Heartland Chapter Year-in-Review

August 2024
8/5/24 Paynes Creek family hike - *canceled, hurricane*
8/13/24 - Chapter Meeting - “Creating and Maintaining a Native Plant Meadow in Your Yard” Speaker: Janet Bowers, Heartland Chapter Secretary Location: Lake Wales Train Museum
September 2024
9/4/24 - Alderman Ford hike (led by Janet Bowers)
9/14/24 - Table at 7 Rivers Water Festival, Winter Haven
9/17/24 - Board of Directors Election Meeting - minutes on website Bartow Public Library
9/28/24 - Bok Tower Gardens Conservation Tour with Cheryl Peterson, ticketed event
October 2024
10/2/24 - Bellini Hike
10/8/24 - Chapter Meeting postponed due to Hurricane Milton
10/26/24 - Tiger Creek Preserve Hike - (Janet Bowers)
November 2024
11/2/24 - Munn Park Plant Sale (postponed from October)
11/6/24 - Lakeland Highlands Scrub Hike
11/14/24 - Volunteer work day, Colt Creek State Park
December 2024
12/4/24 - Catfish Creek Hike
12/10/24 - Chapter Meeting - “Planning and Managing Upland Restoration Projects” Speaker: Paul Abel, project manager of The Natives Location: Haines City Public Library
January 2025
1/6/25 - Board meeting - minutes on website
1/8/25 - Volunteer work day, Flip My Florida Yard TV show, Lakeland
1/25/25 - Ranger-led hike at Colt Creek State Park, canceled due to weather
February 2025
2/18/25 - Chapter Meeting - “The Florida Master Naturalist Program and Inaugural Junior Master Naturalist Program in Polk County” Speakers: Candice Knothe and Eric Eversole Location: Circle B Bar Reserve
2/22/25 - Plant sale at Hollis Gardens Lakeland

2/27/25 - Tabling/volunteer- Circle B speaker series, Invasive Species Control Methods
March 2025
Eventbrite account started and updated by Garnet Bailey, New storage facility secured by Sam Igo
3/8/25 - Plant sale at Munn Park downtown Lakeland
3/12/25 - Hike at Bellini Preserve led by Garnet and Janet
3/18/25 - Volunteer workday, invasive species removal at Bok Tower Gardens
3/27/25 - Tour and plant survey of the private Fox Branch Ranch property, lead by Shelly Sherwood (limited to select members)
April 2025
4/2-6 - FNPS annual conference in Gainesville, a few Heartland attendees
4/7/25 - Private Tour of Hollis Gardens, Lakeland (limited to select members)
4/15/25 - Chapter Meeting - “I Eat Flowers (and Other Things): Foraging in Florida” Speaker: Betsy Harris, Location: Studio 37, Mulberry
4/16/25 - Hike at McNeil Tract (Green Swamp) led by speaker Betsy Harris
4/25/25 - Board meeting - minutes on website
4/27/25 - Lake Wales Ridge SF Hike with SF leader, coordinated with other FNPS chapters
May 2025
5/24/25 - Hike at Bellini Preserve lead by Ed Murawski, Past-President Heartland Chapter
June 2025
6/17/25 - Chapter Meeting - “Butterflies and Native Plants: Making the Connection” Speaker: Linda Cooper Location: Lake Wales Public Library
6/28/25 Volunteer day, tree planting at Circle B
July 2025
New promotional materials completed: bookmarks, banner, logo
FNPS Heartland website updated by Janet Bowers with help from FNPS admin, Cherice- logo added to chapter listings, heading added for History/Minutes/Bylaws in the effort to get info online as member resource
7/22/25 - Board meeting