

# April 2018 Newsletter



Institute for  
Regional  
Conservation

## Dash Travel Event Was a Success!



Thank you [Dash Travel](#) for hosting a wonderful fundraising event for IRC on April 10th! It was a great opportunity to spend time with our partners, supporters and volunteers and hear from George Gann about IRC's unique history and future endeavors.

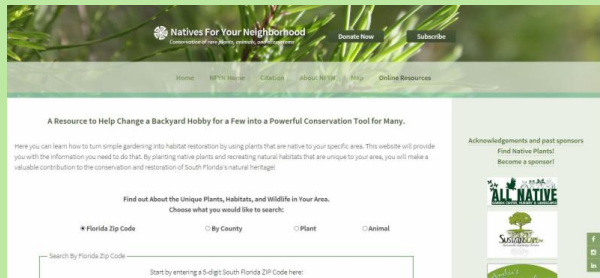
We'd also like to thank all of the local vendors who donated items to our raffle fundraiser!

For more photos from the event, [click here](#).

## NFYN Gets New Update!

We are excited to announce that our Natives for Your Neighborhood website has been updated with a new, more interactive look!

[Check it out here!](#)



## Upcoming Events with IRC

- **April 20 - Lummus Park Volunteer Day.** Kick off Earth Day weekend by helping IRC restore a portion of Lummus Park. For more information, [click here](#).
- **April 28 - George N. Avery Pineland Volunteer Day.** Help IRC restore this pineland by removing invasive ferns and other restoration work at the site. For more information, [click here](#).
- **May 5 - Lake Ida Volunteer Day #3.** Help IRC restore this important greenspace through invasive plant removal, trash pickup, and planting native species. For more information, [click here](#).
- **May 11 - Private Pineland Volunteer Day.** Help IRC restore this pine rockland by removing oyster plants and maintain trails on the site. For more information, [click here](#).

## Other Upcoming Events

- **April 21 - Delray Earth Day Expo.** From 9:30am to 12:30pm, IRC will have their own table at the event with a butterfly-host plant matching game and wildflowers to plant! For more information, [click here](#).
- **May 17 - 28 - FNPS Conference.** Our very own George Gann will be a keynote speaker at The Florida Native Plant Society's 38th Annual Conference! Also, our very own Michelle Smith and Alexander Blochel will have posters up as well as other IRC associates! There

will be a step-by-step landscape workshop offered on Saturday afternoon from 1pm to 3:30pm. For more information, [click here](#).

## Recent Events



IRC participated in the 23rd annual Miami Native Plant Day. Our field biologist, Michelle Smith, promoted conservation, biodiversity and native plants while handing out native wildflower seeds to guests.



Our field biologist, Alex Blochel, led FIU students through a local pine rockland and had them pull and bag non-native plants.



In an effort to minimize US Navy aircraft collisions with endangered species, while also providing additional nesting habitat in the face of rising sea levels, IRC completed the second nesting platform construction this past March. IRC field workers raked pearock to make a ground-level nesting platform at 1.5-2 inches deep.

The platform was constructed for the least terns (*Sternula antillarum*) which are Federally Endangered and Florida state-designated Threatened and for the roseate terns (*Sterna dougallii*) which are Federally Threatened and Florida statedesignated Threatened.



Thank you to everyone who came out to the 2nd Lake Ida Parcel Volunteer Day! Volunteers helped us rake and bag invasive leaf litter to expose the underlying soil, remove invasive plants and pick up trash.

We are thrilled with the progress made so far at the site! Once again, we'd like to give a special thank you to the [Delray Beach Parks & Recreation](#) for all of their help organizing and running the events and to Bill Bathurst for being our wonderful chauffeur!

STAY CONNECTED

