



FLORIDA BIRDING  
& NATURE FESTIVAL



Photo Credit: Pam DeNeve

Join in  
celebrating  
the  
**100th**  
Anniversary of the  
**Migratory  
Bird  
Treaty**



**HCC**

SouthShore Campus

In partnership with



**Hillsborough  
County Florida**



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Source: 2016 Nielsen Scarborough Report (r1).

# Welcome to the Florida Birding and Nature Festival!

We are delighted you have joined us. We celebrate the Centennial Year of the Migratory Bird Treaty and highlight the importance of wildlife corridors. Of course we are also celebrating the wonders of the birds, wildlife and natural lands that we enjoy in West Central Florida. We hope that you will see new birds, find new places to go, and learn new things about our area as you participate in this festival.



## Festival Highlights

### PROGRAMS

Programs are even more wide-ranging. Yes, certainly birds, but panthers and bears, turtles and 'gators, landscaping and butterflies are included. From beginning birding to birding by ear, there is something for everyone. For photographers there's a whole series of presentations your chance to learn from the pros.

### EXPO

Don't forget the Expo, both inside and out. Some vendors are local, but some have migrated great distances to show, invite and educate you. Visit the raptor rehab booth and join their scavenger hunt! Or choose new binoculars, the perfect pottery gift, or plan your next vacation, here or abroad. There are booths in the Expo and a seminar as well on tours for birders.

While you're outside visit the new car display. If you're hungry, visit the food trucks out front. Learn about the amazing water of Florida's natural springs in the back parking lot. You can even see a new home for translocated burrowing owls in the back yard.

### FIELD TRIPS

Our field trips are chosen to showcase some of the best natural areas of our counties, protected as public parks or preserves, as private lands or more. The trips will search for birds, butterflies, ants and dragonflies, turtles and wild flowers. Some trips are on foot, but there are wagon rides, boat trips and even exercise disguised as kayak trips to explore the preserves.

### SOCIALS

Our first night's social honors the foresight of Hillsborough County government in setting up ELAPP. Many of the field trips visit areas this program has long protected, so join us Thursday evening to meet these visionaries. Friday night we'll hear David Johnson from the Global Owl Project speak about their work in 65 countries. Saturday night's speaker is our own Carlton Ward Jr, discussing about the Florida Wildlife Corridor Initiative. Dinner and drinks are included with your ticket.

Safeguarding  
local resources is

# our job



Michelle Sims, Environmental Specialist  
Florida phosphate operations

Being good stewards of local resources is an important part of what we do at Mosaic. As a native Floridian and an environmental specialist for our phosphate operations, I understand that our lands and waters are part of the regional ecosystem. Every year, mined lands are reclaimed for wildlife habitats, wetlands, lakes and streams. In our five-county operating area, we also monitor more than 30 water outfalls on our property as well as nearby creeks and streams. We take our responsibility for meeting Florida's water and reclamation standards seriously — for our neighbors as well as yours.

We help the world grow the food it needs.



[mosaicco.com/florida](http://mosaicco.com/florida)

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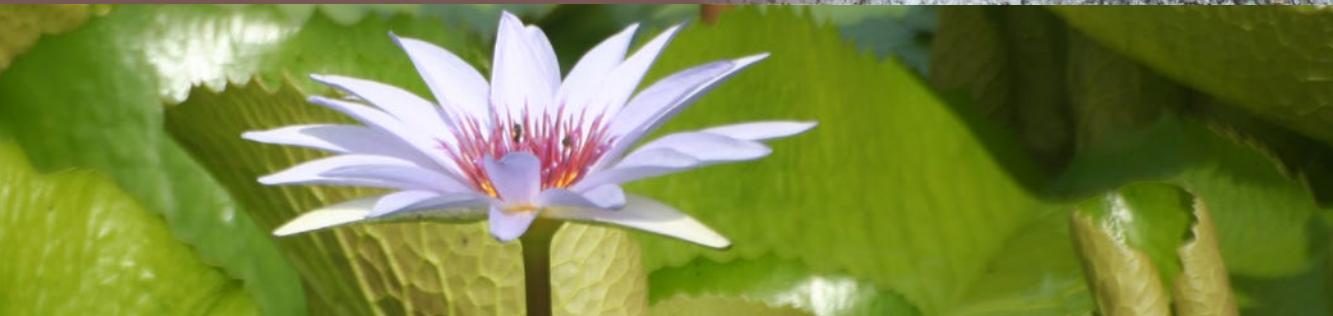
*Please join the experts in their seminars! Ask our field trip leaders the questions you've always wondered about. They're leading the trips because they know the areas and what lives there. Visit the booths in the Expo. Check out the children's art work. It's part of the Florida Federal Junior Duck Stamp contest. Most importantly, it's a Festival, so have fun!*





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# SOCIAL EVENTS

Buffet dinner included

Social Events at the Firehouse Cultural Center

101 1st Ave NE, Ruskin, FL 33570 | Doors Open 5:30 PM

## October 13, 2016 – Kick-off

Stewards of the Land: A History of Florida's Largest Local Government Environmental Lands Program

Joe Guidry (retired Tampa Tribune editor) moderates a panel of eco-visionaries who founded local and statewide environmental land protection programs. Panelists include former governor Bob Martinez, who started Preservation 2000 (which became Florida Forever), county commissioner Jan K. Platt and others who pioneered Hillsborough County's Environmental Lands Acquisition and Protection Program (ELAPP): Gus Muench, Sally Thompson, Joel Jackson, Rob Heath, and Jan Smith.



Photo courtesy of Tampa Hillsborough County Public Library System

## October 14, 2016 – Keynote #1

David H. Johnson, MS, Director of the Global Owl Project (GLOW)

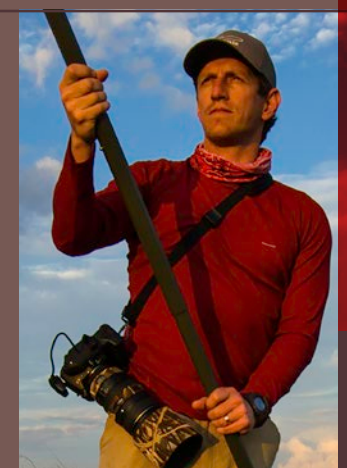
Mr. Johnson will give an overview of the long-term, worldwide project to advance foundational aspects of science and conservation for the world's owls. He will offer recordings of vocalizations, insights into the unique morphology and the scientific literature on the owls of the world, and present distribution maps. Join Mr. Johnson for an eye-opening event on these fascinating birds of the night.



## October 15, 2016 – Keynote #2

Carlton Ward Jr., MS, Conservation Photographer, National Geographic Explorer

Join photographer and explorer Carlton Ward, Jr. as he shares inspiring photographs and stories from recent expeditions through the natural heart of Florida, bringing new attention to a state vision to keep Florida wild. Mr. Ward will answer questions and be available for book sales and signing after the talk. Saturday's event also includes live bluegrass music by the Ft. Green Pickin' Society.



## PROGRAMS

On campus at Hillsborough County Community College, South Shore

# • FRIDAY •

OCTOBER 14, 2016

### Butterflies

10:00 – 10:45 am | PF1-2

Butterfly expert Dr. Marc Minno author of BUTTERFLIES OF CENTRAL FLORIDA: A GUIDE TO COMMON & NOTABLE SPECIES shares his observational insights and key details about butterflies, caterpillars and plants that attract them.

### Dragonflies

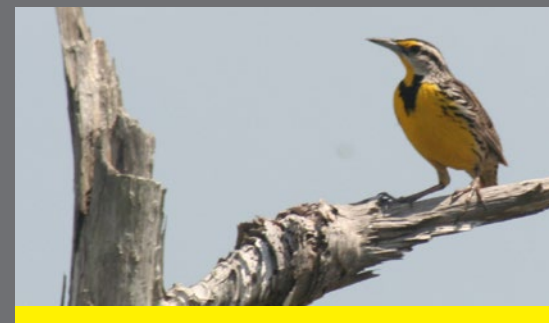
11:00 – 11:45 am | PF1-3

Paul Trunk has been watching dragonflies since 1986 and will be presenting a program on the biology and natural history of dragonflies found in west central Florida. He will also show some of the more common species seen in our area.

### Birds of Prey

11:00 – 11:45 am | PF2-3

Dianna Flynt has been a professional avian rehabilitator in Florida since 1974 and is currently the Rehabilitation Supervisor at the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey in Maitland. This presentation isn't about how to rehab raptors; it's about what a raptor needs to survive in the wild and the special adaptations required for each species.



### Bird Watching Basics

2:00 – 2:45 pm | PF1-4

Jim Cox of the Stoddard Bird Lab at Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy provides an overview of some of the tools needed to get you started in this great activity and explains the key processes skilled birders use to identify different species.

### Conservation of the Swallow-tailed Kite

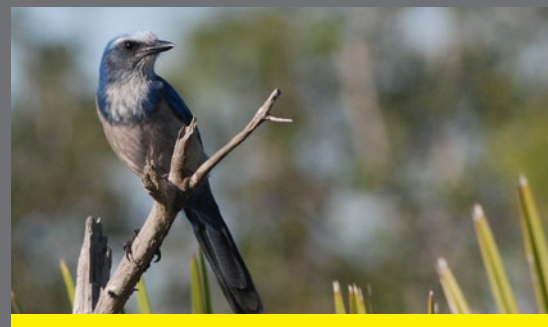
2:00 – 2:45 pm | PF2-4

Dr. Ken Meyer reviews what ARCI has discovered since 1988 with its ground-breaking, year round research on the conservation biology of the swallow tailed kite, a species he has been studying for 38 years.

### The Warblers of Central Florida

2:00 – 2:45 pm | PF3-4

Ken Tracey reveals the secrets of finding warblers by studying the effects of weather, knowing their migration timing, learning their preferred habitats, and locating food sources.



### Florida Scrub-Jay – Nowhere Else in the World

2:00 – 2:45 pm | PF4-4

Dr. Marianne Korosy of Audubon Florida is among the people working to save the Florida scrub-jay. She will talk about the Jay Watch program, which monitors Florida scrub-jays and habitat restoration in places like the Lake Wales Ridge Important Bird Area.

### Top Tips for Tempting Pollinators

2:00 – 2:45 pm | PF5-4

Nanette O'Hara's interactive presentation will highlight simple tips for attracting bees, butterflies, moths and beneficial wasps to your own piece of Florida paradise. The talk will highlight a recommended "Pollinator Palette" of specific wildflowers, trees, and shrubs for west central Florida landscapes.

## PROGRAMS (CONT.)

OCTOBER 14, 2016

### Birding by Ear

3:00 – 3:45 pm | PF1-5

Paddy Cunningham has been a naturalist in South Florida for 35 years. Her passion is birds and she teaches a variety of bird classes to help birders gain advanced skills. "Birding by Ear" will explore the unique calls of common species and teach basic techniques such as repetition, word association, family groups, sound type, and connecting sound and sight.

### Owls in Myth and Culture

3:00 – 3:45 pm | PF2-5

David Johnson is the Director of the Global Owl Project and this program will explore research that pulls back the curtain on owl myths. Are owls dangerous spirits (not birds) who can take your soul or do they represent the Creator Being who started the earth? Dr. Johnson's presentation delves deeply into beliefs about owls – and how societies change their beliefs over time (or not).

### Eagle Watch

3:00 – 3:45 pm | PF3-5

Reinier Mungia will talk about the beloved bald eagle and the Eagle Watch project. See what it takes to be a volunteer!

### Roseate Spoonbills

3:00 – 3:45 pm | PF4-5

Mark Rachal, Sanctuary Manager for Audubon's Florida Coastal Islands Sanctuaries, will discuss this iconic species, its biology and the importance of the Sanctuary in perpetuating the species.

### Native Landscaping

3:00 – 3:45 pm | PF5-5

George R. Kish is co-author of the second edition of THE RIGHT NATIVE PLANTS FOR DRY PLACES and NATIVE FLORIDA PLANTS FOR DROUGHT AND SALT-TOLERANT LANDSCAPING. George will discuss the impact we can have on residential ecosystems in our own backyard.

### Birds on the Beach

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PF1-6

You see them all the time - running in the surf, perched on pilings and soaring over the water. If you think they are nondescript grayish variations on the same theme, you are only partially correct. Adam Kent will help you have fun learning identification and natural history of the common but often difficult-to-identify birds found on Florida's beaches.

### Eagles!

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PF2-6

Michele Vandeventer, FWC, will talk about bald eagles, their biology, behavior, nesting habits, and their current status in Florida and the rest of the country.



Photo by Mary Miller

### Bluebirds and Boxes

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PF3-6

Mary Miller has been monitoring the Flatwoods Park Bluebird Trail for the past 11 years. This presentation will give an overview of the encouraging results of the 51 bluebird boxes along the seven mile trail.

### Biodiversity at Duette Preserve

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PF4-6

Mike Elswick, Manager of the Manatee County Natural Resources Division, will explain the management techniques that have maintained the biodiversity at Duette Preserve, a 22,000 acre parcel that protects the headwaters of the Manatee River.

### Native Plants to Feed and Attract Birds

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PF5-6

Dr. Shirley Denton will talk about native trees, shrubs and flowers that will bring birds to your yard without the need for bird feeders. Learn about natives that attract a variety of birds seasonally and year-round.

# PROGRAMS

On campus at Hillsborough County Community College, South Shore

# • SATURDAY •

OCTOBER 15, 2016



Photo by George Heinrich

## Identifying Non-Marine Turtles of the Tampa Bay Region

9:00 – 9:45 am | PS1-1

Turtles are ecologically important and visible elements in many ecosystems. George L. Heinrich will teach you basic identification techniques for the 13 non-marine turtles that occur in the Tampa Bay region.

## Alligator: Iconic Creature of Southern Wetlands

10:00 – 10:45 am | PS1-2

Dr. Kent Vliet will present the American alligator, an iconic figure in the natural ecology of Florida. He will present new research about these ancient creatures, management programs, and ways to co-exist safely with these large reptiles.

## Butterflies

9:00 – 9:45 am | PS3-2

Florida leads the country in the number of butterfly counts held each year. Don Stillwaugh will discuss the North American Butterfly Association's program and what we've learned from this citizen-science effort.

## Exotic Reptiles

11:00 – 11:45 am | PS1-3

Tessie Offner has spent the past three years studying a population of non-native tegus near Riverview, Florida as a biologist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. She will teach you how to recognize non-native reptiles, discover how they're able to survive in Florida and why they are so difficult to remove.

## Migration Challenges

11:00 – 11:45 am | PS2-3

Nancy Murrah COO with Tampa Raptor Rescue will help you experience many of the challenges that our feathered friends face during migration. This is a fun and interactive program for all ages!

## Ants

11:00 – 11:45 am | PS3-3

Florida has more species of ants than any other state. Although most kinds of ants are beneficial to the ecosystems in which they live, a few species will sting people or harm property. Dr. George Shambaugh will show you how recognize the native, helpful species and what distinguishes them from invasive, non-native species.

## Grounded - Nature Photography

11:00 – 11:45 am | PS4-3

Award winning photographer Bob Croslin talks about the award-winning public service campaign: "Grounded: Winged Survivors of Florida's Gulf Coast."

## Hérons and Egrets of Florida

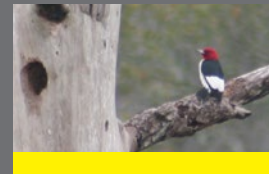
2:00 – 2:45 pm | PS1-4

Ann Paul is the Tampa Bay Regional Coordinator for the Alafia Banks Coastal Island Sanctuary. She will be talking about our most easily recognized and most beloved waterbirds, the 12 species of herons and egrets that live in Florida.

## ELAPP – Florida's Largest Local Government Environmental Land Program

2:00 – 2:45 pm | PS2-4

Ross Dickerson manages Hillsborough County's ELAPP, Florida's largest local government environmental lands program. He will present its development since 1987, discuss plans for the future and how ecosystem services helps make the case for such programs.



## Snags, Woodpiles and Wildlife

2:00 – 2:45 pm

PS3-4

Donna Bollenbach, president of Suncoast Native Plant

Society, will explain the value of leaving snags (standing dead tree trunks) and woodpiles in the landscape. Learn who benefits and how to provide them safely.

## Cavity Nesting Birds

2:00 – 2:45 pm | PS4-4

Join nature photographer and naturalist Marina Scarr as she shares images of Florida's cavity nesting owls and woodpeckers and recounts stories from the field, including the struggles and perils these species face. Learn about conservation efforts for endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers and ethical considerations while in the field photographing them.

## Bird Watching Basics

2:00 – 2:45 pm | PS5-4

Jim Cox of the Stoddard Bird Lab at Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy provides an overview of some of the tools needed to get you started in this great activity and explains the key processes skilled birders use to identify different species.

## Making and Installing Artificial Burrows for Burrowing Owls

3:00 – 4:45 pm,

Workshop Outside WS

David Johnson and David Gordon will describe the specifics of making and caring for artificial burrows, and the wonderful owls who reside in them. In addition to having actual burrow components on-site, participants will receive a technical guide covering aspects of construction, site selection, installation, maintenance, and what-ifs.

## Bears!

3:00 – 3:45 pm | PS2-5

Lisa Östberg is a Wildlife Coexistence Consultant and Everglades advocate. Her work includes providing education and outreach regarding both black bears and Florida panthers, and in this talk will provide information about Florida black bears, the areas of the state where they're most likely to be found, and how we all can do our part to keep ourselves and our bears safe from harm.

## Landscaping with Natives

3:00 – 3:45 pm | PS3-5

Troy Springer, owner of Springer Environmental Services, will provide advice on how to build and

maintain your property as both aesthetically pleasing and ecologically functional.

## What's for Lunch? Photography

3:00 – 3:45 pm | PS4-5

Jim Gray, a well-known local nature photographer and winner of the Grand Prize in Tampa Audubon's 2012 Photo contest, will share his ethical philosophy of patience, observation, and just a little technical skill in obtaining the perfect shot.

## Birds of Cuba

3:00 – 3:45 pm | PS5-5

Gary Markowski, Founder and Executive Director of the Caribbean Conservation Trust, will provide a multi-media discussion about his 20+ years of birding, citizen-science, and conservation programs for Cuba's richly diverse avifauna and biodiversity.

## Bird Behavior: A Key to Better I.D.

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PS1-6

Paddy Cunningham has been a naturalist in South Florida for 35 years. She will show you how to observe bird behavior and increase your ability to identify birds quickly in the field.

## Florida Panther

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PS2-6

Jessica Sutt and Dr. Jen Korn will discuss the rebound of the Florida panther population from approximately 30 individuals in the 1990s to a current estimate of 100-180, and the challenges in providing the habitat connectivity essential to their survival.

## Landscaping for Wildlife

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PS3-6

Lynn Barber, Hillsborough County UF/IFAS Extension Agent, teaches how Florida-Friendly Landscaping principles help attract wildlife to your landscape.

## Ethics in Nature Photography

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PS4-6

Jim Caldwell will discuss the different ethics of art versus documentary photography and issues with "getting the shot" at any cost, including disturbing wildlife and even altering their behavior.

## Counting on Birds - Video

4:00 – 4:45 pm | PS5-6

Charlie Fisher will introduce the award winning PBS film "Counting on Birds", a documentary about the Annual Christmas Bird Count. Charlie will discuss our local count and findings over the years.

# KIDS' ZONE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Give your child the chance to fall in love with nature!  
Join us Saturday, Oct. 15 for kid's activities and FUN!

PLEASE NOTE CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

## OUTSIDE from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm



[waterventures.us](http://waterventures.us)

**Water Ventures**  
Florida's Learning Lab is a 53-foot traveling science center featuring enriching and engaging activities that offer a hands-on look at Florida's diverse watersheds, water conservation, and recycling. Water Ventures will provide experiential learning that will inspire critical thinking and empower students and citizens to make a difference in the world around them.



**Sensing Nature Backyard Bass - line casting**  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Back parking lot

Learning to cast a line into water can be a lot of fun- even more when everyone is 100% safe! Think you got what it takes to hook the biggest fish? Stop by to learn to cast a line and to practice your skillset.



**Discover Through Touch Biofact Table**  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
RM 109

Whether it's the feathers on an owl's wing or the sharpness of an alligator tooth, your sense of touch helps you discover the world around you. Sensing Nature does just that with an open biofact table. Visit leisurely all day long!



**Migration Can Be A Headache!**  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
| Lobby

If your family wants to do a road trip from Canada to Brazil, you're going to have to do a lot of planning! Some of our birds do this every winter in their migration! They may not have to worry about renting a car or having a passport but face many other challenges. Pick up a card from Tampa Bay Raptor Rescue, follow instructions, and see if you can survive our Migration Headache!



**The Florida Aquarium**  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
| Rm 110

Our oceans are connected to all wildlife- even those in the deserts and up in the mountains. Join us to discover what this connection means locally and learn about some interesting critters up close!



**Jr. Duck Stamp Art Exhibit**  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
| Lobby

Every year thousands of entries vie to win and be the next Jr. Federal Duck Stamp Winner. Come by and give us your input on this year's competitors from Thompson Elementary. Along with our 60 local entries for this year's competition you will be able to view past entries and winners from all over Florida. Want to give it a try? Join us to make your own entry or pick up a contest package with all the details. Entries are due March 15th!

## INSIDE from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm

**Owl Pellet Dissection**  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm | RM 109

Wildlife biologists don't always get to see the animal they study. For owl biologists, this isn't too much of a problem. Most often they comb the forest looking for, yep, owl pellets! Come by for the chance to dig in and find out who our feathery friends find tasty in their own search through the forest.

**Sensing Nature**



**Bird House Construction**  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
| Room 109

Want to wake up to a bird's beautiful song by your room window? Build him a house! You can have a direct, positive effect on the birds right in your backyard. We will have all the materials, all the instructions, and 'handy' people to help you put together a small bird house.



**Flying Wild Learning Activities**  
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm | Rm 109  
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm | Rm 109

Flying Wild has been a popular curriculum source for all school teachers wanting to demonstrate birds, migration, and their natural habitats. Visit us for consecutive 30 minute programs. You may learn about urban birds- visitors living right in your neighborhood! You may find out how to help birds migrate. Or you can learn to identify the different flight patterns for each type of bird.



# FIELD TRIPS

Carpools meet and depart from Hillsborough Community College South Shore Campus.

## FRIDAY, October 14

### **Ft. DeSoto County Park, Extreme Birding, Pinellas County**

**7:00 – 1:00 pm | T-F-1 | \$20.00**

Ft. DeSoto County Park is a premier birding destination in Florida. Fall migration brings neo-tropical migratory species to the park as well as occasional wanderers from the Caribbean and the western United States. The island's shorebird diversity is one of the best on the Florida west coast.

### **Manatee Viewing Center, Newman Branch Restoration Habitats, Florida Conservation Center, Hillsborough County**

**8:00 – 12:00 pm | T-F-2 | \$20.00**

The Manatee Viewing Center is home to hundreds of manatees during the winter season, but there are also opportunities to view birds and wildlife along the Tidal Flat Walkway. The Newman Branch site contains an example of rare saltern habitat, a boardwalk through a mangrove forest and a 50' high wildlife observation tower. The trip includes a behind the scenes tour of the new Florida Conservation and Technology Center.

### **Outback Key, Shell Key, Ft. De Soto County Park by boat with Tampa Bay Watch, Pinellas County**

**8:00 – 11:15 am | T-F-3 | \$40.00**

Departure from Tampa Bay Watch Headquarters will take you on the water to learn basic identification tips for the birds we see when we visit Florida's spectacular beaches. You see them all the time - running in the surf, perched on pilings and soaring over the water. Explore their variations and sort through some of the subtleties of their shapes and behaviors in this look at our fascinating birds of the beach.

### **Mosaic Wetland Reclamation, Manatee County**

**8:00 – 10:00 am | T-F-4 | \$20.00**

See an example of a freshwater marsh reclaimed on land previously mined for phosphate. A boardwalk and observation tower provide good vantage points to see the freshwater expanse and its wildlife inhabitants, including herons and egrets, roseate spoonbills, ibis, wood storks, plus turtles and alligators. Adjacent restored upland xeric habitat provides sightings of migratory songbirds and raptors.

### **Lower Green Swamp County Preserve, Hillsborough County**

**8:00 – 11:00 am | T-F-5 | \$20.00**

Lower Green Swamp is the most recent large acquisition in Hillsborough County's ELAPP program, and it provides a wildlife corridor connection into the Green Swamp of central Florida. Ride in a tour wagon to see this 12,000-acre preserve, longleaf pine flatwoods restoration, and working cattle ranch. Possible sightings include red headed woodpeckers to the elusive Bachman's sparrow, with wild turkeys and quail down low and raptors on high.

### **Honeymoon Island State Park, Pinellas County**

**8:00 – 11:00 am | T-F-6 | \$20.00**

Honeymoon Island State Park is a dynamic barrier island. Its beaches and the causeway approach to the park are known hotspots for shorebirds, from the little peeps to reddish egrets doing their 'drunken sailor' dance. Mangroves, lagoons and tidal flats provide diverse habitat. You will meet the leaders before the causeway and have a look at who's dining on the beach before heading into the park and walking several places along the edge, the woods of Osprey Trail as well as checking the grasslands for sparrows.

## FRIDAY, October 14

Cont.

### **Little Manatee River State Park, Native Plant Walk, Hillsborough County**

**8:00 – 11:00 am | T-F-7 | \$20.00**

Manatee River State Park supports a diversity of native plant communities including the river, riverine swamps, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and flatwoods. The route will be chosen based on where fall wildflowers are blooming. In October, we anticipate finding blazing stars, asters and golden asters, vanilla plant, and many other species that attract butterflies. Birds that may be seen include pileated woodpecker, red bellied woodpeckers and red-headed woodpeckers. Wading birds often frequent the river.

### **Triple Creek Preserve, Butterflies and Dragonflies, Hillsborough County**

**2:00 – 4:00 pm | T-F-8 | \$20.00**

This 971-acre tract has a mix of wetland and upland habitats, including pine flatwoods, wetland forests, and improved pasture areas. It is home to many rare species of plants including flakelet fern and grass-pink orchids. The diverse habitats ensure a wide variety of butterflies and other pollinators.

## SATURDAY, October 15

### **Rock Ponds and Cockroach Bay Restoration Habitats, Hillsborough County**

**8:00 – 12:00 pm | T-Sa-1 | \$20.00**

The Rock Ponds (1043 acres) and Cockroach Bay (500 acres) encompass a mosaic of coastal habitats including uplands and freshwater and estuarine wetlands, high and low marshes, salterns, tidal channels/lagoons, mud/sand flats, islands, artificial reefs, and deep water refugia. There is a short walk up hill for viewing but a wagon ride through restored areas.

### **Lettuce Lake Regional Park, Beginning Birding, Hillsborough County**

**8:00 - 12:00 pm | T-Sa-2 | \$20.00**

Lettuce Lake, which opened in 1982, consists of 240-acres, an interpretive center, a 3,500 foot boardwalk and an observation tower where visitors can view an extensive variety of wildlife. We expect to see a variety of water birds and upland birds, including herons, egrets, limpkins, ospreys, woodpeckers, vireos, warblers, red-shouldered hawks, barred owls, and more.

### **Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve Native Plant Walk, Hillsborough County**

**8:00 – 12:00 pm | T-Sa-3 | \$20.00**

The Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve provides a large expanse of diverse and increasingly rare natural habitat, such as sand pine scrub and oak scrub. The diverse array of wildflowers in fall bloom include liatris, deer tongue, goldenrod, and the endangered endemic Florida golden aster.

### **Circle B Bar Reserve, Polk County**

**8:00 – 12:00 pm | T-Sa-4 | \$20.00**

Circle B Bar Preserve was once lakeside marsh drained for cattle pasture. Now jointly owned and managed by Polk County and SWFWMD, the restored marshes are home to limpkins, purple and common gallinules, bitterns and an amazing variety of wintering, migrating and resident birds from bald eagles to sparrows.

### **Perico Preserve, Manatee County**

**8:30 – 11:00 am | T-Sa-5 | \$20.00**

The 176-acre Perico Preserve property is located in western Manatee County. With support from several partners, the site underwent major ecological enhancements including the restoration and creation of wetland and upland habitats, as well as the re-establishment of beneficial native plants.

### **Alafia Banks Bird Sanctuary By Boat, Hillsborough County**

**9:00 – 11:30 am | T-Sa-6 | \$40.00**

Join us aboard the Florida Aquarium's vessel, Bay Spirit II, for a 2 ½ hour tour out of one of the most important nesting colonies in the state of Florida. We expect to see pelicans, herons, shorebirds, and duck species. On the ride out to the island, you will also have the chance to see Atlantic bottlenose dolphins. Enjoy a free aquarium admission for the day upon your return!

### **Triple Creek Preserve, Butterflies and Dragonflies, Hillsborough County**

**2:00 – 4:00 pm | T-Sa-7 | \$20.00**

This 971-acre tract has a mix of wetland and upland habitats, including pine flatwoods, wetland forests, and improved pasture areas. It is home to many rare species of plants including flakelet fern and grass-pink orchids. The diverse habitats ensure a wide variety of butterflies and other pollinators.

### **Ft. DeSoto County Park, Extreme Birding, Pinellas County**

**7:00 – 1:00 pm | T-Sa-8 | \$20.00**

Ft. DeSoto County Park is a premier birding destination in Florida. More than 250 species of birds have been recorded in the park over the years. Spring and fall migration brings neotropical migratory species to the park as well as occasional wanderers from the Caribbean and the western United States. The island's shorebird diversity is one of the best on the Florida west coast. Birding the park is easy with access to many great birding spots involving very short walks.

### **Camp Bayou Outdoor Learning Center, Hillsborough County**

**2:00 – 4:30 pm | T-Sa-9 | \$20.00**

Learn about ants, their social structure and how to discriminate between the native species and those that create problems for humans. This trip is designed for learners of all ages.

## **SUNDAY, October 16**

### **Duette Preserve Wagon Tour, Manatee County**

**8:00 – 10:00 am | T-Su-1 | \$25.00**

At more than 21,000 acres, Duette Preserve is the largest preserve in Manatee County. Look for species of special concern such as the burrowing owl, snowy egret, white ibis, gopher tortoise, and at least two endangered/threatened species, the eastern indigo snake and one of the largest and healthiest populations of Florida scrub-jays in the state.

### **Ft. DeSoto County Park, Beginning Birding, Pinellas County**

**8:30 – 1:00 pm | T-Su-2 | \$20.00**

Ft. DeSoto County Park is a premier birding destination in Florida. More than 250 species of birds have been recorded in the park over the years. Spring and fall migration brings neo-tropical migratory species to the park as well as occasional wanderers from the Caribbean and the western United States. The island's shorebird diversity is one of the best on the Florida west coast. Birding the park is easy with access to many great birding spots involving very short walks.

### **Little Manatee River Kayaking for Turtles Trip – Canoe Outpost, Hillsborough County**

**8:30 – 3:00 pm | T-SU-3 | \$30.00**

The Little Manatee River is one of central Florida's most scenic and is designated by the State as an "Outstanding Florida Water". There will be ample opportunity for watching rivers wildlife while leisurely kayaking downriver on a six-mile stretch of this calm, tannic river. Special emphasis will be placed on the identification and natural history of riverine turtles, particularly three species of cooters (genus Pseudemys).

### **Egmont Key State Park By Boat, Pinellas County**

**8:30 – 12:00 pm | T-SU-4 | \$45.00**

Join the Friends of the Tampa Bay National Wildlife Refuge for a special boat cruise to Egmont Key National Wildlife Refuge/State Park. Established in 1974 to protect migratory birds, the island is situated at the mouth of Tampa Bay and is also the site of historic Fort Dade. Expect to see warblers and other songbirds, raptors, gulls, terns and other seabirds at this key migratory bird fall-out site.

### **Dunedin Hammock Bird Banding, Pinellas County**

**7:00 – 12:30 pm | T-SU-5 | \$20.00**

Dunedin Hammock is noted as a fall migrant trap. We hope to find Canada, golden-winged, blue winged and cerulean warblers, and many other warbler species, plus vireos, thrushes, orioles, and tanagers. Birds can be observed in the hand at the bird-banding station.

### **Celery Fields, Sarasota County**

**8:00 – 11:00 am | T-SU-6 | \$20.00**

This 400-acre storm water retention area in eastern Sarasota County is one of the Gulf Coast's best birding hot spots. The site has been restored to a meandering stream with wetlands and grasslands nestled among the curves. A hill with walking and equestrian trails overlooks the area, and two boardwalks allow access to the stream and marsh. With 220 species recorded at the site, the swamp and open water environment is a haven for limpkins, bitterns, rails and herons.

### **Wolf Branch Nature Preserve, Hillsborough County**

**7:45 – 11:45 am | T-SU-7 | \$20.00**

Wolf Branch Nature Preserve is located near the coast in Apollo Beach. It is a mosaic of coastal hammock, tidal flats, salt marsh, mangroves, freshwater ponds and restored uplands. Every season presents a new array of flora and fauna. We will walk the best route for fall color and will likely see many different birds in the ponds and salt marsh.

### **Kayaking from the TECO/Florida Aquarium Conservation Center, Hillsborough County**

**8:30 – 11:30 am | T-SU-8 | \$50.00**

This 3 hour kayak bird-watching excursion leaves the Center for Conservation in Apollo Beach Florida. Kayak through the mangrove tunnels of the restored Newman Branch creek, where you will have the opportunity to see an abundance of wildlife, including our local bird population (roseate spoonbills, white ibis, and herons, to name a few) and a chance to see manatees, guided by one of the Florida Aquarium's experienced kayak guides!

### **Ft. De Soto, Extreme Birding, Pinellas County**

**7:00 – 1:00 pm | T-Su-9 | \$20.00**

Ft. DeSoto County Park is a premier birding destination in Florida. More than 250 species of birds have been recorded in the park over the years. Spring and fall migration brings neo-tropical migratory species to the park as well as occasional wanderers from the Caribbean and the western United States. The island's shorebird diversity is one of the best on the Florida west coast. Birding the park is easy with access to many great birding spots involving very short walks.



# HCC CAMPUS FESTIVAL SITE

TO FESTIVAL'S PARKING



## Getting around the festival

Hillsborough Community College (HCC) SouthShore is festival headquarters. From the entrance at 551 24th St. NE, drive all the way around campus to the southeast parking lot. Here is where you will find festival parking, outdoor exhibits and activities, and the meeting point for carpools to field trips.

Registration, indoor exhibits, and the kid zone are inside the science building. Registration is open 4-5 PM on Thursday, and 6AM-4PM on Friday and Saturday. Volunteers will help you with check-in and getting oriented.

The vendor expo starts in the science building and spans the breezeway that connects to the administration building. Follow the signs west and then south to modular classrooms for all daytime programs.



## Where to eat

There will be coffee and bagels provided for early morning carpools in the southeast parking lot. Food trucks will be serving lunch just north of the vendor expo on Friday and Saturday.

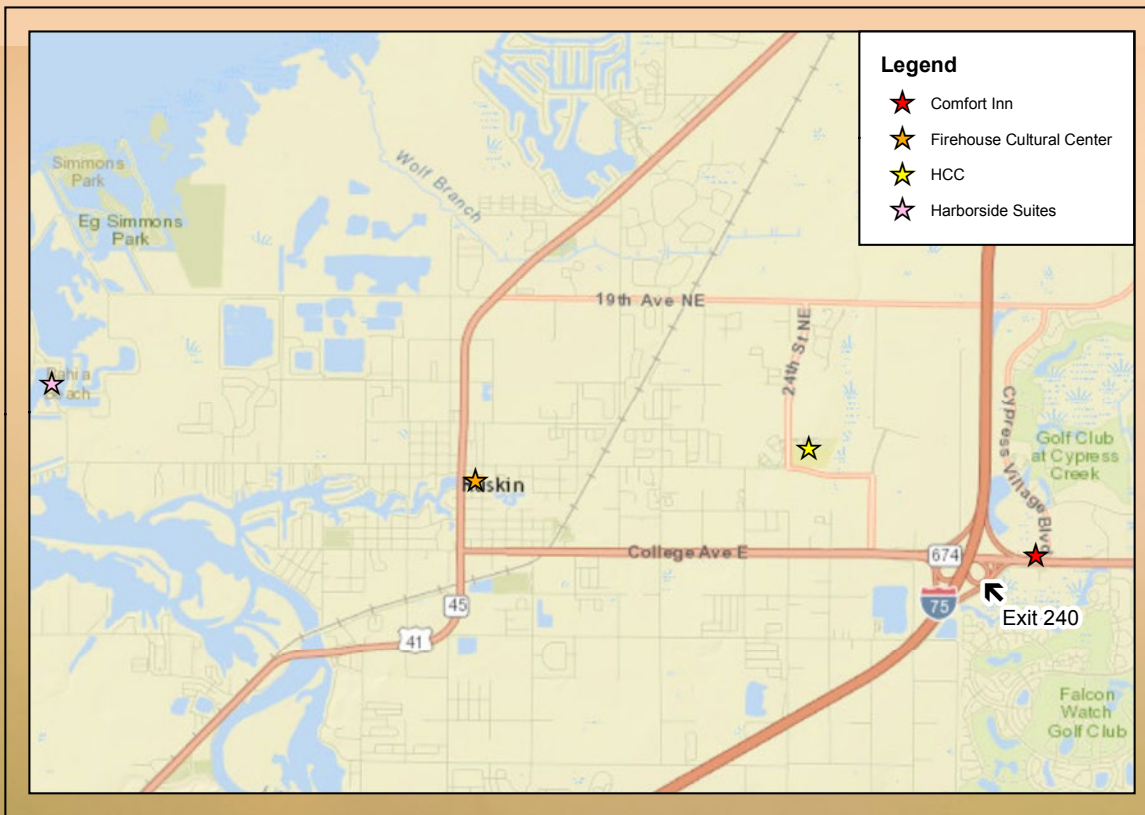
Dinner is included for those attending social events on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings at the Firehouse Cultural Center, 101 1st Ave. NE. It's an easy 2 miles west on Shell Point Road from HCC SouthShore, one block east of US-41. Doors open at 5:30 PM.



**20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPACE COAST BIRDING AND WILDLIFE FESTIVAL**  
 January 25-30, 2017  
 Presented by SWAROVSKI OPTIK Eastern Florida State College, Titusville, FL, located on Florida's Space Coast  
 World Class Presenters, Field Trip Leaders and Nationally Renowned Photographers  
 Keynote Speakers:  
 David LaPuma, Executive Director of the Cape May Bird Observatory, "Radar Love"  
 John Moran, Co-Director, Springs Eternal Project, "Our Water, Our Future"  
 Rodney Smith, Anglers for Conservation, "Luminary of the Indian River Lagoon"  
 Donald Kroodsma, Author, "Listening to a Continent Sing: Birdsong by Bicycle from the Atlantic to the Pacific"  
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# LOCATION MAP



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\*Reservations and additional fees required. Weather permitting.

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**Tampa Audubon Society Welcomes You!**

**Tampa Audubon**

[www.tampaaudubon.org](http://www.tampaaudubon.org)

- ◆ **Meetings:** 1st Thursdays, 7 pm Pot Luck and program, 5339 CR 579, Seffner
- ◆ **Field Trips:** monthly, most free, check web for details
- ◆ **Volunteer:** CBC, Eagle Watch, Colony Watch, Blue Birds, Bird Protection, more
- ◆ **Travel:** coming up: **Cuba** 1/14/17, **Texas** 9/24/17, more
- ◆ **Learn:** USF-OLLI, Educational Programs
- ◆ **Photo Club:** 6 pm before meetings, share and critique



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