

ECO EVENTS



BROUGHT TO YOU BY TREE HILL NATURE CENTER

June was made for Eco Events! It's Great Outdoors Month. It's also Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month (check out the new farmers markets below) and National Rose Month. June 5 is World Environment Day, and the fourth week of June is National Camping Week.

Farmers Market News – There are two more farmers markets in town now! **The Farmers Market of San Marco** takes place every Saturday from 8:30 am-2 pm at the corner of LaSalle and Hendricks behind Regions Bank. **King Street Farmers Market** opened in May and happens every Wednesday from 11 am-2 pm in the lot next to Riverside Market Antiques & Interiors.

June – “Like” Tree Hill on Facebook (www.facebook.com/TreeHillNatureCenter). Throughout June, they are offering a buy one, get one free general admission coupon on their Facebook page!

June and July – Looking for a romantic, eco-adventurous activity or a great summer educational opportunity for the kids? The Georgia Sea Turtle Center offers twice-a-night **Evening Turtle Walks** beginning at 8:30 and 9:30 pm. A 30-45-minute presentation about the natural history of sea turtles is followed by an hour-long guided beach search for a nesting turtle. The cost is \$12 for non-members and \$6 for members (not including admission to the GSTC - see website). Children must be at least four years old; anyone under 18 must be with an adult. Advance registration is required; call 912-635-4444. For more information, visit www.georgiaseaturtlecenter.org.

June 2 – **The Girls Gone Green premieres** at 11 pm on CW17's *I Know Jax*. They will cover stories that embrace a green and healthy lifestyle. Tune in every Saturday night!

June 9 – The Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve presents a bounty of activities throughout June. Join them from 8:30-10:30 am for the **Second Saturday Trail Walk**. The whole family will enjoy this 1.5-mile guided walk through Guana Trail. There is a \$3-per-vehicle parking fee. Reservations are requested; call 823-4500 or go to www.gtmnerr2ndtrailhike.eventbrite.com. Meet at the Trailhead Pavilion at 505 Guana River Road and wear comfortable, closed-toe walking shoes. For more fantastic events at GTMNERR, visit www.gtmnerr.org/index.html.

June 9 – Tree Hill Nature Center presents **Watercolor in the Woods** at 1 pm. Join local artist Shellie Thies as she teaches basic watercolor technique. Participants will paint their very own watercolor masterpiece outside. This Second Saturday program is \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers, which includes admission to Tree Hill! Workshops are limited to 25 people on a first-come, first-served basis the day of the program, so register online at www.treehill.org to reserve your spot! Wear comfortable, weather-appropriate clothing; closed-toe shoes are recommended. Also, contact Tree Hill at 724-4646 about having your next birthday party there (only \$3 per person!) and about amphitheater rental for events. It is wedding season!

June 10 – The North Florida Land Trust, a nonprofit that has preserved natural areas near North Florida's critical watersheds for over 13 years, recently closed on a 110-acre parcel on Big Talbot Island and is working on two more parcels. In celebration, join them for an **Open House and Fish Fry** from 12-5 pm at their Big Talbot House at 12134 Houston Ave. Enjoy some music and good food and learn a little more about their current projects. For details, call 285-7020.

June 11 – This month's Sierra Club, Northeast Group meeting focuses the hot topic of **permaculture!** Alex Ojeda speaks about growing foods in a sustainable way and having a minimal impact on the environment. Alex will demonstrate compost-in-place techniques, vermiculture and compost teas, and plant varieties that fertilize where they are planted. The meeting, at 6:30 pm at Lakewood Presbyterian, is free and open to the public. Please bring your own reusable cup to reduce waste. Call 247-1876 for more information.

June 14, 21, 28 and July 5 – The Duval County Extension offers a four-part **prep class** from 5-9 pm at the McDuff Avenue location for anyone planning to take the **arborist certification test**. The class is designed to review some of the important concepts of the Arborist Certification Study Guide, not take the place of studying for the exam. Each participant receives a notebook with program notes. Register for the \$50 class online at www.eventbrite.com/event/3404048601 or mail a check payable to DCOHAC to Larry Figart, 1010 N McDuff Ave. Jacksonville, FL 32254. For questions, call Larry at 255-7450. Deadline to register with payment is Friday, June 8.

June 16 – Beaches Local Food Network presents the children's workshop **Bees!** from 9-10 am at the community garden in Jarboe Park. Your little one can learn all about these creatures that are so essential to the health of the planet and to our food system. The workshop is free, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Find out more about BLFN and the Children's Garden at www.beacheslocalfoodnetwork.org.

June 16 – The number of community gardens in Jacksonville has exploded in the past few years! They are associated with schools, churches, neighborhoods, community groups and other entities. If you or your organization has considered the idea, the Duval County Extension offers valuable information in its free **“What you need to know and may not have considered when it comes to community gardens”** workshop. The basics of getting started, regulatory information, zoning laws, funding and more will be covered from 9 am to 12:30 pm at the Extension office on McDuff Ave. Call Jeannie Crosby at 255-7450 to register.

June 21 – Edith Smith, owner of Shady Oak Butterfly Farm, will speak about **“Advanced Butterfly Gardening”** at the Florida Native Plant Society, Ixia Chapter, general meeting. The meeting starts at 6:30 pm at the Regency Square Library. Mrs. Smith has been raising and selling butterflies and butterfly host and nectar plants for over a decade. She will discuss unusual species and garden additions for butterflies and address misconceptions about butterfly gardening. There will be a live butterfly release after the program, which is free!

June 21 – Learn about **The Living Building Challenge** at the U.S. Green Building Council of North Florida's Master Speakers Luncheon. This certification program covers all buildings at all scales, from new construction and renovation to infrastructure, landscapes and neighborhoods. The program, from 11:30 am to 1 pm, will be held at River City Brewing Company and costs \$30 for USGBCNF members, \$40 for nonmembers and \$15 for students. Register at <https://usgbcnf.memberclicks.net/event-calendar> by 10 am on June 19.

Compiled by Anna Rahban. Please email listings for consideration to anna@eujacksonville.com by the 15th of each month.



Greater Jacksonville Area USO

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL TROOPS AND FAMILIES?

DID YOU KNOW THAT GREATER JAX AREA USO IS AN “INDEPENDENT CHARTERED USO AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION, OPERATING THREE LOCAL USO CENTERS SERVING OVER 250,000 MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES. GREATER JAX AREA USO RELIES TOTALLY UPON DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORT AND DOES NOT SOLICIT FOR DONATIONS VIA LOCAL NEWSPAPER INSERTS OR U.S. MAIL. DONATIONS COLLECTED IN THAT MANNER DO NOT COME BACK TO JACKSONVILLE TO HELP US SUPPORT OUR CENTERS OR PROGRAMS.

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