

# South Carolina Native Plant Society

Spring 2024

LOWCOUNTRY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Hello SCNPS Lowcountry Chapter members!

The Lowcountry Chapter has a great spring schedule to provide our members many fun and educational native plant learning opportunities. Our lecture location remains on the campus of The Citadel but has shifted next door to Byrd Hall auditorium. The chapter will provide light refreshments after each lecture, and attendees may bring their beverage of choice. See details about upcoming lectures and field trips below.

At each chapter lecture and at other events, such as our spring plant sale, we will be selling SCNPS shirts, seed packets, and stickers. These items are not yet available for online ordering, so be sure to join us at the lectures and other events to purchase SCNPS goodies. Both of the shirt designs were created by our talented Education & Outreach Chair, Lauren Boyd.



The seed packets are a blend of native species including splitbeard bluestem (*Andropogon ternarius*), blazing star (*Liatris*), blanket flower (*Gaillardia*), tickseed (*Coreopsis*), spotted beebalm (*Monarda punctata*), and rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*). These packets can be sown in a sunny, well drained area of your garden. They are easy-to-grow species and will support a plethora of wildlife. Proceeds from our merchandise sales go towards funding the SCNPS Lowcountry Chapter School and Community Grant Program. Spring grant applications are now open through February 10th. For more information on the grant program, **visit this link** or contact [lowcountry.grants@scnps.org](mailto:lowcountry.grants@scnps.org).

Samantha Porzelt  
SCNPS Lowcountry Chapter President

# Lowcountry Spring Native Plant Market

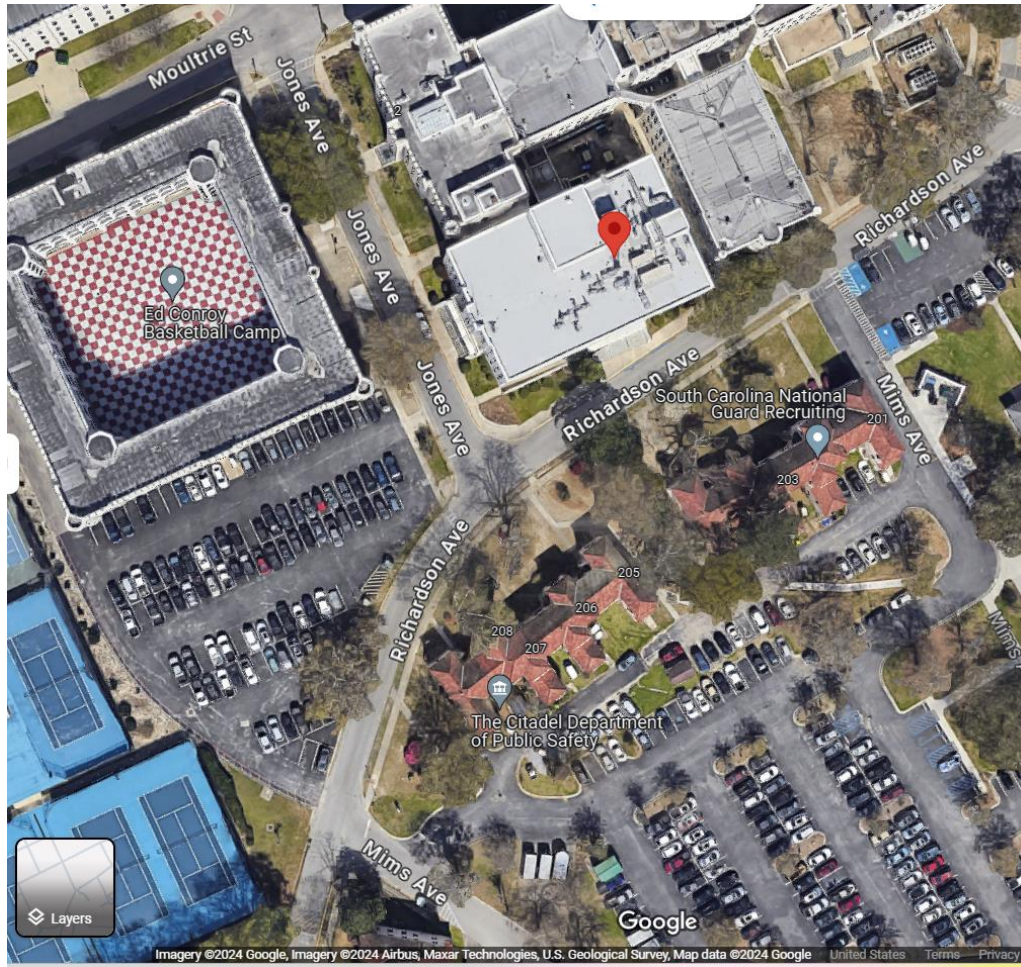
## MARCH 2024

### Time and location TBA

The spring sale will be farmer's-market-style with several vendors offering a variety of natives. For more info, please contact Eddie Bernard at [edlbernard@aol.com](mailto:edlbernard@aol.com). To volunteer before and at the sale, please contact Lisa Cyrulik at [lcyrulik72@yahoo.com](mailto:lcyrulik72@yahoo.com). *Plant Sale volunteers and SCNPS members will have early access to shop on the day of the market prior to the market opening to the public.*

**LECTURE SERIES - NEW LOCATION FOR 2024 (just next door to former location, Duckett Hall)**

Lectures are typically held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM, and tasty snacks will be provided during post-lecture socializing (BYO non-alcoholic beverage or water bottle). We will meet in **The Citadel's Byrd Hall Auditorium, 1 Jones Ave, Charleston, SC 29403**. This is next door to our past lecture location (Duckett Hall). Enter Byrd Hall from Jones Ave and follow the hallway to the back of the building into the Auditorium. Free parking is available after 5:00 PM in the parking lot south of Richardson Street, accessible from Mims Ave.



**Tuesday, January 23 : Native Plant Gardening in our Community**

***David Manger, Owner, Roots and Shoots Nursery***

**Lecture Topic:** Dave Manger, owner of Roots and Shoots Nursery will discuss the many ways our entire community of native plant enthusiasts can continue to grow the rising popularity of native plants. Talking points include availability of plants, knowledge sharing, landscaping tips, and collaboration with diverse groups.

**Tuesday, February 20: Reimagining Colonial Lake**

***Kate White, Director of Horticulture, Charleston Parks Conservancy***

**Lecture Topic:** Kate will discuss the current state of Colonial Lake, the Conservancy's hopes for future renovation, and its importance as an urban wildlife refuge. Also, be sure to check out their [upcoming](#)

[events](#) and [volunteer opportunities](#).

**Tuesday, March 19 : Rain Gardens for the Home Landscape**

***Samantha Porzelt, Water Resources Agent, Clemson Extension***

**Lecture Topic:** Samantha will introduce the purpose and many benefits of rain gardens in residential landscapes. She will provide information on where and how to install a rain garden on your property, rain garden plant recommendations, and how to maintain a rain garden. Additionally, she will provide resources and information on Clemson Extension's Carolina Rain Garden Initiative program, the Master Rain Gardener Hybrid course, and the Charleston Rainproof Grant Program.

**April - combined lecture/field trip (see below)**

**Tuesday, May 21: Gardening with Native Plants for Bees (Native Bees + Honey Bees)**

***Sharleen Johnson, Owner, Native Plants to the People LLC***

**Lecture Topic:** Sharleen will share colorful photos of some of South Carolina's diverse native bees (including bumblebees, leafcutter bees, furrow bees, southeastern blueberry bees, and more) visiting native plants in her home landscape as well as natural areas in coastal SC, life history tidbits about selected groups of bees, specific native plant recommendations for native bees and honey bees, and guidance about how to maintain your garden beds and overall yard to help support the delightful diversity of pollinators that call our region home!

**FIELD TRIPS & PLANT SALE**

**Saturday, January 20, 11am - 12:30pm: Native Plant Propagation and Container Growing Basics**

***David Manger, Owner, Roots and Shoots Nursery***

Time: 11am - 12:30pm

Meeting location: Roots and Shoots Nursery, 1108 Wappoo Rd, Charleston, SC 29407

(Parking: Please pull to the back of the property to park past the greenhouse and pine straw trailer.)

Description: Nursery staff will provide participants with a tour of both the retail and production sides of the nursery to explore the many types of plants available. Afterwards, staff will demonstrate several propagation methods and discuss the differences between growing in containers and the ground where our plants will eventually find their new homes.

**Registration is required and will be limited to 25 people. [Click link to register](#)**

**Saturday, February 24, 10am - 11:30 am: Tour of Colonial Lake**

***Field Trip Leader: Kate White, Director of Horticulture, Charleston Parks Conservancy***

Time: 10am - 11:30am

Meeting location: Colonial Lake on the Corner of Rutledge and Broad Street

(<https://maps.app.goo.gl/XUPNUvggJ3KUEfUC6>)

Description: Kate will lead a tour of the lake describing the current plant palette, the goals behind the renovation, and the hope to create a stronger and more resilient urban wildlife refuge. This field trip is also a great opportunity for chapter members to get engaged with the Parks Conservancy and learn about their volunteer opportunities. Members knowledgeable about native plant selection and landscape design are encouraged to attend. Wear comfortable shoes and bring your camera and ideas! Parking is available along the lake. Restrooms are located in nearby Moultrie Park. There are benches and seating areas all around the lake if you want to take a rest.

Registration is required. [Click link to register](#)

**March 2024: Spring Native Plant Market**

*Details coming soon!*

**Saturday, March 23, 10am - 12pm : Rain Gardens of Folly Beach**

**Field Trip Leader: *Samantha Porzelt, Water Resources Agent, Clemson Extension***

Time: 10am-12pm

Meeting location: Folly Beach Community Center, 55 Center Street, Folly Beach, SC 29439

Description: Participants will tour three rain gardens on Folly Beach that were installed through Clemson's Master Rain Gardener Certificate class in 2022 and 2023. We will discuss their installation, plant selections, site conditions, maintenance, and challenges.

Additional info: There is free street parking available along Indian Ave and Huron Ave. Be sure that all four tires are off the road or behind the white line. Restrooms are available at the Folly Beach Community Center and Folly River Park. Participants should bring a water bottle, sunscreen, and bug spray if needed. We will meet at the rain garden in front of the Community Center. We will then view the shaded rain garden in the back of the Community Center and walk across Center Street to view the rain garden at Folly River Park.

**Registration is required and will be limited to 15 participants. [Click link to register](#)**

**Saturday, April 13, 9am - 11am: Santee Cooper Lake Management: Managing Native and Invasive Plants on the Santee Cooper Lakes**

**Field Trip Leaders: *Judson Riser and Chad Holbrook – Santee Cooper Biological Services***

Time: 9am - 11am

Meeting location: Santee Cooper Entrance: 1 Riverwood Drive Moncks Corner, SC 29461 / Drive to the Environmental Resources Lab (Map will be provided to registered participants)

Description: The field trip and presentation will focus on learning about the native and invasive plants that are present on the Santee Cooper Lakes and the history and facts about each of the plants. In addition, we will discuss how Biological Services uses integrated pest management (IPM) to promote native vegetation while also treating and removing invasive plant species. Afterwards, we will take a walk to the greenhouse to look at how Santee Cooper is using weevils for biological control and then down to the historic Old Santee Canal Park to identify aquatic plants present along the boardwalk.

Wear suitable and comfortable outdoor walking/hiking clothes, bring binoculars and camera (optional), sunscreen, water, etc. Parking is available at the Environmental Resources Laboratory. Restrooms are available at the lab and the park. Picnic tables are provided at the park. Maximum walking distance will be about a mile (Lab to Greenhouse to Park boardwalk and back).

**Registration is required and will be limited to 20 participants. [Click link to register](#)**

**Sunday, May 19, 1pm - 4pm: Francis Marion National Forest outing**

**NOTE: This field trip is limited to SCNPS members only and is limited to 20 participants.**

**Field Trip Leaders: *Sharleen Johnson, Owner, Native Plants to the People LLC, and Amber Von Harten, SCNPS Lowcountry Chapter, Program Chair***

Time: 1pm - 4pm

Meeting location: Location will be shared with registered participants

Description: Join Chapter board members to explore some of the unique habitats and view some Spring wildflowers in the Francis Marion National Forest. Additional details to be shared with registered participants.



Registration is required and is limited to 20 participants. [Click link to register](#)

**ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING**

**July 17-20, 2024: Cullowhee Native Plant Conference**

**Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC**

<https://www.wcu.edu/engage/professional-enrichment/conferences-and-community-classes/the-cullowhee-native-plant-conference/index.aspx>

**2024 Lowcountry Chapter Board Members**

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President	Samantha Porzelt	<a href="mailto:scnps.lowcountry.president@gmail.com">scnps.lowcountry.president@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Austin Trousdale	<a href="mailto:awt3rd@gmail.com">awt3rd@gmail.com</a>
Lectures + Field Trips	Amber Von Harten	<a href="mailto:lowcountry.fieldtrips@scnps.org">lowcountry.fieldtrips@scnps.org</a>
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Plant Sale	Eddie Bernard	<a href="mailto:edlbernard@aol.com">edlbernard@aol.com</a>
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Board Member	Colette DeGarady	<a href="mailto:cdegarady17@gmail.com">cdegarady17@gmail.com</a>
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