

## Naples Botanical Garden – Scrub Tour

Date: **Saturday**, January 15, 2011

Focus: **Botany**– This field trip will focus on the wildlife, habitat and ecology of the area visited and is NOT primarily a birding field trip.

Field Trip Description: Join us for this special opportunity to observe one of Florida's most endangered ecosystems, almost in the heart of Naples, at the newly expanded Naples Botanical Garden. This field trip will focus on exploring the Vicky C. and David Byron Smith Uplands Preserve and scrub trail in the Naples Botanical Garden. The uplands and scrub trail meanders through a dry and sandy habitat. Because scrub is typically dry most of the year it was traditionally seen as "prime for development". As Florida's population grew, the number of remaining undeveloped scrub habitats shrank. Plants and animals need special adaptations to live in this often hot and dry ecosystem and the specialized adaptations required to live in this now rare habitat will be discussed. Tour participants may encounter a gopher tortoise or spot its burrow.

**We will walk approximately 2 miles** on sidewalks, uneven ground and sand from the Visitor's Center through the Garden to the Uplands Preserve trail and back. Please take note of the walking distance. Cost of the trip includes all-day access to the Garden.

Maximum Group Size: 15

Time Begin: 8:00 am

Time End: 10:00 am

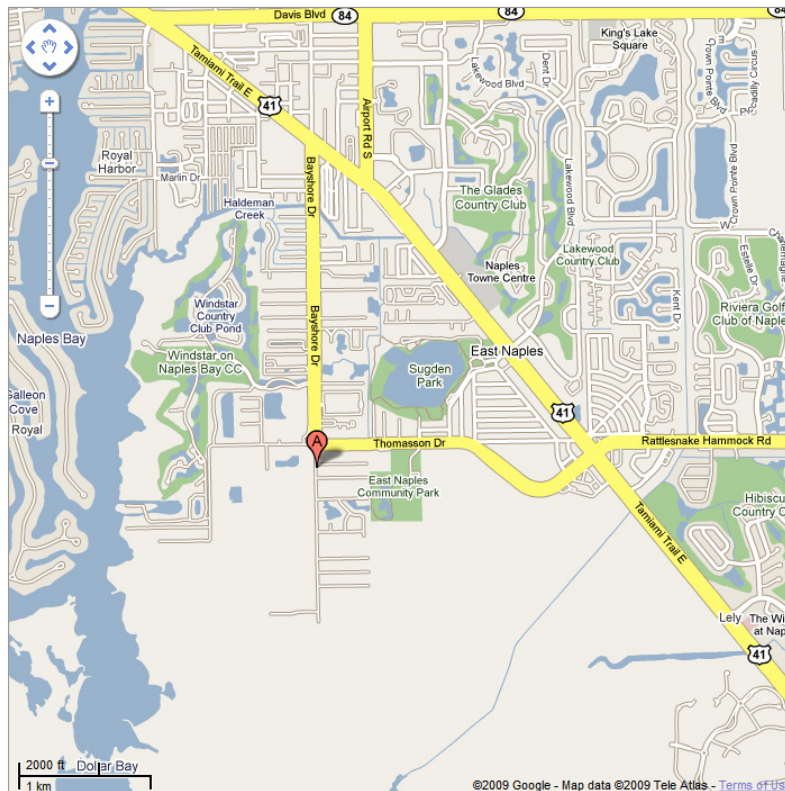
Where to Meet: Meet at **7:45 am** in the **Naples Botanical Garden** parking lot.

Directions to Meeting Place: The Naples Botanical Garden is located at **4820 Bayshore Drive**. The Visitor's Center is the single story coral-colored building that you will see straight ahead as you come in the main entrance. Please park in the main parking lot and meet in front of the Visitor's Center. You will enter the Garden through a side gate because the Garden will not be open to the public at the start of the tour.

From Naples: Take Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41) South to Bayshore Drive. Turn right (south) onto Bayshore Drive. The Garden is located at 4820 Bayshore Drive. Please park in the visitor lot.

From Rookery Bay: Take Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41) North to Thomasson Drive. At the intersection of Bayshore Drive and Thomasson Drive, you will see a large stone wall with the Garden's name, turn Left/South onto Bayshore Drive. The Garden is located at 4820 Bayshore Drive. Please park in the visitor lot.

## Map



Trip Leader: This trip will be led by Eric Foht, Natural Areas Manager and Taylor Walker, Natural Areas Gardener, of the Naples Botanical Garden.

Field Trip Cost: \$20

Additional Information: There are bathroom and water facilities available at the Naples Botanical Garden. Handicap access to the trail is limited due to the sandy nature of the trail. This tour is a walking tour covering approximately 2 mile over paved and unpaved, sandy, or uneven terrain.

What to Bring: Please bring a sense of curiosity, binoculars or hand lens, water, sunscreen, insect repellent and a plant field guide (if you have one).

What to Wear: Comfortable walking shoes appropriate for walking on sandy trails, clothing appropriate for the weather, long sleeved shirt and long pants if you are susceptible to insect bites (typically not too buggy in January), sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat.

Web: [www.naplesgarden.org/](http://www.naplesgarden.org/)

Revised: 10/12/2011

