

Educating with Extension



By Brynn Morey, Extension Coordinator, and in collaboration with Alicia Betancourt and Shelly Krueger

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JUNE HAPPENINGS



Hurricane Season Begins
National Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Month
Pride Month



June 1st
World Reef Awareness Day!

June 5th
World Environment Day!

June 8th
World Oceans Day!



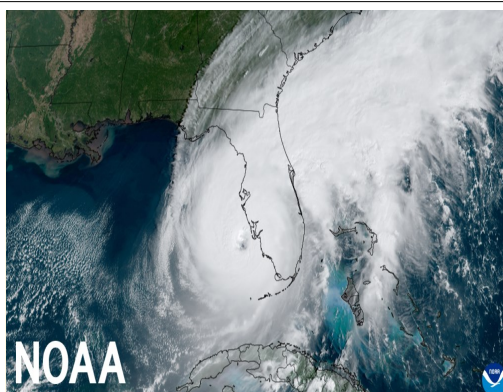
June 18th
National Go Fishing Day!



June 19th
Juneteenth!!
All County offices closed.



June 19th to 25th
National Pollinator Week



Hurricane Season 2023: Stay Aware, Be Prepared, and Have a Plan!

By Chip Kasper,
NOAA /Florida Keys
National Weather
Service

For many in the Florida Keys, island living is paradise. However, that paradise comes at the price of coping with occasional visits by tropical storms and hurricanes. Staying aware, being prepared, and having a plan during hurricane season will bolster your resilience, and may save your life.

Staying aware means more than monitoring weather; it also means knowing your risk. Each hurricane brings particular hazards with which you must contend: storm surge flooding; violent and damaging winds; blinding and flooding rain; fast-developing and rapidly moving tornadoes and waterspouts; and powerful waves, surf, and currents. How vulnerable are you, your family, or your business to each of these hurricane hazards? Do you know the elevation of your residence or business? What kind of roof do you have? Do you or a member of your family require special medical needs?

Exploring the answers to these questions will help you assess your vulnerability and risk to the various hurricane hazards. Armed with such knowledge, you then may take action by planning, preparing, and helping others in your community, whether you live, work, or play on a boat, visit half the year, or reside year-round. Time invested in “staying aware” and “being prepared” will be time well spent.

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Plant Clinics

Thursday, June 1st

Plant Clinic

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Key West Garden Club
1100 Atlantic Blvd.
Key West

Saturday June 3th

Plant Clinic

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Grimal Grove

258 Cunningham Lane
Big Pine Key

Wednesday, June 7th

Plant Clinic

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Key Largo Library
1014850 O/S Hwy.
Key Largo

Saturday, June 17th

Plant Clinic

9 a.m. to Noon

Marathon Home Depot
4555 O/S Hwy,
Marathon

Saturday, June 20th

Plant Clinic

9 a.m. to Noon

KW Botanical Garden Nursery
Cancelled, will resume in
November

Tuesday, June 20th

Plant Clinic

9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Garden Club of Upper Keys
94040 O/S Hwy.
Tavernier

Thursday, May 22th

Plant Clinic

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Island Home Nursery
88720 O/S Hwy,
Islamorada

Sea Grant News



Shelly Krueger
UF/IFAS Florida Sea Grant Agent

Shelly recently accomplished the following activities:

- Shelly taught 15 incoming captains and the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) Teams at the Boy Scouts of America at the Sea Base about barotrauma and the new descending tool requirements, how to report new lesions from stony coral tissue loss disease and other coral diseases to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection at SEAFAN.net, as well as the 12th season teaching Florida Keys Water Watch. These Sea Base educators teach hundreds of boy scouts and girl scouts every summer during weeklong immersive overnight camps on Summerland Key.



- Shelly co-taught 16 Florida Master Naturalist students in Marine Habitat Restoration. Field trips included snorkel at Looe Key Reef and kayaking the backcountry. Students were thrilled to see Caribbean reef sharks, Goliath grouper, and of course – sponges! These students came from all over Florida, and several had never snorkeled before or seen a coral reef in real life!

- Shelly taught the Key West Sustainability Advisory Board and public at City Hall about updates to the 2023 sargassum season.
- Shelly led the 2023 Florida's Disturbance Response and Recovery Workshops for the communication and outreach team at Nova Southeastern University. This workshop brought together leadership from Florida state agencies and non-profits from all 9 teams of the Florida Coral Disease Outbreak Response and were focused on pivoting away from the exclusive focus on stony coral tissue loss disease to a holistic response to Florida's Coral Reef conservation and recovery.

The Environmental Horticulture Program and Master Gardener Volunteers remain dedicated to helping you with your plant related questions.



CALL OUR OFFICE:
(305)292-4501

We have many different ways we can assist!

VISIT OUR OFFICE:

Email Monroe@ifas.ufl.edu or
Call (305)292-4501 to schedule an appointment

EMAIL YOUR QUESTIONS TO:
mastergardener@monroecounty-fl.gov

Please include a detailed description of the problem and photos if available

FACEBOOK PAGE:

Visit our Facebook page for updates, requests, information and so much more!

<https://www.facebook.com/MonroeCountyExtension>



Horticulture News



Maria Quirico
UF/IFAS Environmental Horticulture Agent

Maria recently accomplished the following activities:

- Maria is currently engaging in various activities and interactions to contribute effectively and connect with the community. She is actively participating in plant clinics at different locations, including Key Largo, Marathon, Grimal Grove, and Islamorada. These clinics are attended by a total of 30 participants, where Maria shares valuable insights and provides guidance on plant care. She is also conducting office consultations at the Plantation Key office, assisting one individual with specific pest-related concerns.



- Maria is attending advisory meetings with colleagues, including Alicia Betancourt, Brynn Morey, Anita Neal, Wendy Wilber, and Jennifer Pelham. These meetings involve discussions on program objectives, professional evaluations, and mentoring relationships.

- Maria is conducting site visits, which include tours of Grimal Groves and Key Largo Garden Club and Key West Garden Club facilities. She is also exploring the Butterfly display Gardens and attended the Bicentennial Sunset Celebration of Monroe County, enhancing her knowledge and networking with other professionals.



Extension Director's News

Alicia Betancourt
 UF/IFAS Family and Community Development Agent and
 Monroe County Extension Director

Alicia recently accomplished the following activities:

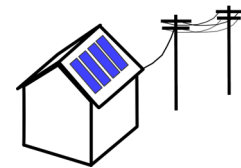
- Alicia is preparing presentations for both the Marathon library summer series and the S.O.S. Foundation summer nutrition education programming which begins next week at the Key West and Big Pine Boys and Girls Clubs.



- Alicia is working to gather stakeholder input for the Florida Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP) 2023 update. The Florida SHMP is designed to reduce death, injuries, and property losses caused by natural hazards in Florida. Implementation of planned, pre-identified, and cost-effective mitigation measures not only helps reduce loss to life, property, and the environment, but also streamlines the disaster recovery process. The Florida SHMP has been migrated to a website. The new FL SHMP website replaces the 2018 SHMP, to provide a more user-friendly tool for local stakeholders and the public. An important component of the update process is gathering stakeholder and community input via a survey. The feedback will directly aid in improving the quality of the website and plan. FL SHMP Website Link: <https://flshmp-floridadisaster.hub.arcgis.com/>



- Alicia continues to work with Solar United Neighbors of Florida and has helped to launch the Florida Keys 2023 Solar Coop. Find out more at SolarUnitedNeighbors.org/Keys



Continued from page 1

Here are some excellent sources of information to stay aware, be prepared, and have a plan during this hurricane season:

NOAA/Florida Keys National Weather Service:
weather.gov/key

NOAA/National Hurricane Center:
hurricanes.gov

Monroe County Emergency Management:
monroecountyem.com

Florida Division of Emergency Management:
floridadisaster.org

U.S. Coast Guard: atlanticarea.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/District-7/Hurricane-Preparedness/

City of Key West:
cityofkeywest-fl.gov

FEMA:
ready.gov



(photo above) 2023 NOAA Cyclone Names List

Hurricane Trivia: What was the first named storm ever recorded in US History?

Answer: 1947 Hurricane George

Be sure to "Like" us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)!



UF/IFAS/MONROE COUNTY EXTENSION

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 County Extension Director: Alicia Betancourt
 Newsletter Editor: Brynn Morey, Extension Coordinator

This newsletter can be accessed online at:
<http://monroe.ifas.ufl.edu/newsletter.shtml>

We're on the Web at: <http://monroe.ifas.ufl.edu>



University of Florida (UF)
<http://SolutionsForYourLife.ufl.edu>
<http://ufl.edu>
 Electronic Data Information Source (EDIS)
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>



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 Putting Florida First

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<https://ics.ifas.ufl.edu/ufifas-diversity-and-legaleeo-statements/>

UF/IFAS/MCES QUARTERLY CONTACTS

	Mar	April	May	Totals
Phone calls	34	57	28	119
Office visitors	5	4	42	51
Email Consultations	59	113	48	220
Learning events	15	16	18	49
Participants	314	672	291	1,277
Media submissions	4	2	3	9
Publications distributed	128	128	183	439
TOTAL contacts	559	992	613	2,164

SUSTAINABLE LIVING SERIES
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LEARN HOW YOU CAN LIVE & LEAD A MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE.

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- You will delve into the U.S. economy and understand how our consumption of goods impacts our world.
- You will discover ways to take action in your home and community to reduce your footprint and increase your handprint.
- You will learn how people across the country are making a difference for their communities.
- You will earn a digital badge when you complete the course.

These institutions are committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations such as sign language interpreters and listening devices, please contact Linda Seals, lseals@ufl.edu, 321.474.3748 at least 2 weeks in advance. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.

The Sustainable Living Series meets ONLINE weekly on Wednesdays from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM EST.
 September 13, 20, 27 and October 4, 11, 18, and 25.

CLASS FEE: \$125

A limited number of scholarships are available.
 Apply here:
<https://tinyurl.com/bdeatndf>

For additional information or registration questions, contact Linda at lseals@ufl.edu



New Environmental Horticulture Agent, Maria Quirico, teaches visitors to the Marathon Home Depot plant clinic and Master Gardeners all about citrus & diseases.