

## Fall 2020 Newsletter (Part I)

### South Carolina Native Plant Society, Lowcountry Chapter

Greetings, fellow Lowcountry SCNPS members! Our chapter had a full slate of exciting events planned for this fall, including the hosting of a weekend-long state-wide SCNPS Symposium in November, but due to COVID-19 we have had to revise those plans. Our chapter will still be hosting the next SCNPS Symposium in Charleston as an in-person event, but the dates have been pushed back to November 5-7, 2021. This fall, in place of the Symposium, there will be a virtual state-wide Annual Meeting; more details to come in Part II of our fall newsletter.

The good news: Our revised plans for this fall still include engaging and informative lectures, field trips, community grant opportunities, and a plant sale!

#### **September Lecture: SCNPS-managed Carolina Bays: Lisa Matthews Memorial Bay & Kingsburg Bay**

**Date/Time/Location:** *September 15, 6:30 pm*, online webinar at <https://www.facebook.com/SCNPS/>

**Presenters:** *Sudie Thomas (Natural Resources Conservation Service) & Lisa Lord (The Longleaf Alliance)*

Did you know that the SCNPS manages two Carolina bays, a fascinating and biodiverse type of depression wetland? Lisa Matthews Memorial Bay, located in Bamberg County, was acquired by the society in 2003, and its restoration has been a resounding success. Kingsburg Bay, in Florence County, was acquired just last year, and planning for its restoration is actively underway. In this webinar you will learn about Carolina bays, some key native plants found in this habitat, how these properties were acquired, habitat management goals, partnerships and funding, and upcoming plans for both bays.

#### **September Field Trip (9/19 @ 9:30 am): Lisa Matthews Memorial Bay (near Bamberg, SC)**

Sudie Thomas and Lisa Lord will co-lead a 10-person tour of Lisa Matthews Memorial Bay. Participants must wear masks throughout the tour. Waterproof knee-high hiking boots, long pants, a hat, bug spray, and ample water are highly recommended. To register (required), contact Austin Trousdale by email ([awt3rd@gmail.com](mailto:awt3rd@gmail.com); preferred) or phone (864-554-8722). Lowcountry members will receive priority registration, and the meeting location and additional details will be emailed to registrants.

**Community Grants:** The Lowcountry Chapter is pleased to once again offer opportunities for schools and community groups to apply for funding for native plant projects in the coastal communities of SC. The fall deadline is September 18. For application guidelines, visit: <https://scnps.org/scnps-news>.

**Fall Plant Sale:** The Lowcountry Chapter will hold a different kind of plant sale this Fall based on social distancing and safety guidelines. The plant sale will have two parts:

- **Part 1:** Members can pre-order plants by email between September 12-19, and then pick up their plants at specified times on October 16-17. For a plant list (to be posted by September 16<sup>th</sup>) and more pre-order details, visit <https://scnps.org/scnps-news>.
- **Part 2:** On October 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-noon, we will have a farmer's-market-like plant sale open to the public, with four local vendors. Each vendor will handle their own check-out (there will not be a central check-out or a plant holding area). Masks are required.
- **Note:** Plant sale volunteers will be offered discounted pre-order prices and early shopping. To volunteer, please contact Colette DeGarady ([cdegarady17@gmail.com](mailto:cdegarady17@gmail.com)) by September 12<sup>th</sup>.

We look forward to seeing you both online and in person over the next several months!

### Lowcountry Chapter Board Members

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