Demonstration Gardens in the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service

Sydney Park Brown, Kim Taylor and Emily Eubanks

University of Florida/IFAS Extension supports a network of demonstration gardens throughout the state. These gardens showcase plants and practices appropriate for their locations and are open to the community free of charge. Learning opportunities abound for home gardeners and landscape professionals on design, planting and maintenance procedures. The gardens typically have interpretative materials available, including signs, brochures and self-guided tours. Many are sites for gardening festivals, workshops and plant sales.

The conception, creation and maintenance of the gardens differ, but each one represents a unique collaboration between the University of Florida and local municipalities, environmental agencies, Florida's nursery industry, plant societies, and/or the Master Gardener volunteer program. Philanthropic donations, memberships and sponsorships provide additional funds for some of the gardens. Most of the gardens are maintained by Master Gardener volunteers under the supervision of county Extension faculty, while some gardens use salaried staff.

Most of the gardens demonstrate the principles of the Florida Yards & Neighborhoods (FYN) program, emphasizing environmentally friendly (Florida-friendly) approaches to landscape design and maintenance. For more information about the nine FYN principles, visit www.SolutionsForYourLife.com/fyn

Listed below by county are the demonstration gardens of the University of Florida's Extension Service. Many are located at county Extension offices or UF/IFAS Research and Education Centers, while others are situated elsewhere in the community.

**Alachua County**

**Alachua County Extension/City of Gainesville Garden**

Westside Park
NW 34th St. and NW Eighth Ave.
Gainesville, FL 32609
(352) 955-2402
http://alachua.ifas.ufl.edu

Archival copy: for current recommendations see http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or your local extension office.
This Florida-friendly, drought-tolerant garden is a joint effort between the City of Gainesville and the Alachua County Extension Office. Located in a city park on the corner of Northwest 34th Street and Northwest Eighth Avenue, the garden is maintained by county Master Gardeners and affiliated with Florida Yards & Neighborhoods (FYN).

**Bradford County**

**Seasonal Butterfly Garden**

Bradford County Extension Office  
2266 N. Temple Ave.  
Starke, FL 32091  
http://bradford.ifas.ufl.edu/

Planted by Bradford County Master Gardeners, the garden allows visitors to observe butterflies in a natural setting and to learn how to attract wildlife to their own yards.

**Figure 2.** Bradford County Extension Seasonal Butterfly Garden

**Brevard County**

**Xeriscape Garden**

Brevard County Extension Office  
3695 Lake Dr.  
Cocoa, FL 32926  
(407) 633-1702  
http://brevard.ifas.ufl.edu

This drought-tolerant garden demonstrates the FYN principles. Completed in 1997, it is maintained by Master Gardeners and the Native Plant Society.

**Broward County**

**Winter Trial Garden**

Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center  
College Ave.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33214  
(954) 577-6300  
http://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu/trial_garden/index.shtml

From November through April, researchers plant new varieties of annuals and evaluate them for commercial growers. Anyone is free to tour the garden when the research center is open.

**Living Lawn Demonstration Garden**

Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center  
3205 College Ave.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33214  
(954) 577-6337  
http://grove.ufl.edu/~turf/living_lawn/index.html

The Living Lawn is a hands-on educational garden that is used to teach homeowners about environmentally sustainable lawn care in south Florida, in cooperation with NatureScape Broward, the Broward County Extension Education Division, and Florida Yards & Neighborhoods.
Charlotte County

Environmental Campus Demonstration Garden

Charlotte County Public Works
7000 Florida St.
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
(941) 764-4340
http://charlotte.ifas.ufl.edu

Organized in 1992, this fenced garden consists of sixteen raised-bed plots maintained by individual Master Gardener volunteers. The garden includes native plants, roses, herbs, pineapples, cacti/succulents, vegetables, perennial peanuts, demonstration grasses and a butterfly plot. The garden gate is open any time for visitors and is regularly staffed by Master Gardeners. The Master Gardeners have an annual plant sale at the garden in December to raise funds for the upkeep of the garden.

Citrus County

Canning Center

Citrus County Canning Center
3405 W. Southern St.
Lecanto, FL 34461
(352) 527-5700
http://bocc.citrus.fl.us/commserv/extension/extension_services.htm

Visitors can stroll through this garden while attending functions at the canning center. The garden uses Florida-friendly principles to attract birds and butterflies, and the on-site herb garden provides Citrus County residents with fresh herbs for use in their own canning efforts.

Florida-Friendly Learning Landscape

Citrus County Extension Office
3650 W. Sovereign Path
Lecanto, FL 34461
(352) 527-5700
http://bocc.citrus.fl.us/commserv/extension/extension_services.htm

The half-acre garden is wheelchair accessible and features a pathway that meanders through a wooded area with a water display and other exhibits. Signs and handouts explain how the garden portrays the nine FYN principles.

This living teaching tool will also include a composting demonstration component and an adapted garden.
Demonstration Gardens in the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service

Figure 6. Citrus County Extension Florida-Friendly Learning Landscape

Figure 7. Mulch Demonstration Area in Citrus County Extension Florida-Friendly Learning Landscape

Homosassa Water District

7922 W. Grover Cleveland Blvd.
Homosassa, FL 34446
(352) 527-5700
http://bocc.citrus.fl.us/commserv/extension/extension_services.htm

The site was developed to attract wildlife using FYN principles and to demonstrate how to screen unsightly areas.

Clay County

Shade Garden

Clay County Extension Office
2463 State Road 16 West
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
(904) 284-6355
http://clay.ifas.ufl.edu

Features include native plants, herbs, a butterfly garden, a demonstration beehive and a demonstration

Collier County

Southwest Florida Horticultural Learning Center

Collier County Extension Office
14700 Immokalee Rd.
Naples, FL 34120
(941) 353-4244
http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu/HomeGarden/HortLearningCenter.shtml

Based on the FYN principles, this garden was developed next to the Collier County Extension Service building to support outdoor educational programs in horticulture, gardening, landscape design and natural resource management. It features smaller theme gardens including a native plant garden, a Master Gardener color garden, a 4-H children's garden, a vegetable/recycle garden, a garden of the senses and a courtyard garden.

Figure 8. Homosassa Water District

wildlife habitat with low-volume irrigation that follows the FYN.

Figure 9. Southwest Florida Horticultural Learning Center

Archival copy: for current recommendations see http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or your local extension office.
Columbia County Demonstration Garden
Columbia County Demonstration Garden
Route 18, Box 720
Lake City, FL 32025
(386) 752-5384
http://columbia.ifas.ufl.edu

Master Gardeners and 4-H youth maintain a mixture of seasonal flowers and vegetables with a hydroponic bed, four raised beds and a trellis system. Microirrigation is demonstrated.
Demonstration Gardens in the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service

**Duval County**

**Mandarin Demonstration Garden**
2892 Loretto Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32223
(904) 387-8850
http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/

Duval County Master Gardeners planted this garden, which incorporates FYN principles and includes native plants, ornamental grasses, a butterfly garden, a perennial bed, a ginger bed and a vegetable bed.

![Figure 15. Native Azalea in the Mandarin Demonstration Garden](image)

**Superior Street Vegetable and Herb Demonstration Garden**
Duval County Extension Office
1010 N. McDuff Ave.
Jacksonville, FL 32254
(904) 387-8850
http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/

Located near the Duval County Extension office, this garden showcases vegetable varieties recommended for the area and highlights various growing techniques.

![Figure 16. Trailing Rosemary in the Superior Street Vegetable and Herb Demonstration Garden](image)

**Escambia County**

**Demonstration and Learning Garden**
Escambia County Extension Office
3740 Stefani Rd.
Cantonment, FL 32533
(850) 475-5230
http://escambia.ifas.ufl.edu/

The Escambia County Extension Horticulture and Master Gardener programs created this demonstration and learning garden as a resource for the community. The garden demonstrates UF/IFAS research-based horticulture practices and features plants that are adapted to the coastal Southeast, including roses, vines, perennials, evergreens, ornamental grasses.

![Figure 17. Entrance to Escambia County Extension Garden](image)

![Figure 18. Grasses in Escambia County Extension Garden](image)
Gadsden County

Trial and Demonstration Gardens
North Florida Research and Education Center
155 Research Rd.
Quincy, FL 32351
(850) 875-7100
http://nfrec.ifas.ufl.edu

The grounds of the North Florida Research and Education Center feature four different types of trial and demonstration gardens: crape myrtle, magnolia, hydrangea and perennial. In each of these gardens, plant varieties are evaluated using a number of measures, including how they perform in the north Florida climate. The crape myrtle garden features more than seventy different cultivars and the hydrangea garden features nearly forty varieties. The magnolia garden emphasizes deciduous flowering magnolias (Japanese magnolia), yellow-flowered cultivars and rare evergreen species, primarily from Asia. The perennial trial garden features new or unusual perennials that may have potential for use in north Florida and the northern Gulf Coast.

Archival copy: for current recommendations see http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or your local extension office.
**Hernando County**

**Demonstration Garden**

Hernando County Extension Office  
19490 Oliver St.  
Brooksville, FL 34601  
(352) 754-4433  
http://www.hernandocounty.us/county_extension/

The Hernando County Extension Office features a small production nursery and a native plant garden teaches visitors to use the right plant for the right place.

**Highlands County**

**Florida-friendly Garden**

Highlands County Extension Office  
4509 George Blvd.  
Sebring, FL 33875  
(863) 402-6544  
http://highlands.ifas.ufl.edu

The landscape surrounding the Extension building features plants that can be successfully grown in Highlands County and is managed using Florida-friendly practices such as microirrigation.

**Hillsborough County**

**Bette S. Walker Discovery Garden**

Hillsborough County Extension Office  
5339 County Road 579  
Seffner, FL 33584  
(813) 744-5519 ext. 146  
http://hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu/  
HomeGardening/Discovery-Garden.html

The Bette S. Walker Discovery Garden is a teaching garden that serves as a living lab illustrating the nine FYN principles. The garden features many non-plant elements including different kinds of pavers and mulches, trellises, containers, lighting, screening, seating and other decorative features such as water elements. Six themed garden rooms include a bird and wildlife habitat, Florida backyard BBQ, sensory garden, Florida-friendly area, Asian influence garden and several water features.
Demonstration Gardens in the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service

Teaching Garden and Arboretum
1200 N. Park Rd.
Plant City, FL 33563
(813) 757-2286
http://gcrec.ifas.ufl.edu/pcc/Gardens/main.htm

The teaching gardens at the UF Plant City Campus (UF) provide a learning center for horticulture and forestry students as well as the general public. More than 250 labeled plant species are displayed. The gardens feature flowering perennials, ornamental grasses, a 90-foot pergola displaying flowering vines, a butterfly garden, a native plant area and a 1-acre arboretum of shade and flowering trees, as well as numerous palms, shrubs and groundcovers that perform well in central Florida landscapes. A demonstration of heritage and low-maintenance roses is planned for January 2008.

Figure 26. GCREC Teaching Garden and Arboretum

Indian River County

Color Garden
Indian River Extension Office
1028 20th Place, Suite D
Vero Beach, FL 32960
(561) 770-5030
http://indian.ifas.ufl.edu/

The gardens at the Indian River Extension Office illustrate different uses of color and texture through plant materials. The gardens are maintained by Master Gardeners and associated with FYN.

Figure 27. Entrance to the IRREC Teaching Garden

Indian River Research and Education Center

Teaching Garden
Indian River Research and Education Center
2199 South Rock Rd.
Fort Pierce, FL 34945
(772) 468-5668
http://irrecenvhort.ifas.ufl.edu/virtualgarden/index.htm

The teaching gardens at the University of Florida's Indian River Research and Education Center (IRREC) were developed as an outdoor teaching laboratory to provide on-site plant collections for hands-on learning activities in support of classes taught at the center. The gardens provide a source for plant identification and contain more than 225 plant species, of which approximately 38 percent are non-native and 62 percent are native to Florida.

Figure 28. IRREC Teaching Garden

Archival copy: for current recommendations see http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or your local extension office.
The Linear Garden

Indian River Research and Education Center
2199 South Rock Rd.
Fort Pierce, FL 34945
(772) 468-3922 ext. 132
http://irrec.ifas.ufl.edu

The Linear Garden may be only three feet wide but it is 2,426 feet long (nearly half a mile), and is therefore affectionately called the Linear Garden. The garden includes approximately 256 different species of trees, palms, shrubs, groundcovers and vines. It was designed to showcase specimen plants and display other common landscape plants used in the south-central Florida region with attention to foliage (type, color and size) and flowers (flowering times and colors) to show how gardens can provide year-round interest regardless of the season.

Figure 29. The Linear Garden

Lake County

Horticultural Learning Center

Lake County Extension Office
1951 Woodlea Rd.
Tavares, FL 32778
(352) 343-4101
http://discoverygardens.ifas.ufl.edu/
tour_our_gardens.htm

The Learning Center is situated on a 4.5-acre site with a one-acre plant evaluation area and a 3.5-acre public garden called Discovery Gardens. The garden includes twenty theme/display gardens, each designed to show a different gardening aspect in central Florida. The gardens feature more than 600 different plants and also demonstrate FYN principles.

Figure 30. Cape Coral-Lee County Public Library

Lee County

Cape Coral-Lee County Public Library

Cape Coral-Lee County Public Library
921 SW 39th Terr.
Cape Coral, FL 33914
(239) 461-7526
http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu

A joint effort between Cape Coral, the largest city in Lee County, and the South Florida Water Management District, the area in front of the Cape Coral-Lee County Public Library entrance was one of six "Florida Yard Makeovers" completed in 2006. The Florida-friendly landscape highlights the natural beauty of native trees and shrubs. The design demonstrates low-maintenance landscaping and water conservation in a formal public setting.

Demonstration Gardens

Lee County Extension Office
3406 Palm Beach Blvd.
Fort Myers, FL 33916
(941) 461-7500
http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu

Four gardens on the Extension office grounds include an herb garden, a butterfly garden, a palm garden and a grape arbor. They are maintained by Master Gardeners.
Demonstration Gardens in the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service

Figure 31. Palms in Lee County Extension Garden

Demonstration Landscape at Cape Coral

Historical Museum

544 Cultural Park Blvd.
Cape Coral, FL 33990
(239) 461-7526
http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu

Constructed by Master Gardeners Warren and Joan Bush and located at the historical museum, the FYN demonstration garden shows Florida-friendly plants attracting wildlife native to coastal areas in southwest Florida. The native plant display, rainwater harvesting systems and burrowing owl artificial burrow demonstrate Florida-friendly landscaping practices that conserve water while preserving the natural history of Cape Coral.

Figure 32. Demonstration Garden at Cape Coral Historical Museum

Demonstration Landscape at Rutenberg Park

Lee County Parks & Recreation Eco-Center and FYN Classroom
6490 S. Pointe Blvd.
Fort Myers, FL 33919
(239) 432-2163 (on-site)
(239) 461-7526 (to schedule a tour)
http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu

Located at a new environmental center (formerly the Rutenberg Community Library), nine environmental learning stations highlight each of the Florida-friendly landscaping principles in an attractive, handicap-accessible and wildlife-friendly way. The nine gardens demonstrate microirrigation, proper fertilizer use and waterfront planting techniques. Master Gardeners lead regularly scheduled on-site tours.

The Fragrance Garden at Lakes Regional Park

7330 Gladiolus Drive
Ft. Myers, FL 33908
(239) 432-2002
http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu

Created and maintained by Lee County Extension Master Gardeners, the fragrance garden has been expanded to include a rose garden and a cactus garden.

Manatee Regional Park

10901 State Rd. 80
Fort Myers, FL 33916
(239) 461-7526
http://leeparks.org

Located near the intersection of Interstate 75 and State Road 80, Manatee Regional Park is a favorite winter viewing spot to see the Florida manatee. The 17-acre, wheelchair-accessible, environmental park has a treasure trove of water-saving and environmental landscaping ideas. Florida-friendly landscaping practices are shown in the context of four native plant communities. In addition visitors will see a butterfly border, a constructed storm-water retention area, a riverine wetland, rosemary-oak scrub and pine flatwood habitat attracting wildlife indigenous to southwest Florida.

Archival copy: for current recommendations see http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or your local extension office.
Demonstration Gardens in the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service

Leon County

Demonstration Gardens
Leon County Extension
615 Paul Russell Rd.
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 487-3004
http://leon.ifas.ufl.edu/

Located on the grounds of the Extension office, this garden emphasizes the FYN principles and uses a range of native and Florida-friendly plants, wildflowers, perennials and vines. An arboretum is being developed.

Manatee County

FYN Demonstration Gardens
Manatee County Extension Office
1303 17th St. W.
Palmetto, FL 34221
(941) 722-4524
http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu/

Developed, planted and maintained by Master Gardeners, these gardens include a beach garden with salt- and drought-tolerant plants, East and West Manatee gardens with plants that do well in these respective locations, a pond garden, a shade garden, a backdoor garden with edibles and a low-volume irrigation demonstration.

Archival copy: for current recommendations see http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or your local extension office.
Marion County

Taylor Garden
Marion County Extension Office
2232 NE Jacksonville Rd.
Ocala, FL 34470
(352) 620-3440
http://www.marioncountyfl.org/AC631/AG_home.htm

Located near the Extension office, this .75-acre garden was created and is maintained by Master Gardeners and includes a butterfly garden, an herb garden, a vegetable garden, an FYN garden and a composting display.

Figure 38. Marion County Demonstration Garden

Mid-Florida Research and Education Center

See Orange County.

Miami-Dade County

North Miami-Dade Regional Library
2455 NW 183rd St.
Carol City, FL 33056
(305) 248-3311
http://miami-dade.ifas.ufl.edu/

FYN staff and local volunteers created a low-maintenance landscape using drought-tolerant shrubs, groundcovers and palms to educate visitors.

Citrus Grove Elementary School
2121 NW Fifth St.
Little Havana, FL 33135
(305) 248-3311
http://miami-dade.ifas.ufl.edu/

FYN staff, Citizens for a Better South Florida, Hands-On Miami volunteers, and staff and teachers from the school planted more than 250 native trees, shrubs, palms, cycads, perennials, grasses and groundcovers to be used by the school in an environmental science curriculum.

Monroe County

FYN Landscape Demonstration Garden
Monroe County Extension Office
1100 Simonton St.
Key West, FL 33040
(305) 292-4501
http://monroe.ifas.ufl.edu/

This FYN demonstration garden at the Monroe County Extension office includes areas highlighting coastal and upland plants, butterfly plants, turfgrasses and groundcovers and mulch types. The garden is used to educate homeowners about landscape plants, proper watering methods, integrated pest management, proper planting techniques and appropriate fertilization practices.
Nassau County

Demonstration Garden

Nassau County Cooperative Extension--Yulee Office
96135 Nassau Place
Yulee, FL 32097
(904) 548-1182
http://nassau.ifas.ufl.edu/horticulture/demogarden/demogarden.html

Established in 2005 by Master Gardeners, the purpose of the demonstration garden is to show examples of best management practices (BMPs) for northeast Florida landscapes, as outlined by Florida Yards & Neighborhoods. The garden also includes a butterfly area that showcases both source and host plants for butterflies. Master Gardeners offer a Butterfly Experience program for school children, as well as maintain the overall garden.

North Florida Research and Education Center

See Gadsden County.

Okaloosa County

Educational Landscape

Okaloosa County Extension Office
5479 Old Bethel Rd.
Crestview, FL 32356
(850) 689-5850
http://okaloosa.ifas.ufl.edu

Installed in 2000, this garden demonstrates the use of underused trees and groundcover plants and is frequently used as a teaching tool for garden clubs, the public, volunteers and 4-H youth. Seminars are conducted for residential, commercial and 4-H audiences to teach correct management practices related to fertilization, watering, pruning and other topics. Local and university trials have been conducted in the trial bed areas demonstrating bog plants, square foot gardening, soil amendments, antique roses, the use of plants to attract butterflies, the use of plants to attract larra wasps for mole cricket control, and the identification and control of invasive plants. The garden was designated as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Federation and was awarded the Florida Master Gardener Award of Excellence for Demonstration Garden in 2002.

Figure 39. Nassau County Demonstration Garden

Figure 40. Leaf Hydrangea in Okaloosa County Extension Office Educational Landscape

Figure 41. Bamboo Muhly Grass in Okaloosa County Extension Office Educational Landscape
**Orange County**

Central Florida Fairgrounds Extension
Demonstration Garden

4603 W. Colonial Dr.
Orlando, FL 32808
(407) 295-3247
http://ocextension.ifas.ufl.edu

This fenced garden is designed with eating in mind, featuring a raised-bed vegetable garden, peach and apple trees, herbs and roses. Master Gardeners maintain the garden and provide guided tours for elementary schools. The garden also features a playhouse.

Mid-Florida Research and Education Center
Teaching Garden

2725 S. Binion Rd.
Apopka, FL 32703
(407) 884-2034 ext. 129
http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu

Approximately one acre in size, the MREC Teaching garden opened in November 2003 to provide UF faculty at the MREC campus with a teaching garden that would allow their students to participate in the design, installation and maintenance aspects of a landscape. Designed by an MREC student, the garden demonstrates the use of hardscaping, water features, pergola, picnic tables and other functional structures. Plant materials include roses, woody ornamentals, turfgrasses, annuals and perennials.

**Osceola County**

Osceola County Master Gardener
Demonstration Landscape and Edibles Garden

Osceola County Extension Office
Osceola Heritage Park
1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane
Kissimmee, FL 34772
(321) 697-3000
http://osceola.ifas.ufl.edu

Maintained by the Osceola County Master Gardener volunteers, this demonstration garden shows how easy it is to have a beautiful garden in Florida. The garden specializes in native plants, butterfly gardening, old garden (heritage) roses, vegetable gardening and tropical plants.
Demonstration Gardens in the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service

Pasco County

FYN Demonstration Garden
Pasco County Extension
36702 State Road 52
Dade City, FL 33525
(352) 521-4288
http://gardeningpasco.ifas.ufl.edu/Plants_Demo_Garden.shtml

This FYN demonstration garden, tended by Master Gardeners, showcases a stormwater management system, rain barrels, microirrigation and different mulches. Butterfly- and bird-attracting plants flourish in the garden, complemented by structures designed to attract wildlife such as ponds, an artificial bog, an old tree trunk and a large arbor with vines. Visitors can see many native plants and monitor their progress through the seasons. The site also includes a daffodil trial garden.

Palm Beach County

Mounts Botanical Garden
Palm Beach County Extension Office
559 Military Trail
West Palm Beach, FL 33415
(561) 233-1751
http://mounts.org

Situated on 14 acres, this garden is the oldest and largest Extension garden in Florida. Founded by Red Mounts, a horticulture agent in the 1950s, the garden did not open to the public until the 1970s. The garden features plants suitable to south Florida and includes numerous types of gardens including gardens for fragrance, light tropical shade, tropical fruits, herbs, native plants, vegetables and potted plants.
Demonstration Gardens in the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service

Figure 48. Daffodils in Pasco County Extension Garden

Hudson Public Library
Hudson Public Library
8012 Library Rd.
Hudson, FL 34667
(352) 521-4288
http://pasco.ifas.ufl.edu/

Designed and created by Master Gardeners in 2006, the Hudson Public Library garden features a mulched path and a garden bench for reflection. Plants incorporated into the garden are designed to attract, feed and provide shelter for the five most common butterflies in west-central Florida. This project was a joint effort between the Pasco County Extension Service, Pasco Libraries and the Pasco Friends of the Library, who helped purchase garden materials.

Pinellas County

The Florida Botanical Gardens
Pinellas County Extension Office
12520 Ulmerton Rd.
Largo, FL 33774
(727) 582-2200
http://www.flbg.org/

Situated on 182 acres that house the Gulf Coast Museum of Art, Heritage Village and the Pinellas County Extension Office, this garden serves more than 50,000 visitors a year. The Florida Botanical Gardens are a collection of diverse plant environments that highlight Floridas natural beauty. Extension Master Gardeners play a significant role in the maintenance of the gardens. Specialty gardens include the Dr. Judy Yates rose garden, a palm garden, a wedding garden, a tropical fruit garden, a bromeliad garden, a cottage garden, a topiary garden, an herb garden, a tropical garden and more.

Archival copy: for current recommendations see http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or your local extension office.
Polk County

**Florida-friendly Landscape Demonstration Garden**

Polk County Utilities  
1011 Jim Keene Blvd.  
Winter Haven, FL 33880  
(863) 519-8677  
http://polkfyn.ifas.ufl.edu

Set in full sun, this garden incorporates xeric principles and shows what plants work best in tough areas. The garden also features a weather station irrigation garden.

Demonstration Gardens

Polk County Extension Office  
1702 Highway 17  
South Bartow, FL 33831  
(863) 519-8677  
http://polkfyn.ifas.ufl.edu

This garden reflects the FYN principles and incorporates native plants, aquatic plants and plants that attract butterflies and other wildlife. All plants are labeled.

St. Lucie County

**Demonstration Garden**

St. Lucie County Extension  
8400 Picos Rd., Suite 101  
Fort Pierce, FL 34945  
(561) 462-1660  
http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/

The grounds of the St. Lucie County Extension office feature a number of distinct garden areas including a nature walk, a salt-tolerant garden, a fern garden, a full-sun garden and a butterfly garden.

St. Johns County

**Demonstration Arboretum**

St. Johns County Extension Office  
3125 Agricultural Center Dr.  
St. Augustine, FL 32092  
(904) 824-4564  
http://stjohns.ifas.ufl.edu/

This one-acre arboretum includes trees and shrubs, daylilies, a hydroponics display garden, a test garden and a small vegetable garden. This garden has FYN affiliation and is tended by Master Gardeners.
Santa Rosa County

Milton Gardens
5988 Highway 90, Bldg. 4900
P.O. Box 3634
Milton, FL 32583
(850) 983-5216
http://wfrec.ufl.edu/milton_gardens/WebMiltGard/index.htm

The Milton Gardens are a combination of teaching, research and display gardens and are a joint effort between UF’s West Florida Research and Education Center, Pensacola Junior College and the Santa Rosa County Master Gardeners. Visitors can immerse themselves in a living classroom where they can identify flowers and shrubs that make up the landscape. The garden includes mixed shrubs and perennials, ornamental grasses, ginger and tropical bulbs, ornamental sweet potatoes, bedding plant trials and a container production area with greenhouses and shade houses.

Figure 55. Milton Gardens

Panhandle Butterfly House
Highway 98 at the foot of the Navarre Bridge
Navarre, FL 32566
(850) 623-6321
http://www.panhandlebutterflyhouse.org

Master Gardeners from three counties created this unique butterfly garden devoted to Florida native butterflies. Open from Memorial Day to Labor Day, this garden shares environmentally friendly gardening with more than 12,000 visitors per year.

Sarasota County

Florida House Learning Center
Sarasota County Technical Institute
4600 Beneva Rd. S.
Sarasota, FL 34233
(941) 316-1200
http://sarasota.extension.ufl.edu

This "Model Florida Yard" is the premier FYN demonstration garden in the state showing environmental landscape management principles in design and maintenance. Staffed by Master Gardeners four days per week, the garden includes wildlife gardening, water gardening, edible landscaping, Xeriscape landscaping, micro-irrigation, composting and plant selections and groupings for particular landscape types in the Suncoast area.

Teaching and Demonstration Garden
Santa Rosa County Extension Office
6263 Dogwood Dr.
Milton, FL 32570
(850) 623-3868
http://santarosa.ifas.ufl.edu

The teaching and demonstration garden at the UF/IFAS Santa Rosa County Extension Office features several themed gardens and displays, including a native garden, a tropical garden, a butterfly garden, an ornamental grass display, an edible landscape display, a vine display and a vegetable garden. It also highlights many types of plants that grow well in northwest Florida.

Figure 56. Butterfly Gardening Workshop at Florida House Learning Center
FYN Demonstration Garden
Sarasota County Extension Office
6700 Clark Rd.
Twin Lakes Park
Sarasota, FL 34241
(941) 861-9886
http://sarasota.extension.ufl.edu

This garden surrounds a "green" office building and features a large cistern and pervious walkways.

Seminole County

Demonstration Gardens at the Student Museum
301 W. Seventh St.
Sanford, FL 32771
(407) 320-0520
http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/coopext/

A joint venture by Seminole County Extension and the Student Museum and Social Studies Center of Seminole County Public Schools, this garden is located on the grounds of the museum. Different themes are illustrated including: herbs, pioneer vegetables, pioneer field crops, historic roses, Florida and southeast native plants, shade gardens, tropical gardens, butterfly gardens, muscadine grapes, perennial and annual flower meadows, ornamental grasses, citrus groves and a raised bed. Maintained by a project team, Master Gardeners, and middle school students involved in a pre-baccalaureate program, this garden services approximately 6,000 students who receive instruction from the Museum staff. The garden was awarded the Florida Master Gardener Award of Excellence for best project in 1999 and certified as a Schoolyard Habitat in 2006. Coming in 2007 is a wildflower garden funded by a grant from the Florida Wildflower Foundation.

Sumter County

Florida-friendly Garden
Sumter County Extension Office
7620 SR 471
Bushnell, FL 33513
http://sumter.ifas.ufl.edu/horticulture.shtml

Located on the grounds of the Sumter County Extension office, this garden illustrates...
Volusia County

Demonstration Garden
Volusia County Extension Office
Volusia County Agricultural Center
3100 E. New York Ave.
DeLand, FL 32724
(386) 822-5778
http://volusia.org/extension/

Primarily a wildlife-attracting garden, this garden is a collaboration of the Solid Waste Department and the Volusia County Extension Service. It includes a range of native plants, a butterfly area, a birdhouse area, a compost alley, a wheelchair-accessible vegetable garden and a deck made from recycled plastic lumber. It is maintained by Master Gardeners and is used for educational programs with school children.

Figure 60. Butterfly Garden in Volusia County Extension Garden

Figure 61. Master Gardeners in Volusia County Extension Garden

Wakulla County

The Master Garden
Wakulla County Extension Office
84 Cedar Ave.
Crawfordville, FL 32327
(850) 926-3931
http://wakulla.ifas.ufl.edu

The Master Garden is composed of a series of smaller gardens that surround the Wakulla County Extension Facility. The gardens were developed by and are maintained by Master Gardener volunteers. Informational tubes allow visitors a self-guided tour that includes access to information about each plant. Additional signs throughout the garden highlight how the FYN principles are reflected in the gardens. The gardens are used for "hands-on" programs with 4-H youths. Upcoming plans include offering demonstrations on food preservation with our Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent. These demonstrations will teach sustainability through production and preservation of various vegetable crops.

Figure 62. Water Garden in the Wakulla County Extension Master Garden

West Florida Research and Education Center

See Santa Rosa County.