

IRC CONSERVATION WORK AND ONLINE RESOURCES

Presented By: Cara Abbott

Program Manager/

Education and Outreach Coordinator

February 2018

WHO IS IRC?



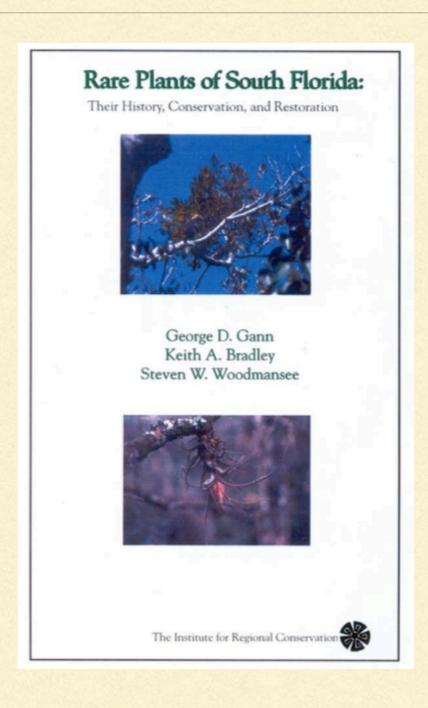
Mission: A private non-profit organization, The Institute for Regional Conservation (IRC) is dedicated to the protection, restoration, and long-term management of biodiversity on a regional basis, and to the prevention of regional extinctions of rare plants, animals and ecosystems.

OUR WORK



- Founded in 1984, IRC promotes an innovative approach to conservation.
- We seek to protect and restore viable populations of all plant and animal species within a region by designing conservation strategies powered by rich, geographically-distributed data.
- This work is especially important in regions of the world where rapid fragmentation of habitats has been experienced, or is expected.

HIGHLIGHTS



- We compiled information online on more than 2,500 species of plants found in more than 400 conservation areas as part of The Floristic Inventory of South Florida.
- We published IRC's critically acclaimed book Rare Plants of South Florida: Their History, Conservation, and Restoration (2002), which emphasized the alarming loss of species in the region and provided detailed species accounts of the rarest 350 species.

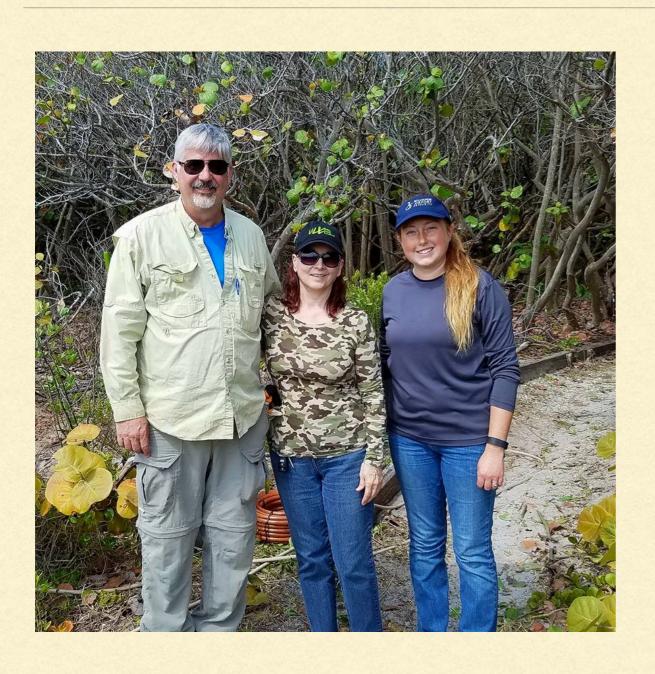
HIGHLIGHTS





- Working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other partners, we have studied and contributed to the federal listing of numerous species of rare plants in Florida, including the Florida bristle fern and sand flax.
- IRC restoration crews have worked with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Department of Defense to eradicate invasive plants on thousands of acres in Florida and the Caribbean.

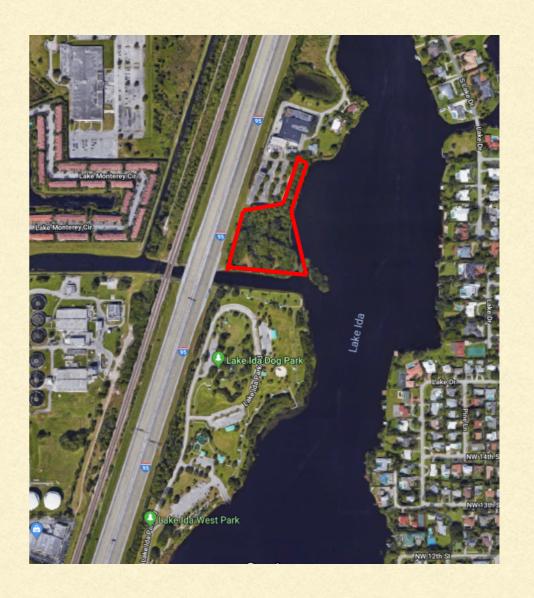
CURRENT WORK



 We are currently working on a wide variety of conservation and restoration projects in Palm Beach County, Miami-Dade County, Monroe County, Sumter County and Collier County.

PALM BEACH - LAKE IDA PARCEL

- Why this site matters: it's an important greenspace that acts as a buffer between 95 and Lake Ida (reducing pollution in the lake, preventing storm water runoff etc.).
- The land was going to be purchased and developed but the City purchased it instead to be a greenspace.



PALM BEACH - LAKE IDA PARCEL

- IRC received a Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties Grant.
- We are working with the Delray Beach Parks Department to restore the "Lake Ida Parcel".
- Restoration will involve removing invasive plant species, planting hardy natives, and picking up trash and debris throughout the site.
 - Six surveys and six volunteer days



Florida scrub frostweed on site.

MIAMI – COASTAL PINE ROCKLAND







MIAMI - COASTAL PINE ROCKLAND

- Project Details: Restoring 50 acres of pine rockland in Miami-Dade County.
- Restoration work includes treating invasives, hardwood reduction, and monitoring threatened and endangered plant species.
- Current restoration sites:
 - George N. Avery Pineland
 - John Kunkel Small Pineland
 - Ned Glenn Nature Preserve
 - Florida City Pineland Preserve
 - Private homeowners with pinelands
- Total Budget: \$219,000 *split between Miami and Monroe





MIAMI - JACKSONVILLE ZOO

- Funding to complete restoration work at Ned Glenn Pineland
- IRC will treat invasives, collect and propagate native seeds using students to grow them, and will conduct pine rockland educational events with the school.
- Total Budget: \$15,000



4th graders of Airbase K-8 School in Homestead FL.

MIAMI - JACKSONVILLE ZOO

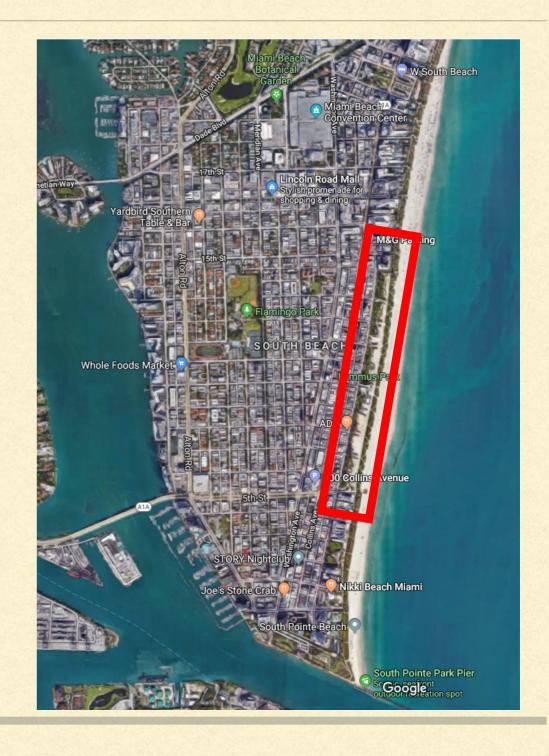
- Hurdles in Making Conservation Work Happen:
 - Issue with access and permission from Schoolboard



Schoolboard pine rockland site in Homestead, FL.

MIAMI - MIAMI BEACH RESTORATION

- IRC will hold two volunteer days aimed at restoring a City of Miami Beach park property through invasive removal, native planting and trash removal.
 - Emphasis on vertical growing native plants
- Events to take place at Lummus Park in April
- Total Budget: \$5,000



MONROE - CROTON

- Project Details: IRC is working with John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park and Crocodile Lake to collect Croton linearis seeds and propagate them. Once they are approximately 12 inches tall, our crew installs them in the pine docklands of National Key Deer Wildlife Refuge in Big Pine Key.
- Total Budget: \$30,000 from USFWS



Croton linearis



Florida leafwing butterfly



Bartram's scrub hairstreak

MONROE - BIRD PLATFORM

- Project Details: IRC constructed and installed nesting bird platforms on NASKW properties to increase nesting of roseate terns and least terns.
 Additionally, IRC staff completed invasive plant treatment on Fleming Key.
- Total Budget: \$94,595.98



Successful nesting and laying by least terns.



Installation of bird platform.



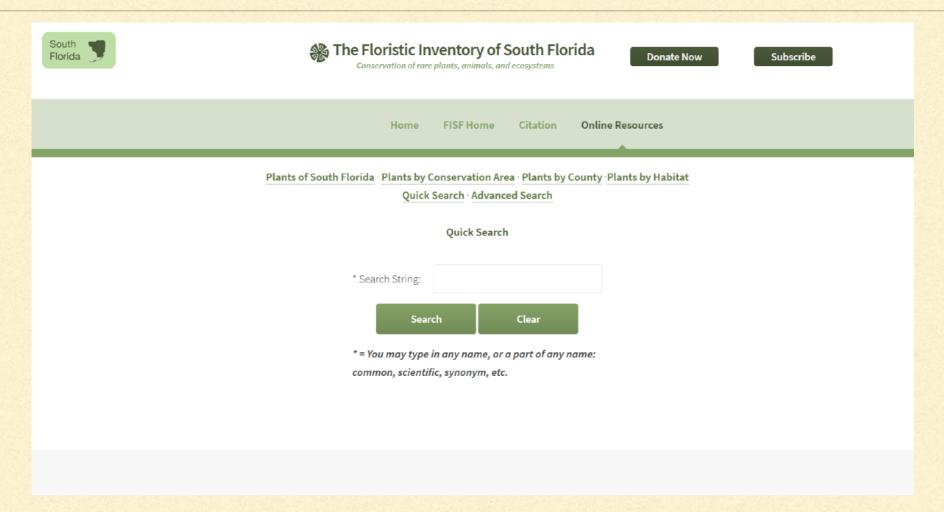
Removal of invasive plant species to benefit bird habitat.

COLLIER - PICAYUNE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

- Project Details: IRC aids in planning/ execution of exotic vegetation management services in the Picayune Strand State Forest. Additionally, we provide documentation for permit compliance.
- Total Budget: \$70,029 from SFWMD

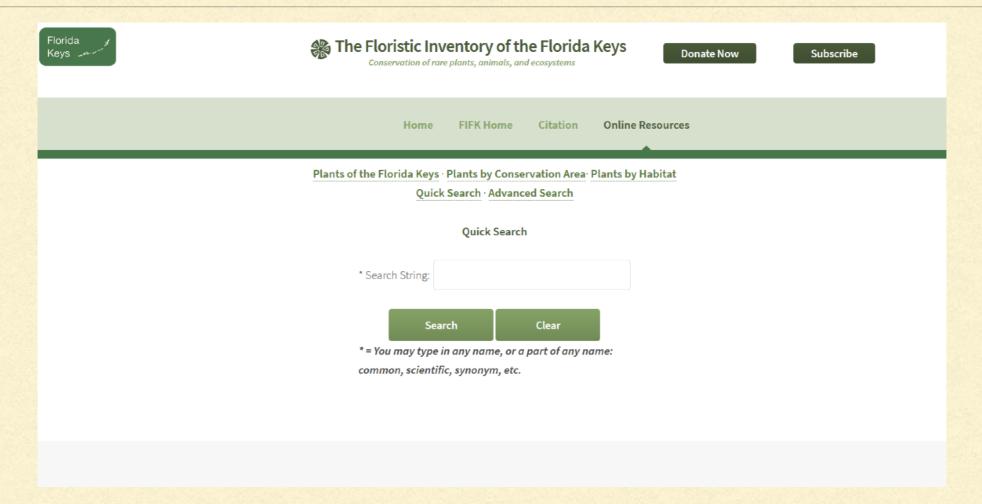


ONGOING - FISF



• Floristic Inventory of South Florida (FISF): provides data on more than 2500 vascular plants in the 10 southernmost counties of Florida. Each species has a plant profile where you can find its legal status, conservation info and more!

ONGOING - FIFK



Floristic Inventory of the Florida Keys (FIFK): provides data on more than 1000 vascular plants in the Florida Keys. Information and images are provided not only on the vascular plants themselves, but on their history of discovery in the Florida Keys.

ONGOING - NFYN

Natives for Your Neighborhood (NFYN): by simply typing in your zip code, you can learn how to turn simple gardening into habitat restoration by using plants that are native to your specific area. Each plant page is full of information from growing requirements, plant characteristics, and wildlife benefits!



WHAT IS A NATIVE PLANT?

- Simply put, a plant that grows naturally in a specific region
- We call something a native if it's natural range includes southern Florida, i.e. here without human involvement
- Not always easy to figure out, so there are a small number of species that we just don't know



Sea oats (Uniola paniculata) – iconic species of Florida beaches, and beaches of the eastern US, Caribbean, and Mexico

WHY PLANT NATIVE?

- Environmental Benefits:
 - Reduce pesticide/fertilizer use
 - Reduce water use
 - Energy savings
 - Support local pollinator populations



Community in Osprey, FL Photo © Russell Sparkman/ Fusionspark Media Inc.

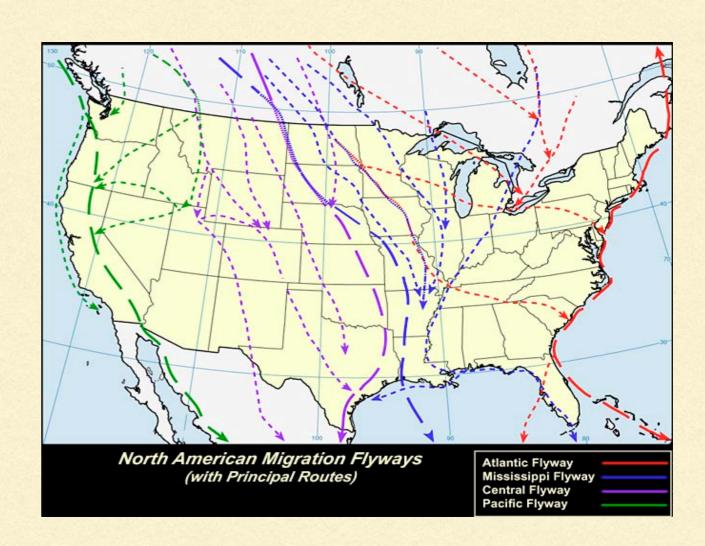
- Conservation Benefits:
 - Creates recognizable habitats
 - Provides connectivity
 - Allows recruitment of native species
 - Watershed recharge, carbon sequestration, other ecosystem services



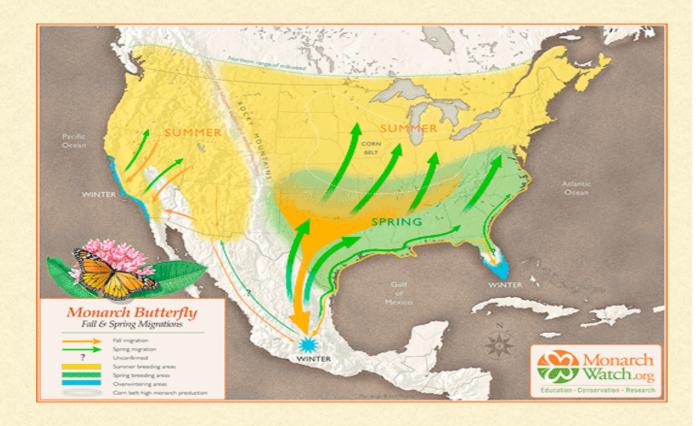
Troy Residence, Miami, FL Photo by George Gann

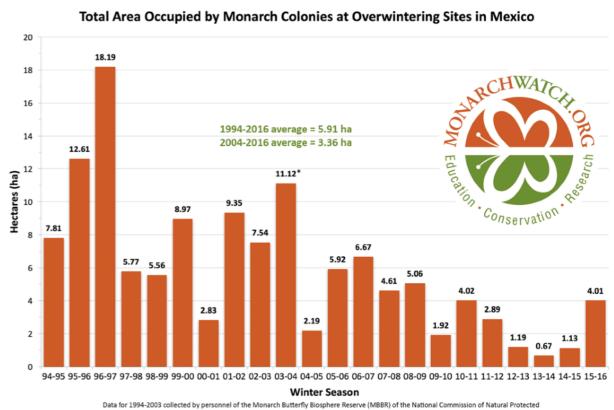
HOMETO 3 MAJOR FLYWAYS

- I) Atlantic coast
- 2) Atlantic Tributaries West
- 3) Mississippi along the gulf coast
- The Atlantic Flyway encompasses some of the hemisphere's most productive ecosystems, including forests, beaches, and coastal wetlands.
- This avian superhighway is utilized by 500-plus bird species and millions of individual birds.



BUTTERFLY MIGRATIONS





Areas (CONANP) in Mexico. Data for 2003-2014 collected by World Wildlife Fund Mexico in coordination with the Directorate of the MBBR.

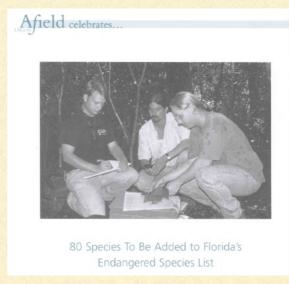
* Represents colony sizes measured in November of 2003 before the colonies consolidated. Measures obtained in January 2004 indicated the population was much smaller, possibly 8-9 hectares. CT



WHY NATIVES FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?



- Free online database
- Data from: Floristic Inventory of South Florida
- Seven years, three plant nerds, one complete database



Premier Issue of Orion Afield (1997)

DIFFERENT LEVELS TO SEARCH



County Lists

- Most generalized species
- Highest ease of success

Zip Code Lists

- Inland zip codes lists include more specialists
- Coastal zip codes generalist species (use habitat)
- Habitat Lists
 - Most specialized









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Find Native Plants!















Wilcox Nursery



Zip Code 33441 search for Native Plants, Habitats and Wildlife

This zip code area lies in the extreme northeastern corner of Broward County. Link to map. Information on strictly coastal plants can be found by viewing coastal habitat data for this zip code area (beach dune, coastal strand, coastal interdunal swale, maritime hammock, coastal berm, tidal marsh, tidal swamp). If your project is near salt water, please check the salt water and salt wind tolerances of the plants you select.

Native Plants

· Click below to obtain a list of native plants that are recommended for 33441, and to see photos and learn more about them.

Whether you are just beginning a new native plant project, or will be introducing native plants into an existing garden, this is the place to find out which native plants are right for your specific area.

Get your plant list for 33441 !

Advance search for plants

Habitats

· You can try your hand at ecological restoration in your yard or project site by recreating a native habitat.

 Click below to view a list of some native habitats for

To take gardening with natives a step further, you can learn about the plant and animal habitats that are native to your area. Here you can also learn more about native habitats and ecosystems, and get a list of plants native to this habitat that are recommended for your zip

Read more about restoring native habitats in our Frequently Asked Questions section, and learn how you can attract wildlife such as birds and butterflies to your yard.

Get your list of habitats for 33441!

Wildlife

 Click the button below to learn about the wildlife that may be expected in your area and what native plants can be planted and habitats created to attract them.

Get your wildlife list for 33441!

Common Nar &



Find Clear

requently asked

SEARCH BY ZIPCODE

- Retrieve lists of plants, habitats, and wildlife native to your area.
- Why by zip code?
- Conservation and wildlife considerations





oin our cmail list

American beautyberry

Callicarpa americana

Verbenaceae

General Landscape Uses:

Accent flowering shrub in residental and commerical landscapes. Also useful in buffer plantings.

Ecological Restoration Notes: A relatively common shrub of forest edges nearly throughout South Florida.

Aveilebility:

Widely cultivated

Medium bushy shrub with arching branches forming a large mound. Leaves coarse, 2-6 inches long,

Dimensions:

Typically 5-9 feet in height. Usually as broad as tall and sometimes

Growth Rete:

Fast.

Renge: Southeastern United States,

Mariyland and Missouri west to Texas and south to the Monroe County Keys; Bermuda, Bahamas and Cuba. Very rare in the Monroe County Keys and perhaps absent south of Key Largo.

Hebitete:

A wide range of terrestrial ecosystems.

limestone or organic soils, usually

with a humusy top layer. Nutritional Requirements: Moderate; can grow in nutrient poor solls, but needs some organic

content to thrive. Salt Water Tolerance:

Low; does not tolerate long-term flooding by salt or brackish water. Selt Wind Tolerance:

Moderate; grows near salt water, but is protected from direct salt

spray by other vegetation. Drought Tolerance:

supplemental water once

High; does not require any established. **Light Requirements**

Full sun to light shade. Flower Color:

Pink or rarely white.

Plower Characteristics: Semi-showy in dense clusters.

All year; peak spring-summer.

Red-purple berry-like drupe, rarely white. Very showy clusters in the leafaxils. All year; peak summer-

Wildlife and Ecology: Provides significant food and moderate amounts of cover for wildlife. Nectar plant for butterfiles. Birds eat the fruits.

Horticultural Notes:

Grown from seed. Clean pulp from seed by rubbing on a paper towel or by placing into a blender with water and then straining. Sprinkle seeds into a pot with 2" or more potting soil. Place in light shade or full sun and keep moist.

This is an excellent and adaptable shrub for nearly throughout South Florida. The attractive purple fruits attract many birds. Periodic heavy pruning nearly to the ground encourages new growth





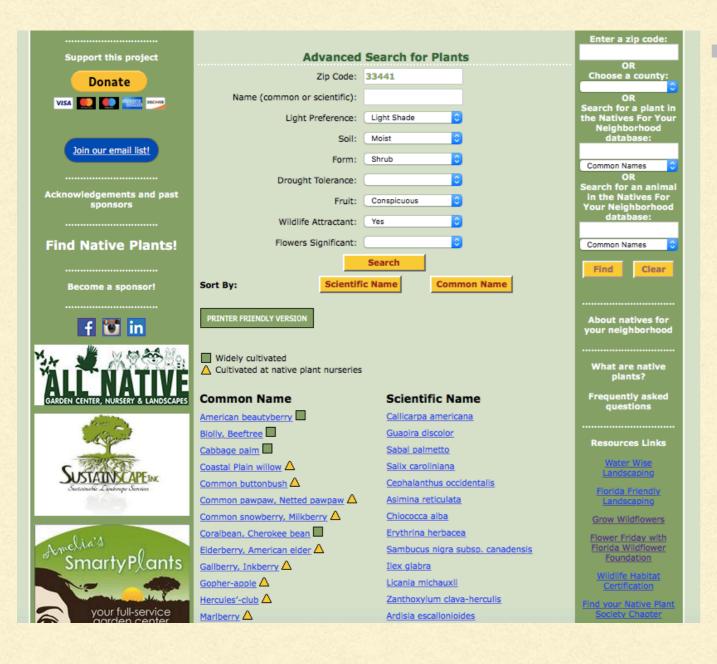




SPECIES PAGE

- How the plant can be used in landscapes and ecological restorations
- Where the plant can be found
- Description, height, growth rate, and range
- Habitats where it is typically found
- Requirements: soil, nutrients, salt tolerance, water, and light
- Flower and fruit descriptions
- Wildlife interactions
- Notes, comments, advice, and caveats

OTHER WAYS TO SEARCH



- Advanced search forms let you find exactly what you are looking for.
 - A wildlife attracting shrub that will grow in light shade and has conspicuous fruits?





CREATE A NATIVE BUTTERFLY GARDEN





Ceraunus Blue on Galactia smallii



Palamedes Swallowtail on Liatris

LEARN MORE ABOUT CONSERVATION

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- Check out our Website!
 - www.regionalconservation.org
- Join our Email List!
 - Link found on our website home page.
- Like us on Instagram!
 - www.instagram.com/regional.conservation



Frogfruit Phyla nodiflora (larval plant for common buckeye butterfly)

QUESTIONS?

- Cara Abbott
- 305-304-6610
- <u>abbott@regionalconservation.org</u>
- www.regionalconservation.org
- www.facebook.com/regionalconservation

