Florida Friendly Landscaping Series - Celebrating FYN's 10th Anniversary in Lee County

**Week 1**: “Right Plant, Right Place Solutions for your Yard”

**DATE**: Wednesday, January 11th - 9AM classroom session

**PLACE**: Eco Living Center at Rutenberg Park, 6490 South Pointe Blvd., Fort Myers

**COST**: $7.00 per household

**Description**: Right Plant, Right Place means using plants well-suited to their site and needing less irrigation and fertilizer and are more resistant to pest infestation. This Florida-friendly landscaping principle encourages the selection of healthily, mostly native and attractive plants that work with the natural ecosystem rather than against it. Attendees will learn to match plants with site conditions based on USDA hardiness zones, water and light requirements, soil conditions, salt and wind tolerance and other factors. The FFL plant list found on-line will help students build on previous plant knowledge. Also, a tour of the FYN concept and sustainable landscape garden will follow at 10:30AM.

On each Wednesday, another FYN principle (nine in total) is disseminated and a different ‘easy-care’ Florida native plant will be discussed and given to pre-registered attendees. Native plants being featured include: dune sunflower, tropical sage, golden creeper, pencil flower, muhly grass, blanket flower, sea oxeye daisy, railroad vine and beach morning glory. For more information, go to [http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu](http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu). Their uses in the landscape will be discussed each week by John Sibley, the owner of All Native Garden Center in Ft Myers.

Cost: $7, pre-register by calling Claudia at 239-533-7514. Those who are pre-registered will receive this week's featured native plant. Send a check for this workshop made out to LCOEAB and mailed to Terry Park, Extension Office, 3406 Palm Beach Blvd. Ft Myers, Fl 33916.

**Week 2**: “Watering the Right Way in the Dry Season”

**DATE**: Wednesday, January 18th - 9AM classroom session

**PLACE**: Eco Living Center at Rutenberg Park, 6490 South Pointe Blvd., Fort Myers

**COST**: $7.00 per household

**Description**: “Watering the right way in the dry season.” means keeping plants healthy by watering efficiently, using the least amount of water and not over-irrigating. UF/IFAS-recommended application rates and weekly schedules are used for establishing new Florida-Friendly plantings. Also, homeowners take into account local water restrictions issued by the SFWMD and Lee County. Watering efficiently also means monitoring plants showing signs of wilt and applying water just in the root zone of new and/or established plants. Use of water-saving techniques, reclaimed and reuse water and using micro-sprinkler distribution systems. Plants that are well-suited to their site will survive on less frequent irrigation. This Florida-friendly landscaping principle encourages watering based on the actual weekly rainfall. If rain has fallen in the last 20 hours or is forecast in the next 24 hours, do not water. Homeowners are encouraged to operate their sprinkler systems manually. Also, to save water, check your irrigation system regularly for leaks and clogs. A tour of the FYN concept and sustainable landscape garden will follow at 10:30AM.

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