

Birders support – We strive to create an excellent set of activities in support of basic birding in Flagler County. Once a month we hold a Program Meeting anchored by a presentation of local birding and wild-life interest. Each month we run a ¾ day bird based field trip to an area of major importance within reasonable driving distance. Once a month we also conduct a expert led bird walk around the best birding sites in Flagler County. All events (programs, bird walks and field trips) are open to Flagler Audubon members and guests. We also maintain a bird sightings database on eBird (see <http://eBird.org>)."

Bird/Wildlife Surveys – We support the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, Audubon Backyard Bird Count, Annual Shorebird Survey, and the Annual Jay Watch Program. In addition, we participate in monthly wildlife surveys at North Peninsula State Park and Gamble Rogers Memorial State Recreation Area. And this year, we will begin contributing information to the Matanzas River Basin Species Inventory.

Festival support – We provide Audubon support (brochures, booths...) for local events such as Earth-day at Washington Oaks Gardens State Park and Creekside Festival at Princess Place Preserve.

Education support – We provide support to young birders either through Audubon Adventures or more direct involvement with schools and local nature groups.

Birding trails and preservation of habitat – We champion the creation of new birding trails in Flagler County (e.g. the Great Florida Birding Trail at St Joe Walkway/Palm Coast Linear Park) and assist in the documentation of bird and plant species that may be seen on these trails.

BIRD WALKS

Sat, Oct 3
Sat, Nov 14
Sat, Dec 12
Tue, Jan 5

Sat, Jan 23
Fri, Feb 5
Sat, Mar 13

Sat, Apr 3
Sat, May 8

Washington Oaks
St Joe Walkway
Gamble Rogers Survey
Princess Place Preserve - Evening Owl Prowl (see web site for details)
Matanzas Inlet
Annual Shorebird Count
Western Flagler County (drive)
Lehigh Trail
Annual Picnic - Princess Place (Bird Walk 9:30 am/picnic 10:30 am)

Except where noted, meet at 8:00 am at bird walk location.

FIELD TRIPS

Sat, Oct 10
Sat, Nov 21
Fri Dec 18
Sat, Jan 16
Sat, Feb 20
Sat, Mar 6
Sat, Mar 20
Fri, Apr 9
Sat, May 1

Fort George/Kingsley Plantation (meet at 7:15 am in Kingsley Plantation parking lot)
Shiloh Marsh/Merritt Island NWR (meet at 8:00 am in Winn Dixie Shopping Center, SR 100)
Christmas Bird Count
Orlando Wetlands (meet at 8:00 am in Winn Dixie Shopping Center, SR 100)
Scrub-jay Festival at Lyonia Preserve (meet at 8:00 am in Winn Dixie Shopping Center, SR 100)
Kanapaha Gardens (meet at 8:00 am in Winn Dixie Shopping Center, SR 100)
Lake Woodruff NWR (meet at 8:00 am in Winn Dixie Shopping Center, SR 100)
Tiger Bay Forest (meet at 7:30 am at intersection of US 92 and I 95)
St John River Boat Trip (meet at 8:00 am in Winn Dixie Shopping Center, SR 100)

Please check Flagler Audubon web site for additional bird walk and field trip details.

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP:

Savannah, Georgia

Last year's overnight trip to Corkscrew Swamp was a great success with over 100 bird species spotted. This year we are aiming to do even better with a Valentine's weekend (**Feb 12 and 13**) trip to Savannah, Georgia. We plan to visit Harris Neck, Tybee Island, Fort Pulaski and Savannah NWR. Accommodations will be either in downtown Savannah or camping in Ft McAllister or Skidaway Island. Contact a board member to reserve your place.

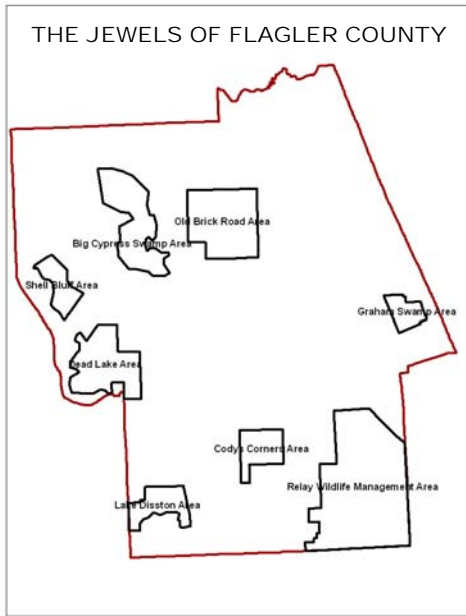
MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING

PROGRAMS

Oct 1 Washington Oak's Warblers - Joe Woodbury
Nov 5 Bird wood carving - Joe Dziak, Noel Schomberg and Bart Larose & Christmas Bird Count - Walt Mahler
Dec 3 "Best of Us" Bird photos and travel ideas from our members also a pot luck holiday social
Jan 7 Pelagic Birds seen from the shore - Michael Brothers
Feb 4 Beach combing "Not just for sea shells" - Maia McGuire
March 4 Whooping cranes - John Canter
April 8 Birds of Prey Presentation - Falcons and Hawks at Bunnell Elementary School (6:30 pm)
May 8 Picnic at Princess Place 10:30 a m (bird walk 9:30 a m)

Except where noted, all programs other than the annual picnic will be held on the first Thursday of the month in the meeting rooms at Florida Hospital Flagler on SR 100 just west of I95. Meetings start at 6:30.

The Jewels of Flagler County 2009 Status Report



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We would like to thank Florida Power and Light for their generous support in the production of this publication.

In the summer of 2006 when our county was tagged the fastest growing in the nation, Flagler Audubon Society sought to identify environmentally fragile areas within the county. The following year, eight regions emerged as the "Jewels of Flagler County". These environmentally sensitive lands were deemed relatively unprotected and it was determined that there existed a need to monitor the areas for threats to the natural stability and health of the lands.

Promoting a balance between natural resources, wildlife conservation, economic productivity and development is paramount to the program's intentions. Flagler Audubon Society hopes to establish cooperative partnerships between homeowners, city and county government agencies, and other environmental organizations to serve as stewards to these Jewels of Flagler County and the corridors that allow wildlife to pass between them..

Seven of Flagler County's Jewels lie west of US 1: Lake Disston area, Cody's Corner area, the Relay Wildlife Management Area, Dead Lake area, Shell Bluff area, Big Cypress Swamp area, and the Old Brick Road / Three Lakes area. The eighth county Jewel is the Bulow Creek/ Graham Swamp area.

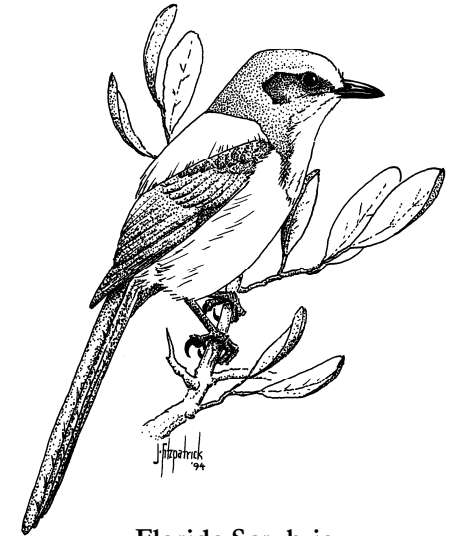
Flagler Audubon Society is working with city leaders and planners to ensure that protection for the Jewels and corridors is built into any revisions of the comprehensive plans; to ensure that the Jewels framework is used as one of the driving principles behind future ESL purchases; and that developers are made aware of the need to produce eco-friendly proposals when they propose development in areas that impact the Jewels. Flagler Audubon is working with Audubon of Florida to recommend Audubon approved guidelines for development.

So far progress is promising. We are actively engaged with the developers of the Three Lakes Project and we are confident that their next proposal will contain major investments in green development. For the Bulow Creek Jewel we have made presentations to the Palm Coast City Mayor and the Planning Groups with good results but so far have not seen any movement from the developer. See our web site for ongoing updates on this vital program.

FLAGLER AUDUBON SOCIETY

2009-2010

Connecting people with birds and other wildlife in their habitats and taking a leadership role in preserving and restoring diverse ecosystems.



Florida Scrub-jay

WEB SITE:

**www.flaglerlibrary.org/audubon/audubon1.htm
(just Google Flagler Audubon)**

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Please send us your email address for program and field trip updates.