



FYN Garden Q & A Series

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Yards & Neighborhoods



FYN Topic: Florida–Friendly Yard Certification

Question: I am interested in having my yard recognized as "Florida-Friendly." My question is only my backyard is ready and not my front yard. I am waiting for the city to complete the sewer project before re-landscaping my front yard. Can the back yard be recognized now?
 Email from Steve M..., Cape Coral, FL

Answer: The process we use to recognize yards has some flexibility. Our Florida yards and neighborhood’s recognition team can sort out and recognize your initial success making environmental changes in the backyard. A standard-level score can still be issued based on significant landscape improvements and planning before completing the entire yard. Our recognition team is smaller over the summer months and a later in the year site visit is more likely. Each yard normally takes 90 or more minutes to adequately document as meeting the standard now known as ‘Florida-Friendly Landscaping™’. Prior to the team’s visit, review the FYN Yard Recognition Checklist found on-line and complete a soil test. During the visit, the team will ask questions based on the existing landscape and evaluate your planned changes for the front yard. If possible, provide the team a simple, sketch showing your planned landscape. It should include a working list showing what plants will be removed and what plants will be added.



Sanibel Island

Florida Friendly Landscape



FF Landscape

- Useful Links**
<http://www.floridayards.org>
<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Thomas Becker is an extension agent for the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) program at the Lee County Extension Service. Submit questions by calling the Horticulture Help Desk at 533-7504 between 9 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or by emailing Extgardener@leegov.com. Visit his Web page at <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/FYN/FYNHome.shtml>

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<http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/FYN/FYNHome.shtml>
<http://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu>

