



## The Garden Club of DeLand



Arbor Day Participants

The Gabby Gardener

February 2026

Volume 35, Issue 5

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### GCD General Meeting

**Thursday, February 5**  
**Social, 5:30 pm,**  
**Meeting 6:00 pm.**

**Garden Club of DeLand**  
**General Meeting,**  
**865 S. Alabama Ave.**

**Speaker: Kay Cordero,**  
**Topic: "Orchids"**  
**Advice offered for Sad**  
**Orchids.**

**Host Circle: Firecrack-**  
**ers, Contact Person:**  
**[Cindy Davenport](#)**

From the President - Casey King

### *Happy New Year to All!*

2026 started with a bang at the Garden Club of DeLand. At our January meeting, one of our members, Chris Nott, delivered an excellent presentation titled "Adding Color to Your Garden." We had wonderful food and lots of attendees including some visitors and new members! The Wild Coffee Special Interest Group welcomed the new year with the first of their four seminars in the Gardening Basics Series. The first session had 36 people sign up and covered Vegetable and Herb Gardening. Sessions on Container Gardening, Houseplants, and Right Plant/Right Place are still to be presented. All of them have over 30 attendees signed up. We already have some interest among the people taking the course to join our club!

We celebrated **Arbor Day** on **January 16<sup>th</sup>** thanks to the hard work and efforts of

Dorothy Caldwell and Violet Akopyan. We planted two Eggleston Hollies and a Weeping Yaupon Holly on the grounds of the clubhouse.



Plan to attend our next meeting as we will be honoring our winners and participants in the **Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl contest**. Winners from first, third, fourth, and fifth grades will join other participants to celebrate their achievements. I hope everyone can join and meet these children.

We have several activities coming up soon so please read the Calendar of Events. I hope to see you all at our next meeting.

**Casey**

## **Invasives in Our Gardens** by [Dorothy Caldwell](#)

A few members wanted the 4 plant lists that I mentioned in Dec2026 explained.

The first 2 lists use the term "Noxious weed" "which can be a little confusing. A definition of "Noxious weed": Any plant or plant product that can directly or indirectly injure or cause damage to crops (including nursery stock or plant products), livestock, poultry, or other interests of agriculture, irrigation, navigation, the natural resources of the United States, the public health, or the environment. [Agricultural Risk Protection Act, Public Law No.106-224 (2000, p. 114)]

**The Federal Noxious Weed List** The Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974 ("FNWA", Pub. L. 93-629, 88 Stat. 2148, enacted January 3, 1975) established a federal program to control the spread of noxious weeds. The United States Secretary of Agriculture was given the authority to declare plants "noxious weeds", and limit the interstate spread of such plants without a permit. While the word 'weed' is used, it is any plant from grass, vine, shrub or tree that is determined to be noxious. There are penalties for crossing a state line with a plant on the list from monetary fines to losing agriculture license. There are about 120 plants on this list.

Here is 1 of the many Federal Noxious Weeds found in Florida.

Tropical soda apple  
(*Solanum viarum*)



## **The Florida Noxious Weed List**

Florida defines a noxious weed as any plant that is a serious agricultural threat in Florida; has a negative impact on endangered, threatened or commercially exploited plant species; or is a naturalized plant that disrupts naturally occurring native plant communities. The sale of these plants by a business or person is prohibited and their movement is regulated by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Division of Plant Industry, even giving these plants away is prohibited. There are fines and loss of agricultural license if found selling these plants. There are about 35 plants on this list.

Coral ardisia  
(*Ardisia crenata*)  
also called Christ-  
mas Berry



## **The Florida Invasive Species Council (FISC) Plant List**

**This is the plant list that Florida Federated Garden Clubs chose to use in 2012, and The Florida Native Plant Society uses.**

There are 175 plants on the FISC list and is divided into 2 categories; Cat 1 and Cat 2. Invasive plants are termed Category I invasives when they are altering native plant communities by displacing native species, changing community structures or ecological functions, or hybridizing with natives. This definition does not rely on the economic severity or geographic range of the problem but on the docu-

## Continued: Invasives in Our Gardens

mented ecological damage caused. Category II invasive plants have increased in abundance or frequency but have not yet altered Florida plant communities or ecological function to the extent shown by Category I species. These species may become Category I if ecological damage is demonstrated.



Category I

Calico  
Flower, Elegant  
Dutchman's  
Pipe

Category II

Tropical Milk-  
weed (Aristolochiaele-  
gans) (Asclepias cu-  
rassavica)



IFAS divides the state into 3 regions North, Central and South and uses terms like: Prohibited, Invasive, High Invasion Risk, Moderate Risk/Evaluate, Not a Problem Species,

A High Invasive Risk plant

Golden trumpet, Yellow allamanda (Allamanda cathartica)



## The UF/IFAS Assessment of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas

**This is the plant list that Master Gardeners use.**

The UF/IFAS Assessment of Non-native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas uses literature-based assessment tools to evaluate the invasion risk of non-native species that occur in the state, new species proposed for introduction, and novel agricultural and horticultural selections, hybrids, and cultivars. Our overarching goal is to reduce non-native plant invasions in Florida and throughout the Southeast US for protection of natural and agricultural areas. <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/AG376>

<https://plant-directory.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/solanum-viarum/>

<https://plant-directory.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/ardisia-crenata/>





## GARDENING BASICS SERIES (Pictures from the Vegetables and Herb Class)



**Learn with Us!**

# GARDENING BASICS SERIES

**Free**

**Garden Club of DeLand**

**6:00pm - 7:30pm**  
**Ages 10 (with adult) and up**  
**865 S. Alabama Ave • DeLand**

Can sign up for one or all. Each workshop will include discussions on planting media, proper planting, fertilization, care, and understanding the "Florida Gardening Challenges".

**Topics**

**Wednesdays**

- January 14th - How to Grow Happy Herbs and Vegetables
- January 28th - Container Gardening
- February 11th - House Plants Galore
- February 25th - Right Plant. Right Place

To register contact Fred Zollinger • 386-848-5004 • [fredzollinger@att.net](mailto:fredzollinger@att.net)

(386) 624-6960 • [www.gardenclubofdeland.org](http://www.gardenclubofdeland.org)

**Join us for the next class on February 11th at 6 pm. House Plants Galore!**



## GCD Book Club

On Thursday, February 19th the book club will be discussing

**The Gardener's Plot by Deborah J. Benoit.**

Sara Zollinger will facilitate this discussion. The Garden Plot takes place in the Berkshires and introduces amateur sleuth Maggie Walker in a murder mystery that occurs in a community garden. Come find out who did it!

See you at the clubhouse, February 19th, 1 PM.



The GCD Book Club is meeting Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at the Clubhouse at 1pm.  
 865 South Alabama Avenue, DeLand  
[www.gardenclubofdeland.org](http://www.gardenclubofdeland.org)

## Hot Off the Press

The latest issue of **The National Gardener TNG** is available to download and read, winter Issue.

<https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2026-01/tng-2026-winter-v1.5.pdf>

**Happy Reading!!**



## Congratulations!

Two of our members received awards for their work at the recent New Smyrna Beach Garden Club Flower Show the theme was Party Time! **Ann Crawford** won an award in the **horticulture division**, and **Suzanne Locke** took **first place** for one of her floral designs. Suzanne design theme was Sweet 16, titled “Dancing up the night”

**Congratulations ladies, we are so proud of you both.**





# Rose Circle Game Night

*Open to all Garden Club Members and their Family and Friends*



**Friday, March 27**

**6:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

**Check-in/Social Time/Snacks 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm**

**Games 6:45 pm to 8:30 pm**

**Tickets \$10.00**

*Light snacks, desserts, soft drinks and one opportunity drawing chance included with ticket price. Additional drawing chances available at the event.*

**Purchase tickets at the February and March Garden Club General Meetings or from any Rose Circle Member**

**Thank you to the local business who made donations  
for the Opportunity Drawings**

**\$100 Gift Card - Ace Hardware of Deland**

**\$100 Gift Card – Walmart Neighborhood Market**

**\$50 Gift Card – A Place in The Sun Nurseries + a Plant**

**\$50 Gift Card – The Nest**

**\$30 Gift Card – City Wine & Cigar**

**\$25 Gift Card - New Fangled Market + a Pixie Plant**

**\$50.00 E.F.G. Gift Card + a Chocolate Orchid Plant**



# Florida Federation of Garden Clubs

## "Let's Go to Convention 2026"

April 14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026



State Flower Show



Speakers



Workshops



Vendors



District  
Parties



PJ's &  
Pancakes



Awards

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Convention Registration  
is Now Open  
Visit: [ffgc.com](http://ffgc.com)  
for all the details

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Embassy Suites  
Lake Buena Vista South  
4955 Kyns Heath Rd,  
Kissimmee, FL 34746



Board  
Meeting



## DISTRICT VI SPRING MEETING

The Garden Club of DeLand and the DeLeon Springs Garden Club are teaming up to host the Spring FFGC District VI meeting at our clubhouse on **April 29, 2026**.

We need a few members to join the planning committee for this event. If you would like to work on this, please contact [Deborah DuBois](#) or [Violet Akopyan](#). It will be a fun, rewarding event to participate in.

***We need your creativity and party planning skills to make this a success!***



## The Pollinator Ambassador Academy is back!!



The Pollinator Ambassador Academy is back!! District VII is sponsoring the program on **Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 4:30pm** at the Marion County Agricultural Center. I had the good fortune of attending this class last year and loved it! Well worth it, I learned so much that I could apply in my own gardens to help the pollinators. More information is available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1981022806542?aff=oddtcreator>



## The Garden Club of DeLand

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DeLand Florida 32724  
(386) 624-6960 - The Garden Club of DeLand  
[gcdeland@gmail.com](mailto:gcdeland@gmail.com)

(386) 279-1241 Rental Information  
[rentalsgardenclubofdeland@gmail.com](mailto:rentalsgardenclubofdeland@gmail.com)

Social Links: [FaceBook](#)  
The Garden Club of DeLand's [Website](#)

## UPCOMING PLANT SALES AND EVENTS

Sat, 2/21 8:30a-10:30a **Volusia County Master Gardener Annual Spring Edible Plant Sale**, 3100 E New York Ave, DeLand. Cash or check only. Bring your own wagon if you have one.

Saturday 2/21 9a-3p 2026 **Seminole County Garden Expo & Plant Sale**, 250 W County Home Rd, Sanford. Vendors and talks.

Sat, 3/7 8:30a-3p, 2026 **Orange County Garden Festival & Plant Sale**, 6021 S. Conway Road, Orlando. Lots of vendors, tours and talks.

[Save the Date: 2026 Orange County Garden Festival & Plant Sale - UF/IFAS Extension Orange County](#)

Sat & Sun, 3/14 & 3/15 9a-5p, Leu Gardens Annual Plant Sale. Free.

[29th Annual Plant Sale Leu Gardens](#)

AND Marion County Spring Festival, 3/14 8a-4p, & 3/15 9a-4p

[Events - Marion County - University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences - UF/IFAS](#)

Sat, 3/21/26 8:30a-12p, **Volusia County Master Gardener Annual Plant Faire**, 3100 E New York Ave, DeLand. Cash or check only. Bring your own wagon if you have one.

Sat & Sun, 4/18 & 4/19 9a-4p, **Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society Plant Sale**, thousands of bromeliads will be for sale in April and August along with orchids, aroids, succulents, ferns, heliconias, gingers, fruiting/edible plants and tropicals of all kinds.

[SGC | SBTPS](#)

Thank you!

[Jennifer Condo](#)



*Volusia County Master Gardener Volunteers invite you to the....*

### 6TH ANNUAL SPRING EDIBLE PLANT SALE

SATURDAY  
February  
**21**

8:30am - 10:30am

UF/IFAS Volusia County  
Extension Office  
3100 E. New York Ave.  
DeLand, FL 32724

Bring a wagon!!!  
Bring a friend!!!

We accept CASH or CHECK  
ONLY!  
Make all checks payable to:  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

For more details, contact Brittany Council-Morton at  
the UF/IFAS Extension office: Phone: (386) 822-  
5778  
Email: [bcouncil1@ufl.edu](mailto:bcouncil1@ufl.edu)

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