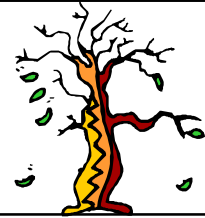


**LANDSCAPE NEWS**  
BY LINDA B. LANDRUM  
JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2005



**BEST MANAGEMENT  
PRACTICES FOR  
CENTRAL FLORIDA  
LANDSCAPES**

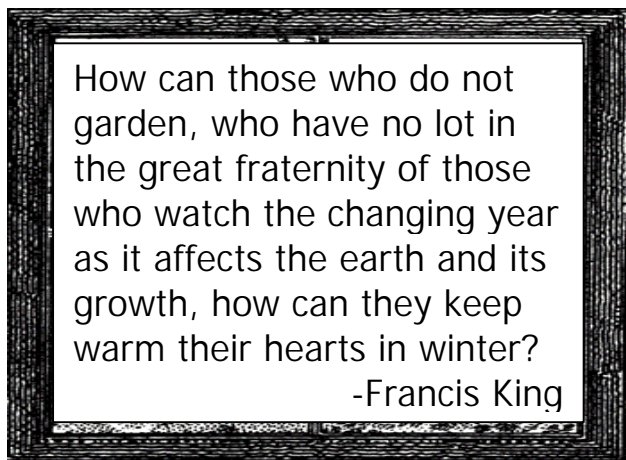
Tuesday, February 8, 2005  
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
MFREC – Apopka

Cost is \$20.00 per person which includes lunch, breaks and handouts.

**Pre-registration required by  
February 4, 2005**

Call the Agricultural Center or register on-line at <http://turf.ufl.edu>

**CEUs AVAILABLE**



**HOW ARE WE BALANCING  
NATURE?**

Thanks to Green Profit Magazine Nov – Dec 2004

With sponsorship from *Organic Gardening* magazine and the Lawns and Environment Initiative, the National Gardening Association (NGA) set out to determine how environmentally conscious consumers are when it comes to caring for their lawns and gardens.

In the “2004 Environmental Lawn and Garden Survey” the NGA studied the consumer’s current use, interest in and demand for all-natural lawn and garden products. The survey of 2,000 households, conducted by Harris Interactive, addressed various aspects of the organics industry, including: the size of the market for organic products compared to that for conventional pesticides and fertilizers; why they don’t; and which lawn and garden activities were most popular.

According to Bruce Butterfield, NGA research director, the majority of US households followed three of 12 environmentally friendly lawn and garden practices, with fewer than half following the remaining nine practices.

*67% of those surveyed keep their yard safe, clean and well maintained to add beauty to their home and neighborhood
*65% water their lawns and plants only when they need it
*53% read and follow the label carefully when using pesticides and fertilizers
*45% leave grass clippings in place on their lawn
*42% use the appropriate plants in the appropriate spots for their climate, sun/shade, soil and rainfall
*42% apply mulch around trees, shrubs or garden areas
*39% cut their lawns at the highest recommended mower setting
*28% recycle yard waste by composting

## Looking Good From Your Front Windows to the Back!



Want to further enhance your in-store image?

How about...

- ?? Using only recyclable packaging materials which will tell customers you are committed to conserving the earth's natural resources.
- ?? Putting a suggestion box in a prominent location in your store. Be sure to provide paper and pencils. Offering 'rewards' for those adopted will make your customers feel connected to your business.
- ?? Displaying signed photos of 'celebrities' that shop at your business. They could be prominent folks in your community or even hometown heroes.
- ?? Providing a small sitting area for folks to rest and re-group in. Place a vending machine near by with snacks and drinks.
- ?? Becoming the official sponsor for a prominent group in your area such as a theater group, athletic team, etc. Be sure to get permission to post a sign proclaiming your sponsorship.
- ?? Proudly displaying any community awards you, your staff or business receives. It lets your customers know you are genuinely interested in the prosperity of the area.
- ?? Providing informational brochures in a central location for your customers. These can be prepared by you or your staff or obtained from a state agency, such as the University of Florida. These can be 'how-to' pieces to give your clientele confidence and new ideas for their gardening activities.

Seventh in a series based on the book "1,001 Ideas to Create Retail Excitement" by Edgar A. Falk.

## Some Observations After the Hurricane

Thanks to Tom MacCubbin,  
Orange County Extension Agent

Warning – old tall trees are a hazard to your home, car, fence and other portions of the landscape! The hurricanes are gone but the memories linger of limbs puncturing roofs, car windows smashed and lives disrupted. Much of the landscape damage in Central Florida was due to older weakened trees.

Some trees are just suspect. Most experts will agree that once a laurel oak grows more than 40 to 50 years old, it seems to fill with weak joints and hollow trunks. These are the first to split and topple over. Trees with root problems and those near sidewalks or drives are the first to fall too. Also the Chinese elms seem to be more shallow rooted and likely to blow over. Most trees in shallow soils or soils with a high water table that limits root growth are also likely to blow over during hurricane winds.

There will be a hurricane season next year so take time to check your trees. You can do it yourself or have a certified arborist stop by to help with the tree evaluation – it's just good insurance. Have the needed pruning performed to hurricane proof your trees before next summer. In local surveys, gardeners that had the work done this year suffered little if any damage. Now, don't give up on trees! Think of what you might plant for replacements. Large live oaks and bald cypress seemed to be good survivors. Also, most sweet gums and sycamores sustained minimal damage. When picking replacements, you might think small. Some selections still standing in most landscapes within the 20 to 35 foot range include crape myrtles, hollies, red bud, sand live oaks, tree ligustrums and winged elms. Lastly keep all new plants 15 to 20 feet from the home, sidewalks and driveways if at all possible to allow the trees to make good root growth.

### **Trees severely affected by Hurricane Charley**

Chinese elms – variety 'Drake' elm  
Hickories – poorly rooted and older specimens  
Laurel oaks – over 40 to 50 years old  
Pines – variable damage  
Red cedar – old specimens  
Red maples  
Tabebuias  
Weeping willows

continued pg. 3

### Charley survivors

Large trees – over 35 foot

Bald cypress

Live oaks

Sycamores – some damage

Sweet gums – some damage

Medium trees 25 to 35 foot

Hollies

River birch

Winged elms

Sand live oak

Small trees – under 25 feet

Ligustrums

Red buds

Palms

All survived well

Some bud breakage reported with queen palms

## FNGLA 2005 Plants of the Year

**COMMON NAME:** Nun's Orchid

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Phaius tankervilleae*

**LANDSCAPE USE:** Perennial for mass use or as specimen in part shade. It is also good used as a potted plant.

**COMMON NAME:** East Indian Holly Fern

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Arachniodes simplicior variegata*

**LANDSCAPE USE:** Ground cover-masses in part shade to shade.

**COMMON NAME:** Yellow Elder

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Tecoma stans*

**LANDSCAPE USE:** Specimen for long-lasting blooms.

**COMMON NAME:** Princess Flower

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Tibouchina urvilleana*

**LANDSCAPE USE:** Flowering shrub for informal hedge or mixed border used as an accent or in masses.

**COMMON NAME:** Weeping Yaupon Holly

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Ilex vomitoria 'Pendula'*

**LANDSCAPE USE:** Striking accent plant

**COMMON NAME:** Golden Dewdrop

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Duranta erecta 'Gold Mound'*

**LANDSCAPE USE:** Low mounding shrub used for a good splash of color in low borders.

**COMMON NAME:** 'Mona Lavender' Plectranthus

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Plectranthus 'Mona Lavender'*

**LANDSCAPE USE:** Massed for color in a low border in full sun to part shade

**COMMON NAME:** Anthurium 'Sarah'

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Anthurium andreanum 'Sarah'*

**LANDSCAPE USE:** Interior/landscape in shade or filtered light)

## PUBLICATIONS

**"Professional Disease Management Guide for Ornamental Plants"** - Bledsoe,

Harmon & McGovern, PP202 Oct. 2004

**"Dwarfing & Freeze Hardiness Potential of Trifoliate Orange Rootstock"** - Ferguson &

Chaparro, HS 982 Oct. 2004

**"Palm Seed Germination"** – Meerow, Bul 274 June 2004

**"Green Roofs in Urban Landscapes"** - Worden, Guidry, Ng and Schore, ENH 984 Sept. 2004.



## Dates To Remember



**Jan 4.** –

**Feb. 15 Arborist Pre-Certification Course**

Ocala, call (352) 620-3440

**Jan. 8 Winter 2005 Turf & Ornamental Pest Mgmt. Workshop** Orlando, call (407) 836-7570

**Jan. 17, 24 & 31, Feb. 7 Gardening FL Style** NSB, \$20.00 per person call LBL to register.

**Jan. 20-22 Tropical Plant Industry Exhibition** Ft. Lauderdale, [www.FNGA.org](http://www.FNGA.org)

**Jan. 27 Woody Pest Update** MREC Apopka 8:30-1:00 call (407) 836-7570

**Feb. 8 BMP's for CF Landscapes**

**Feb. 15, 22, Mar. 1 & 8 Small Space Vegetable Gardening** DeLand, \$20.00 per person 1-4 p.m. Call LBL to register.

**Feb. 16 & 17 Limited Landscape in Spanish** Orlando, call (407) 836-7570

**Feb. 16, 23, Mar. 2 & 9 Gardening Florida Style** Ormond Beach, \$20.00 per person 1-4 p.m. Call LBL to register.

**Feb. 24 Core & O&T/Private Applicator Training & Testing** DeLand Ag. Center, \$20.00 Call Dana Venrick for more info (386) 822-5778.



UNIVERSITY OF  
FLORIDA

Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Volusia County Extension  
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DeLand, FL 32724

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## MG Training Series Dates To Remember



- Jan. 7 **MG Training - Botanical Nomenclature**,
- Jan. 14 **MG Training - All About Speaking**,
- Jan. 21 **MG Training - Pest Update**
- Jan. 28 **MG Training - Turf Update**
- Feb. 4 **MG Training - Diagnosing Citrus Problems**
- Feb. 11 **MG Training - Key Plant, Key Pests**
- Feb. 18 **MG Training - Propagation tips, Tissue Culture & Weed Update**
- Feb. 25 **MG Training - Getting Waterwise**

All the above are in DeLand at the Agricultural Center. Cost is \$5.00 per class. Call LBL to register.

If you would like more information on upcoming programs or want to receive publications please call, fax, or e-mail me.

All Extension Service programs and information are free and open to the public regardless of race, color, sex, disability, religion, or national origin.

Sincerely,

Extension Agent IV - Horticulture