to Mary Whitfield for reporting the highway development project as a potential rescue site and to Erin Cork for getting the approval to rescue plants. The negotiations took a lot of time and effort, but now we have the process in place, we should be able to schedule rescues on future phases of the highway development with plenty of notice to all our members.**Native Ferns Workshop** was held on Saturday, 9 am to 3 pm on August 7 at Gaskins Forest Education Center in Alapaha.  Richard Carter, VSU, led the program with field observations in the morning and indoors workshop in the afternoon. The event was very successful with 16 participants – a very good number for rural Georgia in the heat of summer and a topic that didn’t involve beautiful flowers and cute critters.**Great GA Pollinator Census** events were held on August 20-21.Public events were held at several sites in our region and individual members collected data from their own gardens. Most reports indicated that participants enjoyed the event and learned a lot about how different pollinators collect pollen from different plant species. This year we noticed more wasps, but fewer bees and butterflies than previous years. This event is a great opportunity for educational outreach to the public.Results from 2020: “In the end, **3,755 people representing 124 counties participated** in the 2020 census, collecting close to 82,600 insect visit observations. Additionally, 525 new pollinator gardens have been created as part of the project.” That’s great citizen science!**Kalyn Potts** – First CPC Recipient of scholarship for **Certificate of Native Plants**. Kalyn Potts is a senior at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, majoring in wildlife. She has discovered a passion for native plants and interned at Beech Hollow Wildflower Farm over summer. She has experience with propagation, understory restoration, invasive plant control, and prescribed burning. This scholarship is a great investment for a future leader in GNPS. GNPS offers two scholarships each year. In the past, one of these scholarships has been reserved for someone from south GA (Coastal Plain). If you’d like to know more about this scholarship, contact Lori Conway at **loriconway@gnps.org**. **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 a plant rescue is warranted, 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 in next month’s email to members 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**.
* Certificate of Native Plants: 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**.

 **Coastal Plain Chapter (CPC) Board****CPC Nominating Committee Update**:The CPC Nominating Committee is working on a slate of officers to be voted on at our annual meeting. The committee consists of Mary Alice Applegate (chair), Gail Farley, Paula Wheatley, and Mary Beth Cary. We encourage new members to serve on the board. New people bring new ideas and fresh commitment.  If you would like to become more involved in our chapter or if you would like to nominate someone else, contact Mary Alice Applegate at **maapple@maccom****.****Current CPC Board Members*** 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: Mary Beth Cary
* Advisors: Ed McDowell, Karan Rawlins
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