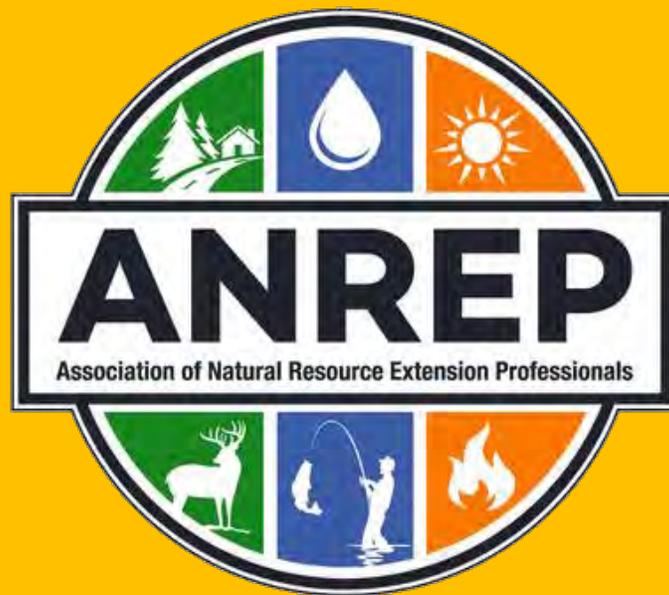


ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS



AWARD RECIPIENTS 2021

The ANREP Awards Program fosters high standards within the membership, recognize significant achievement, and expand the use of high quality, innovative materials and programs by honoring the outstanding members and partners who developed them.

OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AWARDS

BOOK OR COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM CURRICULUM

GOLD AWARD

FMNP Marine Habitat Restoration Special Topics Course

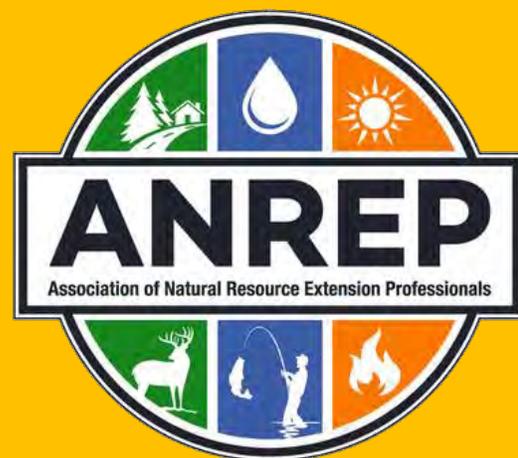
Joshua Patterson, Laura Reynolds, Savanna Barry, Scott Jackson, Shelly Johnson, and Shelly Krueger from the University of Florida

A new course in the Florida Master Naturalist Program series, Marine Habitat Restoration, provides detailed information on the ecology, benefits, restoration methods, and monitoring of marine habitats in Florida. A team of six faculty created the course curriculum, focused on restoration of seagrasses, coral reefs, sponges, and marine enhancement through artificial reefs. Two train-the-trainer courses yielded between 45 – 51% knowledge gain about marine restoration topics. Knowledge gain will likely be higher among general public audiences. As with other courses in the FMNP restoration series, participants in the course will likely be eager to volunteer on marine habitat restoration projects. Those who take the course are entrusted to share the information they gain with others and use the skills they acquire to contribute to conservation education and restoration initiatives.

CONTACT

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BOOK OR COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM CURRICULUM

SILVER AWARD

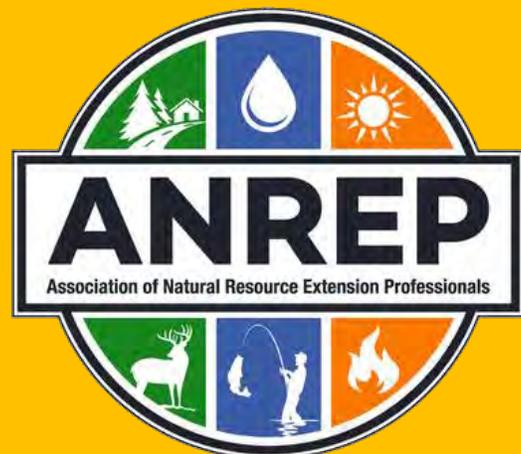
Legacy Planning: A Guide for Virginia Woodland Owners

Adam Downing, Jennifer Gagnon, Jennifer Gagnon, Lesha Berkel, Mike Santucci, and Travis Mountain from Virginia Tech

This 56-page, full-color guide takes readers through the 9 steps they can take to help ensure a successful legacy planning process. The book includes landowner case studies and worksheets and is designed to be used as curriculum for an in-person or virtual program and can also be obtained and used by individuals on their own.

CONTACT

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BOOK OR COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM CURRICULUM

BRONZE AWARD

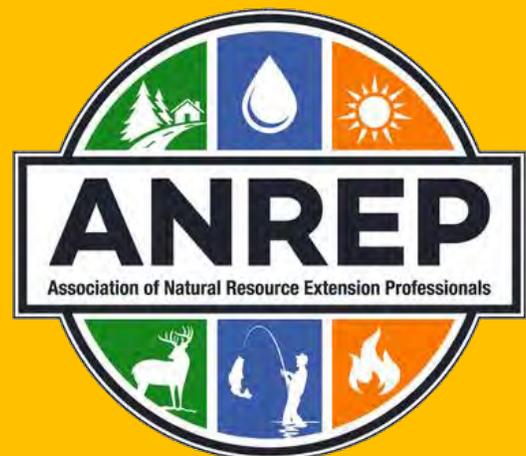
Ranch Water Quality Planning Instructor's Guide and Lesson Plan

Anthony O'Geen, Bill Birmingham, Brooke Latack, D.J. Eastburn, Dan Macon, David Lewis, David Lile, Devii Rao, Fadzayi Mashiri, Jeffery Stackhouse, Jim Downing, Josh Davy, Julie Finzel, Kenneth Tate, Laura Snell, Leslie Roche, Lucien Crowder, Matthew Shapero, Michael Lennox, Morgan Doran, Randy Dahlgren, Rebecca Ozeran, Robe, rt Atwill, Sandra Osterman, Stephanie Larson, Theresa Becchetti, and Tracy Schohr from the University of California

The Ranch Water Quality Planning Instructor's Guide and Lesson Plan represents the evolution of the University of California Ranch Water Quality Planning Partnership and shortcourse program. We published the Instructor's Guide in two formats — a dynamic PDF document and an HTML webpage. Both formats integrate 29 educational and instructional videos in a curated playlist on the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources YouTube channel. This comprehensive training resource gives instructors the tools to plan and deliver a shortcourse that trains private and public grazing land managers to develop land stewardship and water quality management plans. The Instructor's Guide provides a wealth of contemporary information and resources about water quality management on rangelands and supports adaptation of the curriculum content and elements to local conditions and needs. We began outreach and extension of these resources in November 2020, and through January 2021 downloads totaled 110 and unique page views totaled 240.

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LONG PUBLICATION

GOLD AWARD

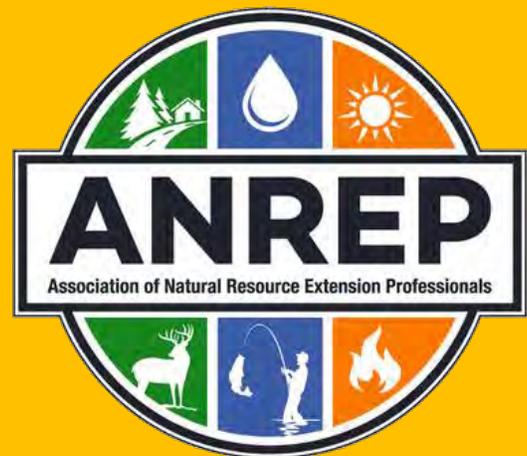
PRACTITIONER GUIDE TO ASSESSING CONNECTION TO NATURE

Cathy Jordan, Gabby Salazar, Judy Braus, Kristen Kunkle, Martha Monroe, Nicole Ardoin, University of Florida and Children & Nature Network

Environmental educators around the world want to know if their programs enhance participants' connection to nature, but the number of tools that measure similar constructs is bewildering and the differences between them are esoteric. We created a simple, straightforward manual to assessing connection to nature with a decision tree to help users select one of 11 tools for their situation. The Guide originated with a participatory workshop of researchers and practitioners. Formative evaluation of the materials was conducted with practitioners at 3 conferences. The 11 tools use interviews, drawings, journals, and scales. Each tool is described and all scales are included, with authors' permission to replicate them. The Guide also provides strategies for assessing audiences in 3 age categories. A pdf of the Guide is available at no charge. Webinars and presentations have been given to audiences around the world to introduce the Guide and answer questions.

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LONG PUBLICATION

SILVER AWARD

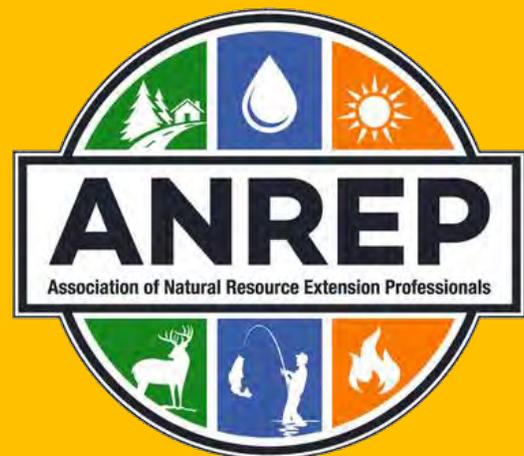
ROADSIDE GUIDE TO CLEAN WATER: RECOGNIZING GOOD PRACTICES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Andy Yench, Danielle Rhea, Jennifer Fetter, Jennifer Walker, Jodi Sulpizio, Kristen Koch, Leon Ressler, Nicole Santangelo, Robert Meinen, Scott Sjolander, Susan Boser, Vincent Cotrone, Penn State University

The Roadside Guide to Clean Water is a field-guide style publication that helps the public recognize water quality best management practices (BMPs) in their community. The guide was created after feedback from stakeholders and partner organizations revealed that there was a need for positively-minded educational materials to familiarize the general public with BMPs. Many Pennsylvanians are unable to identify practices being implemented by farmers, municipalities, commercial landowners, and private homeowners. All too often this results in a lack of positive feedback and sometimes even complaints when practices are installed, creating a barrier for getting more practices in the ground. The Roadside Guide features ten of the most used water quality BMPs and provides a brief description, an explanation of how it works, and multiple photos with captions to help users identify BMPs in their community and promote appreciation for the good work being done to protect our water.

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LONG PUBLICATION

BRONZE AWARD

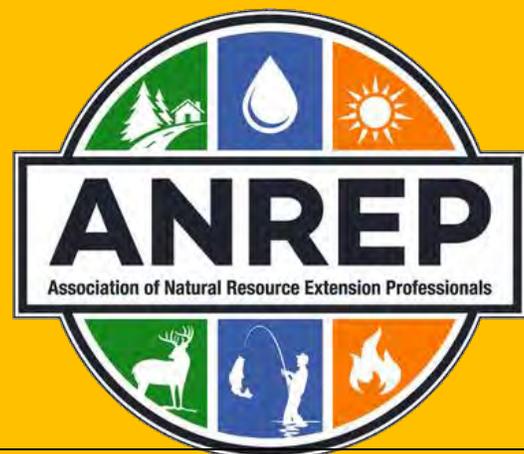
WOODLAND HEALTH PRACTICES HANDBOOK: A PRACTICIONER'S GUIDE FOR CREATING, ENHANCING, AND MAINTAINING NATURAL AREAS

*Adam Downing, Agnes Kedmenecz, Andrew Kling, Craig Highfield, David Jackson, Joe Lehen, Jonathan Kays, Joy Drohan, Julianne Schiefer, and Stanton Gill.
Virginia Tech, University of Maryland, Alliance for Chesapeake Bay, Penn State, VA Dept of Forestry, and Eco-Write, LLC.*

The Woods In Your Backyard Partnership has positively impacted small acreage woodlands and owners with tools and techniques to create and enhance natural areas. Many owners desire more professional assistance, especially in areas of "for-hire" control work but service providers are difficult to find. A subset of green industry professionals (landscapers, arborists, horticulturalists, etc) are interested in expanding their business opportunities in this area but lack the knowledge. The Woodland Health Practices handbook and Woodland Assessment Checklist were developed for this audience. The Handbook is an 85-page, high-quality publication with 60+ color photos providing an overview of woodland ecology, woodland health assessment, land care instruction, and creating a plan. It complements the existing Woods In Your Backyard Guide and was developed by MD, VA, and PA extension, Alliance for Chesapeake Bay, and Virginia DOF. Training webinars have been completed with positive impacts of knowledge increase by individuals and business expansion

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NEWSLETTERS

GOLD AWARD

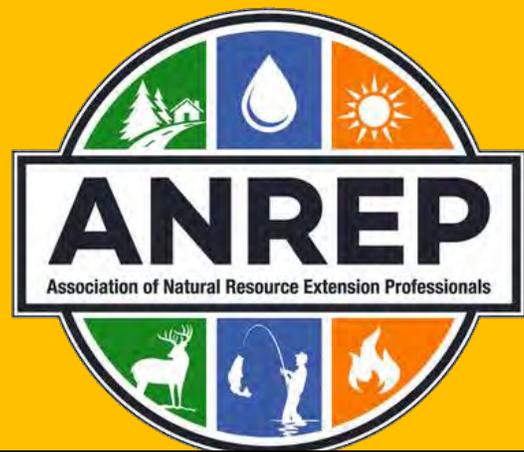
Escambia County "Weekly What is it?" blog

Carrie Stevenson from the University of Florida.

The Covid-19 shutdown starting in March 2020 canceled all our upcoming events and necessitated a creative way to keep teaching and communicating with volunteers, regular clientele, and new Extension users. Inspired by years of questions about plants, animals, and odd invertebrates, I created the Weekly "What is it?" blog. I culled out the most interesting and frequently-asked-about topics and photos, then started writing and researching. Each blog post focuses on a single curiosity related to the natural world (or its preservation) and often includes personal anecdotes and experiences, relating the topic at hand to everyday life. Articles are posted weekly and distributed via email and social media. While isolated from one another but with more time to explore the outdoors, clientele feedback has indicated that the blog provided both a distraction from the larger issues of the world and a source of wonder, learning, and excitement in their own backyards.

CONTACT

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NEWSLETTERS

SILVER AWARD

2020 Forester's Notes

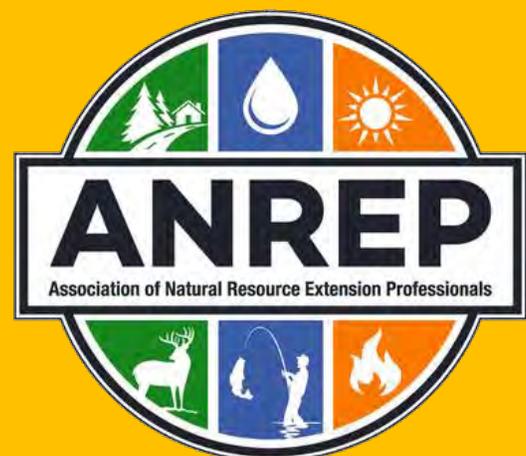
Kevin Zobrist from Washington State University

Forester's Notes are articles included at the beginning of the WSU Puget Sound Extension Forestry newsletter that is published two to four times per year. This column is a reflection of life lessons, current events, and how it relates to forest stewardship. Based on surveys and landowner feedback, this is the most popular section of the newsletter. The 2020 Forester's Notes reflect on the pandemic and social justice.

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NEWSLETTERS

BRONZE AWARD

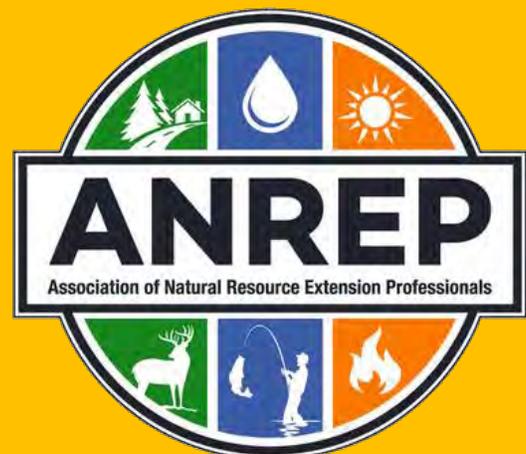
Healthy Ponds

Abbey Tyrna from the University of Florida

A series containing three large postcards was created to inform community stakeholders invested in stormwater pond management about the components and benefits of healthy ponds. The series includes front and back postcards entitled: Healthy Ponds Include, Healthy Pond Banks & Buffer Zones, and Healthy Ponds and You!

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PODCAST / RADIO

GOLD AWARD

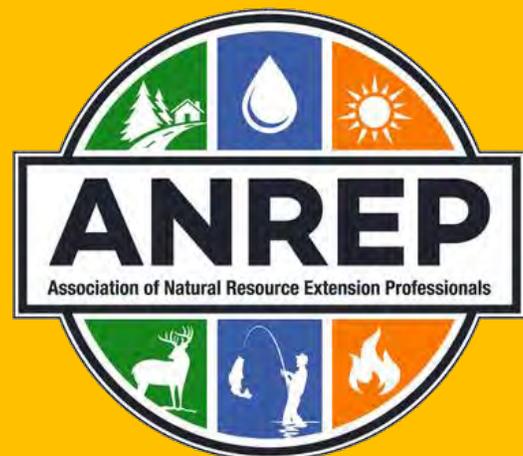
From the Woods Kentucky

Bobby Ammerman, Chad Niman, Ellen Crocker, Laura Lhotka, Laurie Thomas, Matthew Springer, Renee Williams, William Thomas. University of Kentucky

From the Woods Kentucky offers current information about woodlands and wildlife in a weekly live radio program and podcast that originally aired on the University of Kentucky radio station (WRFL 88.1 FM). COVID-19 forced the suspension of the live show but the podcasts continue and are supplemented with audio of the From the Woods Today show. The weekly show covers a wide variety of forestry-related topics that listeners find both useful and enjoyable, including information on invasive species, forest health, wildlife, and all forestry-related topics in-between. Most guests are members of the University of Kentucky Department of Forestry and Natural Resources but numerous partners have participated as well. The podcasts are available through iTunes, Libsyn or online at <http://www.FromtheWoodsKy.org>. In addition to the recorded programs, the website contains news articles and other sources of information about each topic providing a deeper connection with the topics for the listeners.

CONTACT

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PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

GOLD AWARD

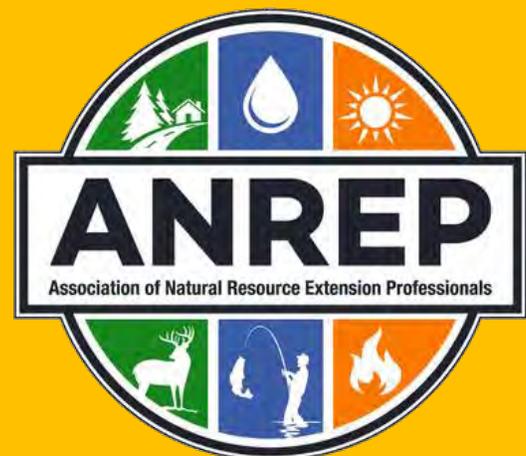
GUIDE TO FISHING IN COASTAL GEORGIA SERIES

Bryan Fluech from the University of Georgia

The Guide to Fishing in Coastal Georgia series was developed to promote public access and responsible use of Georgia's coastal resources. The five foldout guides are county-based and feature Georgia's six coastal counties. One side features a map that highlights artificial reefs, special management zones, and popular locations for various fishing styles (i.e. bottom, float rig, shark, and tarpon) found in the county. Public fishing piers, boat ramps and marinas are featured as well. The other side of the guides feature educational information on sustainable harvesting practices for fish, shrimp, crab and shellfish, as well as coastal habitats and wildlife conservation details. Due to their popularity, approximately 10,000 guides have been distributed to tackle shops, marinas, education centers and visitors centers along the coast between September 2020 and February 2021.

CONTACT

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PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

SILVER AWARD

Nutrient Management in A Wild & Scenic River Basin

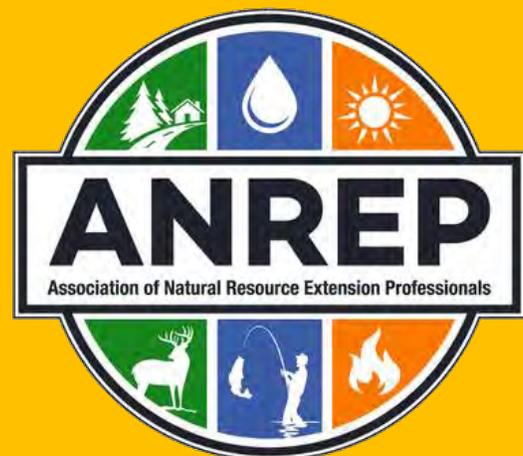
TINA MCINTYRE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

These Public Service Announcements (PSA's) were created in partnership with Seminole County Watershed Division to target our communities biggest nutrient issues, urban turfgrass fertilizer. With many of our precious waterways being impaired for nitrogen and phosphorous, it is important for me to work with partners to educate the public and professionals on proper fertilizer use. These PSA's were developed for us by WKMG Local Channel 6 to run on their station and many social media platforms throughout 2020.

CONTACT

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PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

BRONZE AWARD

Zoom into Science Promotional Materials

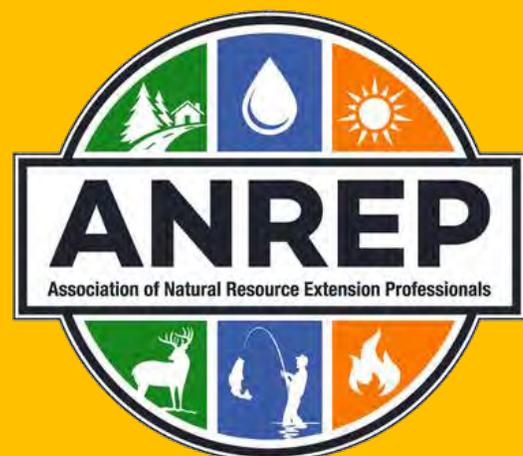
Kasey Bozeman from the University of Georgia

Extension programming during the COVID-19 pandemic provides the opportunity for innovative and non-traditional delivery methods. As a response to provide educational opportunities to youth during this time, the Georgia 4-H Zoom into Science webinar series allows youth to directly engage with natural science experts in their respective fields using a virtual platform. Not only do participants learn science content, but they are also exposed to a variety of careers. The promotional and marketing materials for the Zoom into Science sessions are PNG files formatted to be shared on Facebook. These were shared on the Georgia 4-H Facebook page as well as various county 4-H Facebook pages. These promotional materials yielded over 1,000+ live attendees during the sessions.

CONTACT

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SHORT PUBLICATION

GOLD AWARD

Saltwater Intrusion in Agricultural Fields in Northeastern North Carolina and Potential Remediation Options

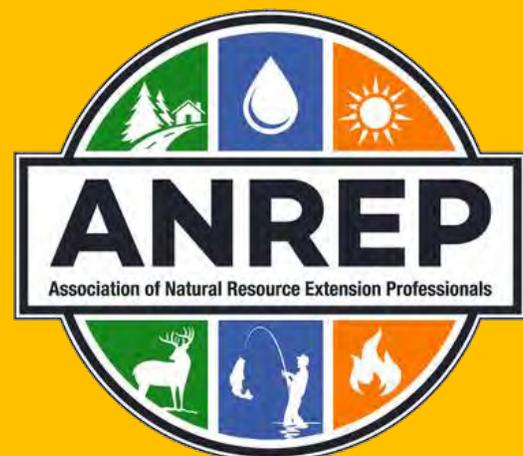
Alex Manda, Carl Crozier, Diana Rashash, and Luke Gatiboni, East Carolina University and NC State University

Saltwater intrusion is the invasion of coastal soils by salt water from oceans and sounds. Salts are attracted to the soil particles and accumulate in the soil, causing toxicity to non-adapted plants. Excessive salt may also cause clay dispersion and surface sealing, thereby impeding soil drainage. In North Carolina, the main salinization mechanisms are storm surge events, wind-driven flooding through ditch and canal networks, sea level rise, and horizontal saltwater movement through the subsoil. This Extension factsheet presents current research, steps agricultural producers can take to identify potential problems in their fields, and possible remediation options.

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SHORT PUBLICATION

SILVER AWARD

Chainsaw Safety: Safety Features and Maintenance

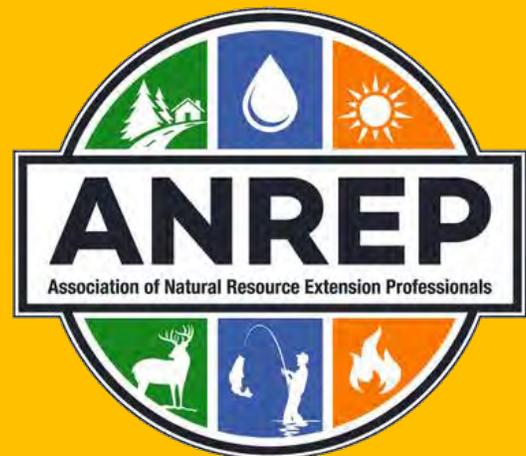
Beau Brodbeck and Bence Carter, Auburn University

Each year more than 3 million chainsaws are sold in the United States to users with a variety of skills and experience. This inherently dangerous piece of equipment, combined with hazardous cutting situations and lack of personal protective equipment, contribute to more than 36,000 injuries each year. Understanding the saw's safety features and function is the first step in proper chainsaw operation and risk reduction. This publication outlines key safety components of chainsaws and their purpose in helping mitigate risk to the operator. In addition to functioning safety components, proper chainsaw maintenance is equally important and outlined in this publication. Detailed, high-resolution images are used to identify components, visually explain function and overall help experienced and novice operators use this equipment more safely.

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SHORT PUBLICATION

BRONZE AWARD

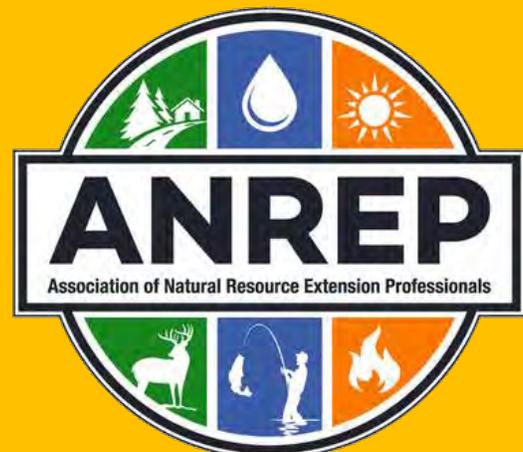
Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Report Card

Holly Abeels, Linda Seals, Lisa Krinsky, and Mary Lusk, University of Florida

Development along Florida's Indian River lagoon has resulted in significant degradation of water quality over time. A research study was conducted on ten residential properties in a waterfront community to assess the source and concentration of nutrients from surface water in Florida-Friendly versus non Florida-Friendly landscapes. As a reward for participating in the study, and as a way to increase adoption of practices that would protect water quality, the homeowners who participated in the study were given a customized two-page educational report card on the state of their landscape at the end of the study. The report cards provided fertilizer recommendations based on the study results as well as the nitrogen sources. The report card also included a list Florida-Friendly landscape practices the homeowner could implement to protect the water quality of the Indian River Lagoon.

CONTACT

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TV, VIDEO

GOLD AWARD

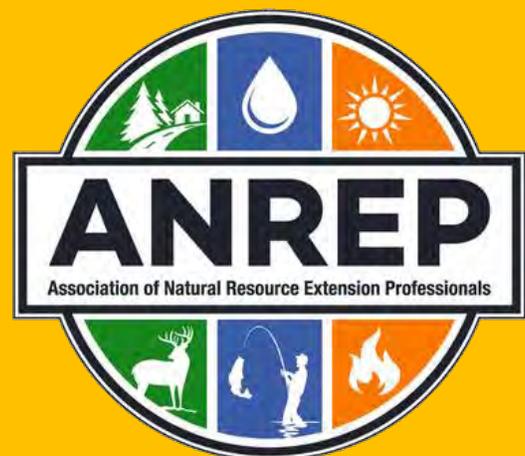
Voices from the Flood: The Delta Backwater Flood and the Pumps

Brian Utley, Elizabeth Gregory North, Jonathan Parrish, Keri Lewis, Michaela Parker, Mike Russell, and Zac Ashmore, Mississippi State University

In 2019, well over half a million acres flooded in Mississippi's lower Delta region. A combination of relentless rain in the region and epic runoff from states higher upriver, the floodwaters covered the land for more than seven months, depriving local residents of their homes and their livelihoods. But there is much more to the story, and those who came through the catastrophe--many of whom lost their homes and everything in them--believe it could have been prevented. To document the experiences of people who lived through this historic event, MSU Extension Agricultural Communications conducted interviews to create an oral history archive. These interviews, combined with still photographs and footage of the flooding, were brought together to create a 5-part video series to communicate the human, economic, and environmental impact of the flooding. The series was shown on Farmweek, MSU Extension's weekly television program, which airs statewide on Mississippi Public Broadcasting and nationally on RFD-TV.

CONTACT

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TV, VIDEO

SILVER AWARD

VIDEO SERIES FOR FMNP MARINE HABITAT RESTORATION COURSE

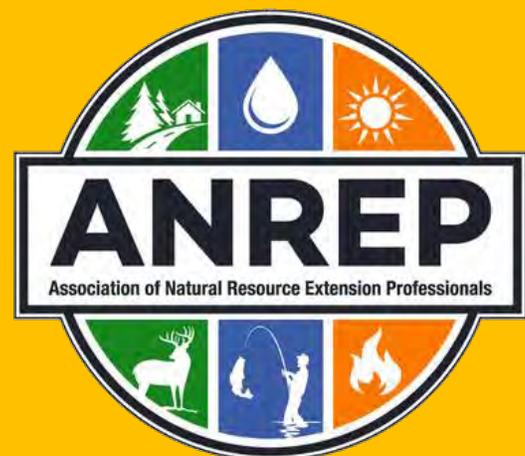
Joshua Patterson, Laura Reynolds, Savanna Barry, Scott Jackson, Shelly Johnson, and Shelly Krueger, University of Florida

A series of videos were created as a companion to the new Marine Habitat Restoration course in the Florida Master Naturalist Program. The videos transport course participants to underwater environments that are hard to reach and provide insights from professionals who are leaders in their field. A team of six faculty worked to collect footage, interview professionals, edit content, and fact-check information. These efforts resulted in four videos, each between 10 and 26 minutes long. Two train-the-trainer courses that included the videos yielded between 45 – 51% knowledge gain about marine restoration topics. The video series, listed publicly since launch in Feb 2020, has been viewed by many more people than the course participants, including members of advisory panels and participants in volunteer training events. These videos can inspire members of the public to take the course and increase interest in restoration, including volunteerism for marine habitat restoration projects.

CONTACT

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Tv, VIDEO

BRONZE AWARD

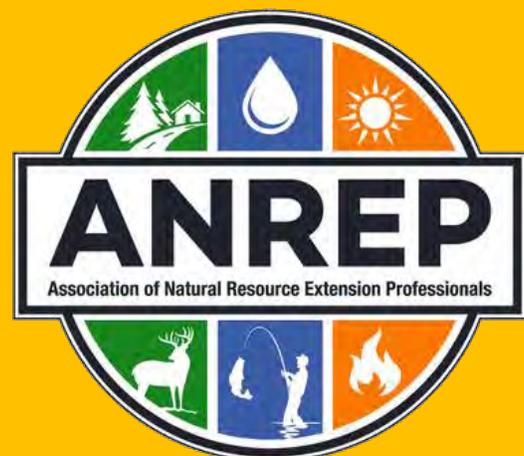
LIFE (Learning in Florida's Environment) Science Shorts

Katherine Clements, Abbey Tyrna, Adelaide Mahler, Alexa Kurowski, Armando Ubeda, Carol Wyatt-Evens, Jennifer Dehart, Julianna Costanzo, Kassidy House, Kevin O'Horan, Marguerite Beckford, Maria Portelos-Rometo, Mindy Hanak, Patrick Williams, Randall Penn, Sarah Davis, Sophia Moundous, Tony Clements, and Wilma Holley, University of Florida

LIFE Science Shorts are videos developed for 3rd-5th grade students in response to Covid-19 cancellation of in-person field experiences. These eighteen environmental education videos present a variety of science, natural resource, and ecology topics specific to Florida's ecosystems. 10-20 minute videos feature a guest expert providing educational content and a hands-on activity. Topics were determined based on teacher-identified student needs to support standardized testing success, while modeling scientific careers. The corresponding teacher handbook provides a summary of each video, its associated activity and Florida State standards, and links to pre and post-test assessments. Videos averaged 100 views per week in the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Student assessments indicated comparable knowledge gain to in-person modules. LIFE videos have been shared with all Sarasota County Schools elementary science teachers, are available to the public, and are featured on the Florida State Parks Foundation website.

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TELEVISED CONFERENCE - VIDEO CONFERENCE - WEBINAR

GOLD AWARD

ONLINE FOREST OWNERS' FIELD DAY

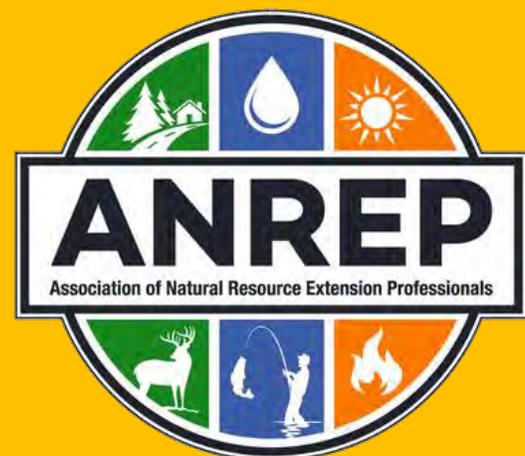
*Andy Perleberg, Brendan Whyte, Kevin Zobrist, Patrick Shults, and Sean Alexander,
Washington State University*

WSU Extension Forestry hosts Forest Owners' Field Days every year. In 2020, an in-person field day was not possible given the pandemic. We adapted by using Zoom to offer an Online Field Day. While "Online Field Day" is a bit of an oxymoron, the goal was to still have a field-based program. Unlike the other webinars we offered throughout the year which were based on PowerPoint presentations, the Online Field Day sessions were based on field videos. Using the videos, we created an event that was a hybrid between pre-recorded and live content. For each session, the field video was streamed for the first portion followed by live Q&A with the instructor.

Contact

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TELEVISED CONFERENCE - VIDEO CONFERENCE - WEBINAR

SILVER AWARD

2020 FOREST STEWARDSHIP WEBINAR SERIES

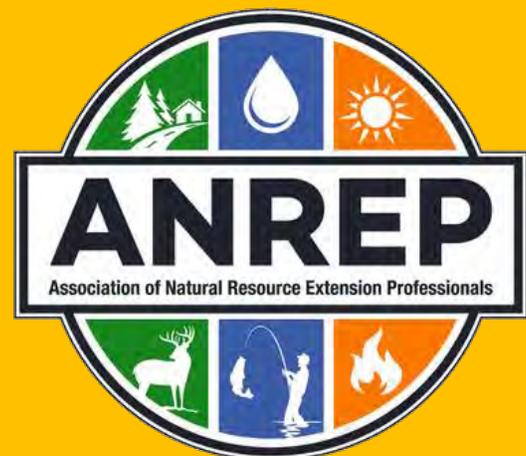
Brendan Whyte and Kevin Zobrist, Washington State University

When the 2020 pandemic hit and all in-person workshops were cancelled, WSU Puget Sound Extension Forestry responded by putting together a spring and summer webinar series to give small forest landowners an outlet for education while being sequestered. A series of 12 webinars on a variety of topics were each offered twice (24 total). Total participation was 5,424 people representing 2,222 unique individuals (some attended multiple webinars), which vastly exceeded expected participation. The webinars primarily reached a new audience, with 74% participating in an Extension Forestry program for the first time. A follow-up evaluation found that the webinars were well-received and there is strong demand for more.

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TELEVISED CONFERENCE - VIDEO CONFERENCE - WEBINAR

BRONZE AWARD

MOVING TO VIRTUAL PROGRAMS: A DISCUSSION WITH NATURAL RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS

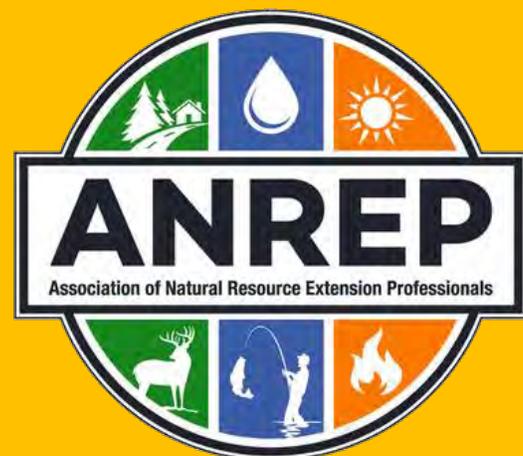
Jennifer Fawcett, Laurel Kays and Robert Bardon, North Carolina State University

The onset of the global pandemic in early 2020 required Extension personnel and other natural resource outreach professionals to quickly transition to virtual platforms to continue reaching their clientele. North Carolina State Extension Forestry (NCSEF) staff recognized a need to share best practices and other information with groups less familiar with conducting virtual events. NCSEF developed and hosted a webinar in July 2020 comprised of a panel of five natural resource professionals from across the country who shared their experiences and lessons learned in moving programs to a virtual platform to assist other natural resource Extension and outreach professionals in adapting to using virtual environments. The webinar reached 462 participants, with 277 participating in the live event and 185 viewing the recording. Evaluation results showed participants had a 37% increase in subject knowledge and that 92% are likely to adopt technology to conduct a virtual event within 12 months.

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WEB SITES, APPS, EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

GOLD AWARD

Shipwrecks and Maritime Tales of the Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail

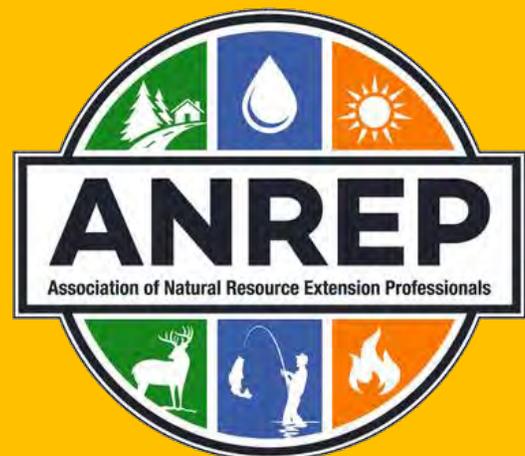
Joe Lucente, Ohio State University

Ohio Sea Grant created a website and interactive kiosks designed to help visitors learn about the many historical, cultural and recreational shipwrecks in Ohio's Lake Erie waters, and to promote coastal tourism and business development. Both products serve to promote cultural and coastal tourism as tools to expand Lake Erie tourism revenues.

CONTACT

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WEB SITES, APPS, EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

SILVER AWARD

Discover Wild Florida

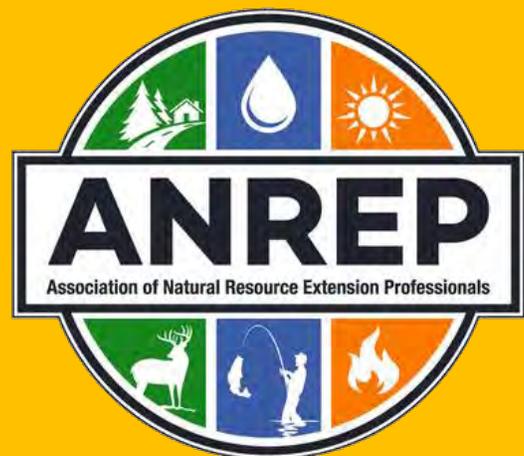
James Stevenson, Julia Myers, Lara Milligan, and Sheree Scheuer from University of Florida

Team is located at an Environmental Education Center situated within an 8,700 acre preserve. Regular guided hikes were offered by volunteers and staff prior to the Center's closure due to COVID-19. In the absence of guided-hikes, staff developed an audio tour to provide similar content received on in-person guided hikes. Staff collaborated to develop the plan for the tour including the number of stops, stop locations, topics, and content. scripts were developed and proofed prior to being recorded as an audio file. Finalized scripts, audio files, GPS coordinates, and images were uploaded to PocketSights for each tour stop. The "Discover Wild Florida" tour includes an introduction and six stops highlighting significant ecological features found along the Education Center trail at the Preserve. Since being uploaded in March 2020, tour stops have a total of 417 plays. Since then, staff conducted a needs assessment showing high demand for additional audio tours.

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WEB SITES, APPS, EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

BRONZE AWARD

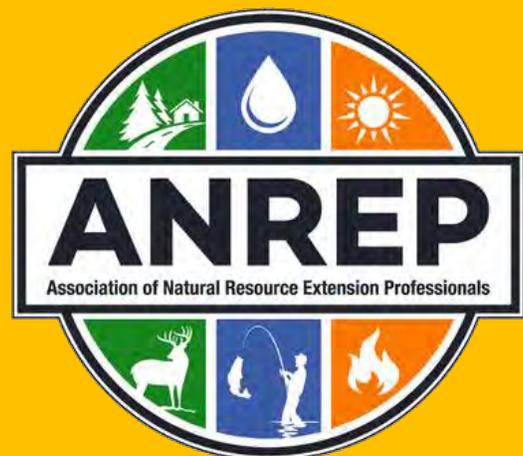
SmartMap Online: Low Cost GIS and UAS Technology for Natural Resource Management

Arnold Brodbeck and Christian Brodbeck from Auburn University

SmartMap is an educational series on using geospatial technologies and unmanned aerial systems (UAS) as tools, to not only improve forest management, but encourage natural resource managers to become more engaged in managing forestlands. The new SmartMap Online builds on past in-person trainings by offering a self-paced educational program with multiple learning modules that guide attendees through the use of smartphones and UAS technology for natural resource mapping. The course reviews available technology, applications and considerations, and provides step-by-step tutorials in using two GIS mapping applications. It also explores UAS technology for both aerial scouting and capturing up-to-date aerial imagery. Since SmartMap's introduction, it has resulted in 21% purchasing technology and 75% believing it will improve profitability. We are optimistic that this technology will improve how forests and landowners communicate and transfer information, as 79% indicated this technology will improve communications and 64% believe it will improve forest management plans.

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ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Achievement Awards recognize exceptional ANREP members who exhibit outstanding leadership and program excellence individually and in teams.

EARLY CAREER

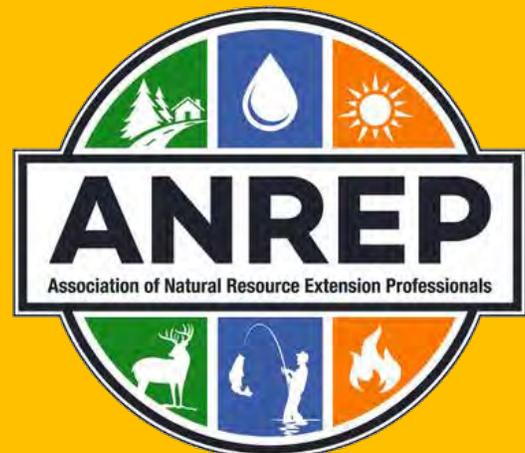
Lenya Quinn-Davidson

University of California

Lenya Quinn-Davidson has shown outstanding leadership in advancing the practice of prescribed fire in her region, California, and across the nation. As the first fire advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCANR), she has kick-started the practices of prescribed fire on private land in California by organizing workshops, the Northern California Prescribed Fire Council, Training Exchanges (TRES), and the first prescribed burn association (PBA) in the west. She developed the first women's TRES to increase female leadership in wildland fire and continues to coach organizers nationwide. She co-founded the Humboldt County PBA which helps landowners build skills in burn plan development, permitting and implementation. She influenced state policy by helping craft successful legislation and joining CalFire's cadre of experts developing the California Certified Burn Boss program. Her success has been demonstrated by adoption and dissemination of practices and extension methods she pioneered throughout California and the west.

Contact

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INNOVATIVE PROGRAM (1/2)

Virtual Ag-Venture Sustains Interest and Participation in Local Agriculture Education

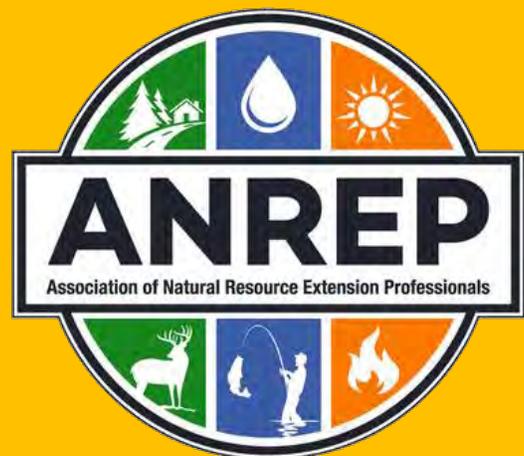
Adrian Bowden, Brandi Yancy, Chanel Campbell, Charles Poliseno, Coley Riley, Eric Cassino, Heather Riley, Jacqlyn Rivas, Judi Whitson, Julia Palaschak, Kerri Lefler, Lisa Meredith, Lynann Hudson, Lynn Barber, Nicole Pinson and Stephen Gran from University of Florida

Ag-Venture is a 2-week, hands-on learning experience designed to teach the importance of agriculture to Hillsborough County 3rd graders. Ag-Venture is held annually at the Florida State Fairgrounds. Its popularity among schools has made it a special field trip for students as they rotate through stations and learn about agriculture and natural resources. Due to COVID-19, in-person school tours for the 2020/2021 school year were cancelled. Team members pivoted quickly to create an innovative curriculum called Ag-Venture in a Box. Ag-Venture in a Box includes links to nine videos and student activities. The program is available virtually October – November, when in-person field trips would normally occur. This program relies on strong public – private partnerships, which include the Hillsborough County Farm Bureau, Florida State Fair, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County, Hillsborough County Schools, nurseries, and small businesses.

Contact

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INNOVATIVE PROGRAM (2/2)

EmpowerU – Empowering Citizens to Engage Decision Makers

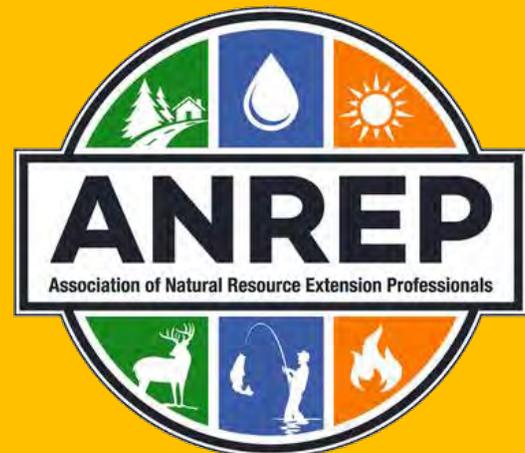
Amanda Tedrow, Amy Rager, Angela Gupta, Emily Dombeck, Gail Epping Overholt, Georgia Peterson, Lauren Grand, Megan Weber, Michelle Prysby, Nate Meyer, and Shelly Johnson.

University of Georgia, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Michigan State University, Oregon State University, Virginia Tech, and University of Florida

EmpowerU is a newly developed flipped classroom curriculum to empower Extension volunteers and participants about invasive species and natural resources issues with decision makers. This program was developed as a result of participant feedback about frustration that decision makers didn't seem to care about issues Extension volunteers worried about. This video: Engaging with decision makers: Becoming a volunteer advocate for natural resource management (<https://youtu.be/uAOBxqtbgVg>, 6:06 minute) offers a short overview of the program that was developed as a seven state partnership over 4 years and now includes both invasive species and natural resource curriculum which are available for free from agupta@umn.edu. Representatives from about 20 states have already requested access to one or both curriculums. More importantly clear on the ground impact of this program is being realized by invasive species removal and policy changes. The Renewal Resource Extension Act funded this project.

Contact

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OUTSTANDING TEAM

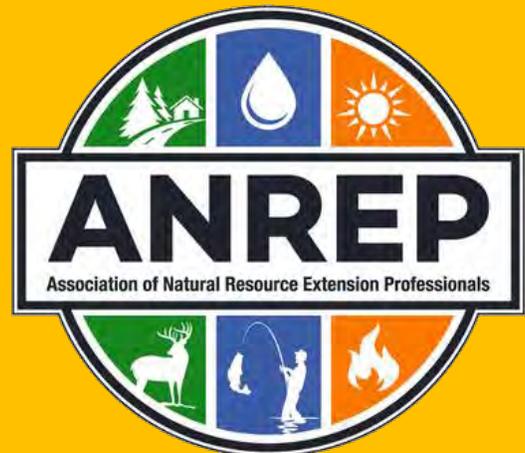
Gardening in the Panhandle LIVE! Team

Adam Dale, Beth Bolles, Carrie Stevenson, Daniel Leonard, Danielle Sprague, Evan Anderson, Gary Knox, Julie McConnell, Julie McConnell, L. Scott Jackson, Larry Williams, Mark Tancig, Mary Salinas, Matthew Lollar, Matthew Orwat, Molly Jameson, Patrick Williams, Ray Bodrey, Sheila Dunning, Stephen Greer, Trevor Hylton and Xavier Martinii from University of Florida

As the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded in 2020, UF/IFAS Extension Agents were unable to perform in-person educational programs and needed an innovative way to reach clientele. Inspired by Agents in south Florida offering “Ask an Agent Anything” online seminars, the Northwest District Horticulture Program Implementation Team (PIT) collaborated to create a similar program called Gardening in the Panhandle LIVE! Each session was a timely topic with knowledgeable panelists based on specialty. Episodes were broadcast using Zoom Webinar and Facebook Live. Recordings were edited with closed captioning for YouTube. Each episode takes 7-9 agents in the following roles: panelists, emcee, Zoom technician, and “behind the scenes” moderators. As the emcee and panelists are answering questions, the moderators are adding resource links to chats, answering pop-up questions, and forwarding potential on-air questions to the emcee. The innovative collaboration created 13 episodes and engaged a total of 956 viewers on various social media platforms.

Contact

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OUTSTANDING REGIONAL COLLABORATOR

North Central Region Algal Bloom Action Team Regional Research Symposium

Amy Weckle, Anne Nardi, Baolin Deng, Dan Devlin, David Kringen, Eugene Braig, Hanna Bates, Jamie Benning, Jennifer Hauxwell, Laura Esman, Lois Wolfson, Melissa Miller, Rebecca Power, and Richard Cruse.

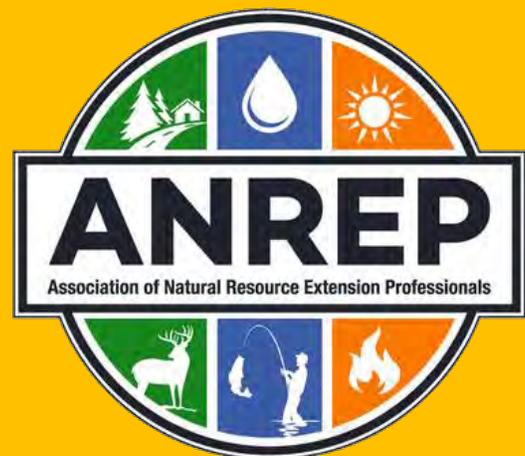
University of Illinois, UW Madison, University of Missouri, KSU, SDSU, Ohio State University, Iowa State University, University of Wisconsin, Purdue University, and MSU

The North Central Region (NCR) Algal Bloom Action Team was formed in 2018 to review Extension programs in the NCR related to harmful algal blooms (HABs) and recommended future HAB outreach. The team is comprised of representatives from Extension and Water Resources Research Institutes at each of the Land-Grant universities within the NCR. After performing a region-wide needs assessment and publishing a report on its findings, the team has been working to make emergent HAB research accessible to agriculture and natural resource educators across the region. The group is working to create HAB webinars, fact sheets, a comprehensive frequently-asked-questions database, and a photo library of HAB images. As part of their work, the team hosted a Virtual Harmful Algal Bloom Research Symposium in January 2021 where more than 890 educators and researchers from across the USA heard the latest HAB research and discussed ongoing outreach efforts.

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JCEP CREATIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD

Ana Zangroniz and Shelly Krueger

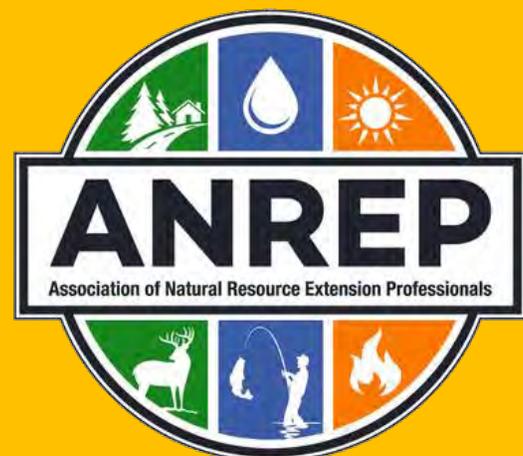
University of Florida

Florida's Coral Reef as an asset value of \$8.5 billion per year and supports 70,400 jobs in Florida. Since 2014, an outbreak of stony coral tissue loss disease (SCTLD) has devastated 26 species of reef-building corals. Because the outbreak is unprecedented in scale and duration, it was vital to increase the underwater monitoring network. Florida Sea Grant (FSG) Extension Agents Ana Zangroniz and Shelly Krueger created an observer training program to engage recreational SCUBA divers to identify and report disease sightings and coral recovery. A SCUBA diver trained by the agents reported the first sighting of SCTLD in the Key West area in January 2019. Now that SCTLD has spread throughout the greater Caribbean, the agents' training materials have been utilized by the US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Turks & Caicos. The citizen science approach is an efficient and cost-effective way to provide data and aid in management decisions.

Contact

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SERVICE TO ANREP AWARD

Darryl Outlaw

University of Georgia

Darryl Outlaw supports ANREP Awards Committee in a yearly basis as the IT service provider, developing all the back-end work on the Website to enter all nomination categories, solving all entries problems reported by ANREP members, setting up and providing access to all judges to evaluate award nominations, and all that in a timely matter, quick response and very professionally. The ANREP Executive Board voted unanimously to present this award to Darryl for his dedicated trajectory and service to the ANREP Awards Committee.

