



# SCCF

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation  
Come explore our natural world

FEBRUARY 2017



## SCCF MEMBER UPDATE

### The Marine Lab Hosts Visiting Scientists

By Eric Milbrandt, Ph.D., Marine Laboratory Director

The Marine Lab hosted two teams of scientists in November and December 2016. Visiting scientists bring expertise and perspective to SCCF and help us carry out our mission. The Wilmeth Cottage is a great new addition to the facilities at the Marine Lab, enabling scientists to stay on the island.

#### *Mangrove Disturbance*

Our first international visitors arrived on November 8, 2016 from Guangzhou China. Three mangrove experts from the Chinese Academy of Tropical Research were here to find out more about our research on disturbance, both human and hurricane-caused, and to learn more about non-profits. In China, all of the mangroves are owned by the Chinese government and are leased to people who oversee the management of them. Most of the mangroves are destroyed for shrimp farming or exploited for timber. However, this group was exploring a conservation management strategy for long-term protection of mangroves. Drs. Liao, Chen, and Xiong also visited the National Wetland Center in Lafayette, Louisiana and Texas A&M University prior to their visit to Sanibel Island.

#### *Iron and Phosphate: Caloosahatchee to Gulf*

The second team was from our neighbors, Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, Florida. Dr. Jordon Beckler's team arrived on December 18, 2016 to study iron flux and phosphate in the sediment and water of the Caloosahatchee. Iron is a limiting nutrient controlling algae blooms and is thought to be responsible for the initiation of blooms of *Trichodesmium* (a cyanobacteria) and *Karenia brevis* (red tide). Given the high tannins typical of a 'black water river' such as the Caloosahatchee, it is possible that higher than expected iron quantities are exported to the Gulf of Mexico.

The chemistry is complicated but the organic matter that forms tannins can bind iron and prevent it from being consumed by bacteria or precipitated into an unusable form. We were able to complete a transect from S-79 (Franklin Lock) to the Marine Lab and they were able to determine the amount of iron moving from the sediment to the overlying water column from 4-inch diameter cores that were brought back to the lab.



Left above: Dr. Jordon Beckler and two interns from Mote Marine Lab setting up iron analyses for samples collected from the Caloosahatchee. Right above: Collecting sediment cores in the Caloosahatchee.

## Eastern Indigo Snake Breeding Season

By Chris Lechowicz, Director - Wildlife & Habitat Management Program/Herpetologist

The breeding season of eastern indigo snakes (*Drymarchon couperi*) in south Florida is typically November – February, with the peak being between Thanksgiving and Christmas. During this time, indigo snakes are more active than usual due to looking for potential mates.

Unfortunately, their breeding season coincides with heavier traffic in Florida, resulting in more road fatalities. This is what ultimately led to their extirpation on Sanibel and Captiva in the 1990s.

The eastern indigo snake has the largest home range of any snake in the United States. For populations to be sustainable, they require large tracts of land without busy roads bisecting those tracts. Island populations are more susceptible to loss because they are mostly closed populations (meaning very little colonization from the outside).

Indigo snakes can swim across waterways to move from one island to another but this likely does not happen very often. Only a few islands in Pine Island Sound still harbor these magnificent and docile animals. The SCCF Pine Island Sound Eastern Indigo Snake Project is conducting research to learn more about their population dynamics and sustain the last known

populations on islands in Florida.

The breeding cycle of the captive-bred eastern indigo snakes in the SCCF nature center closely follows the natural cycle of indigo snakes locally.

In December, our adult female indigo snake is removed from the Nature Center and brought to a location where she can spend about six weeks living outside. While in their outside but protected area they are exposed to the natural photoperiod and temperature fluctuations. The shorter days and cold weather initiates the breeding cycle in these snakes, especially during and after cold fronts. After a few weeks outside, she is placed in an enclosure with our male indigo snake (that has already been acclimated outside) for breeding. During this time, one of her offspring from 2014 then resides in our Nature Center exhibit while she is away (about six weeks).

By late January or early February, our adult female indigo snake is returned to her enclosure in the Nature Center. Over the next two months, her appetite will increase as well as her size.

In late April or early May, she enters her pre-lay molt and then lays her eggs in a container in her enclosure full of damp sphagnum moss. The container with the eggs is then kept in a dark area



*Cindy and Andy Harper, visiting the Nature Center in December, had a chance to hold SCCF's female indigo when she was removed for breeding. She will be back by early February and will hopefully lay eggs in April or May.*

for 90-120 days where the temperature does not fluctuate below 70° F or above 79°F. By late July or early August, the eggs will start to hatch. After the hatchlings are able to feed on rodents willingly and have shown some significant growth (to allow the installation of a micro-chip), they are given to other educational facilities or persons that conduct educational and/or research on snakes. These captive-bred state and federally protected species cannot be sold in Florida.



## SCCF Farm to Table Dinner at the Homestead

Benefiting the Native Landscapes & Garden Center

Friday, March 31, 2017

at the Bailey Homestead Pavilion

Details coming soon.

For information, please call Linda Uhler (472-3817)



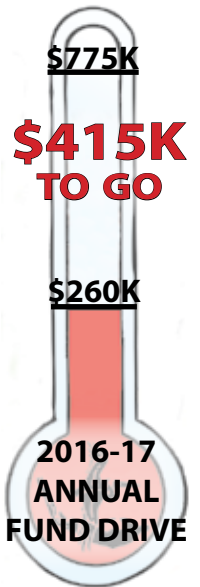
## Our Success Depends on YOU!

SCCF's operations and programs are literally dependent on our members' annual generosity.

By now you should have received the Annual Fund Drive brochure highlighting the many ways we put your tax-deductible gifts to work.

SCCF keeps a balanced and conservative budget, thoughtfully using donated funding. Thank you in advance for making your most generous contribution. Please use the reply envelope mailed with the brochure, or donate online at [www.sccf.org](http://www.sccf.org).

Please call Cheryl Giattini at 239-395-2768 with questions and instructions for gifts of stock and wire transfers. Thank you! Thank you!



## SCCF Evenings at the Homestead: Sonic Sea Screening

Join us to view and discuss this award-winning film. Sonic Sea is a moving and provocative 60-minute documentary created by International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) about the devastating impact of industrial and military ocean noise on whales and other marine life.

Narrated by Rachel McAdams and featuring Sting, the film offers solutions and hope for a quieter ocean, and underscores that the ocean's destiny is inextricably bound to our own. We are honored that Patrick Ramage, IFAW's Whale Programme Director, will participate in SCCF's screening. Patrick played a key role in the production of Sonic Sea, and is the son-in-law of SCCF's immediate past President Ron Gibson.



Wednesday, February 15 at the Bailey Homestead Preserve, 1300 Periwinkle Way. Advance purchase required. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Cost of the program and refreshments is \$10 per adult.

Please purchase tickets online: [www.sccf.org](http://www.sccf.org). There is a "Buy Tickets on Eventbrite" button or follow: <https://www.eventbrite.com/sccfs-evenings-at-the-homestead-sonic-sea-film-tickets-30499562011>

## Open House on February 20

Join us for Open House on Monday, February 20! There will be special demonstrations and activities from 10 - 1 and free admission all day. The always amusing Nature Sounds Contest will begin at 11:30. Practice your hoot, cackle and babble to join in with two-year-olds and 80-year-olds to share our version of the sounds heard in nature.

Free hotdogs and refreshments will be available while supply lasts. The grill fires up at 11.

There will be a menagerie of snakes to meet first hand (literally!) courtesy of Chris Lechowicz, Wildlife & Habitat Manager and Herpetologist. Marine Lab staff will have a collection of live animals found in Pine Island Sound that may include seahorses, sea urchins, puffer fish and more. The Native Landscapes & Garden Center always has hidden treasures to discover.

Learn more about our wildlife research projects including sea turtles and shorebirds, and find out about the most pressing Policy issues.

There are always some hands on nature art activities. And take time to explore the Nature Center, Butterfly House and nature trails. A lot has changed on the lands through which the trails wind. More and more the land is appearing as it once was in the mid 20th century.



# All Rat Poisons Are Not Created Equal

By Dee Century, *Living with Wildlife Educator*

SCCF applauds all homeowners who have decided to just say “NO” to rodent poisons that can kill our eagles, owls, and bobcats that eat the rat that ate the poison. Killing all outside rats is impossible and should not be the goal... but using snap or electric traps on your porch or in your house is a necessity. Plugging up all the crevasses where rats enter your home is still the best rat control... you can pay your pest control company to do this.

But what about controlling rats at condominiums and homes that are overseen by management companies where “Just saying NO” to poisons is more complicated? More complicated because who is going to empty the rats from the traps once they are caught? Snap traps can be put in safety boxes outside just like poison can...but once again who is going to dispose of the trapped rats?

Some pest control companies also use a technique that monitors rat feed stations and only use poison when populations call for it...so poison is not always in the environment. There are also products put in bait stations that repel rats from around the structure. Talk to your pest control company about your options.

In cases where poisons are going to continue to be used...the kind of rodenticide used is very important. It was brodifacoum that was found in the blood of “Ozzie” the local eagle by Crow after his death. This same poison

is blamed for other eagle deaths.

Tell your pest control service and management company NOT use second generation “anticoagulants” (DO NOT USE THESE...brodifacoum is the most toxic, bromaiolone, difenacoum, or difethialone). The rats eat these 20-30 times before they die. They will be impressed that you know about these products. These are now banned for use by homeowners by the EPA but pesticide companies are still allowed to use them.

Demand that the rodenticide is not a second generation anticoagulant. Bromethalin which is not an anticoagulant and is much easier on the critter who eats the poisoned rats is a better option...definitely not perfect but safer for wildlife. Other poisons that are not anticoagulants are cholecalciferol and zinc phosphide. Even the first generation anticoagulant, warfarin is easier on wildlife.

I hope this has helped if you can't just say no to poisons... but these products all have risks. In California 78% of mountain lions, 84% of foxes, and 92% of raptors tested had rodenticides in their toxin screenings. Our barn owls are gone, anyone seen a great horned owl lately? I wonder how much poison our island eagles and bobcats have ingested? Will the next poisoned rat be the straw that broke another local eagles back?

## Notes from the Homestead

Though the sea grape is a rather ubiquitous tree on Sanibel, it becomes noticed for its unique red and yellow colors during the winter months. This tree always reminds me a little of the beautiful fall colors from the North, even though ours occurs in the middle of the Florida winter, just before the tree loses most of its leaves and resprouts fresh ones for the spring. This phenomenon also happens to correspond nicely with Valentine's Day. A former nursery volunteer would pick red leaves as Valentine's postcards, decorate them with a picture or message, put on a stamp, and mail them off to his family members as a memento from Sanibel. What a creative, nature-inspired way to say, “Be my Valentine!”

- Jenny Evans, *Native Landscapes & Garden Center Manager*



## SCCF February 2017 Program Schedule

### BAILEY HOMESTEAD: MAKING THE LAND WORK

This one-hour walking tour of the Bailey Homestead Preserve blends SCCF's mission-driven work on the historic property, the history of the land itself and some stories about the Bailey family, which farmed the land for three generations. *Wednesdays at 10 a.m. No reservations. 1300 Periwinkle Way, meet at the Conservation Gateway Kiosk at the head of the Shipley Trail, near the entrance. Call Kristie or Dee at 472-2329 for more information. Free to members and children. \$5 for non-members.*

...More programs on Page 6

# SCCF FEBRUARY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> Making Land Work tour <i>at Bailey Homestead-10</i>  Owl Tales-10  Guided Trail Walks at 11 a.m. - - - - -	<b>2</b>  Turtle Tracks-10  a.m. - - - - -	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Beach Walk-8:30 <i>Meet @ Bowman's</i> 50 Years Preservation-1:30  Guided Trail Walks at 11 a.m. - - - - -	<b>8</b> Making Land Work tour <i>at Bailey Homestead-10</i>  Basil Tasting at <b>BHP</b> -11  a.m. - - - - -	<b>9</b>  Bobcat Tales-10  Shorebird Talk-2  a.m. - - - - -	<b>10</b>  Tank Talks-10	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Caloosahatchee Oxbow & Riverlore Cruise-1 <i>Meet Franklin Lock</i>	<b>13</b>  Weeds & Seeds-8:45	<b>14</b>  Panthers/Corridors-10  Tides of the Gulf-1:30  Guided Trail Walks at 11 a.m. - - - - -	<b>15</b> Making Land Work tour <i>at Bailey Homestead-10</i>  Gator Tales-10  Sonic Sea-6:30 @ <b>BHP</b>  a.m. - - - - -	<b>16</b>  Turtle Tracks-10  a.m. - - - - -	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Caloosahatchee Oxbow & Riverlore Cruise-1 <i>Meet Franklin Lock</i>	<b>20</b>  OPEN HOUSE-10	<b>21</b> Beach Walk-8:30 <i>Meet @ Bowman's</i>  Hurricanes-1:30  Guided Trail Walks at 11 a.m. - - - - -	<b>22</b> Making Land Work tour <i>at Bailey Homestead-10</i>  Sun Tea from the Garden- <b>BHP</b> -11  a.m. - - - - -	<b>23</b>  Photography Ethics-10  Shorebird Talk-2  a.m. - - - - -	<b>24</b>  Tank Talks-10	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  Weeds & Seeds-8:45	<b>28</b>  City Almost Wasn't-1:30  Guided Trail Walks at 11 a.m. - - - - -				

*All events are at the Nature Center (or meet at the Nature Center) unless otherwise specified. BHP is Bailey Homestead Preserve.*



# SCCF February 2017 Program Schedule

*Continued from Page 4...*

## **A BASIL TASTING AT THE GARDEN CENTER**

After failing to grow sweet basil, Dee discovered a Florida native basil and began growing it. Next she found Tulsi or Holy Basil, great in tea as well as pesto. At ECHO in North Fort Myers, she found African tree basil. Bees love them! Learn more about these disease-resistant basil varieties and try them out. Basil plants are for sale and propagation info is available. *Wednesday, February 8 at 11 a.m. Meet in the Pavilion at the Bailey Homestead Preserve. Free to members and children, \$5 for non-members.*

## **BOBCAT TALES**

“Bobcat: Master of Survival” is how author Kevin Hansen describes *Lynx rufus*. While other wild feline species are in trouble, bobcats seem to be flourishing through most of their North American range and this adaptable feline’s ability to survive close to humans is one of the reasons for the bobcat’s success. Rats and mice can make up to 40% of the bobcat’s diet. *Thursday, February 9 at 10 a.m. in the SCCF auditorium. Cost of the program is \$5 per adult, with members and children attending for free.*

## **BAYOU & BEACH WALK AT BOWMAN’S BEACH**

Meet your SCCF guide at Bowman’s Beach for a 1.6 mile walk across the bayou, along the beach and then return on the path to learn about the coastal habitat, nesting shorebirds and other wildlife as well as the history of this ever changing area. Meet at the children’s playground near the bridge by 8:30 am and plan to return at 10 am. Hourly parking fee is required without a resident sticker. *Tuesday, February 7 and 21 at 8:30 a.m. Meet at Bowman’s Beach.*

## **CALOOSAHATCHEE OXBOW & RIVERLORE CRUISE**

Come with us to experience the historic meanders of the upriver Caloosahatchee on this 2.5-hour cruise guided by Rae Ann Wessel. Departs at 1 p.m. from the W.P. Franklin Lock & Dam Park off SR 80 in Olga. Advance reservations and payment required. \$45 per person. Space is limited, call 472-2329. *Cruise dates on Sundays in 2017 are: February 12, February 19, March 12, April 9, and May 14 (Mother’s Day).*

## **CAPTIVA CRUISES**

SCCF has a partnership with Captiva Cruises that offers a variety of waterborne experiences: The Dolphin & Wildlife Adventure Cruise narrated by SCCF Docents (4:00-5:30 daily), Cayo Costa State Park Beach & Shelling Cruise, Lunch Cruises to Cabbage Key, Useppa Island, Tarpon Lodge on Pine Island with the Calusa Indian Mound Trail, Boca Grande on Gasparilla Island and Sunset Cruises. *Call Captiva Cruises for reservations and additional information. 472-5300. [www.captivacruises.com](http://www.captivacruises.com).*

## **THE CITY THAT ALMOST WASN’T AND THE SANIBEL PLAN**

The City of Sanibel was the first in the country to adopt a comprehensive land use plan based on the island’s natural systems. This program is the story of the City’s creation

and the shaping of its future through the Sanibel Report. This work led in turn to the Sanibel Vision Statement and the Sanibel Plan. It was no accident that this work yielded the preservation of the phenomenal and bountiful natural resources we all enjoy today. *Tuesday, February 28 at 1:30 p.m. Cost of the program is \$5 per adult, with members and children attending for free.*

## **SCCF’S 50 YEARS: A HALF CENTURY OF CONSERVATION**

Half Century of Preservation- SCCF’s 50 years of preserving wildlife habitat and aquatic resources on and around the islands. From where did SCCF spring? How does SCCF fit in nurturing the spirit of peaceful coexistence with nature and what will SCCF be up to next? Join us for a synopsis of conservation efforts on the islands of Sanibel and Captiva *Tuesday, February 7 at 1:30 p.m. Cost of the program is \$5 per adult, with members and children attending for free.*

## **CONSERVATION PHOTOGRAPHY: ETHICS IN PRACTICE**

With the rise of digital cameras and smartphones, the world of photography has been made accessible to just about everyone. Wildlife and landscape photography are especially popular in Southwest Florida with our access to unique environments and species. But these ecosystems are fragile and knowing the best practices to protect a species makes for an ethical photographer. Learn about conservation photography and what considerations to keep in mind when photographing the wildness around us. SCCF Public Outreach Coordinator Alexis Horn is a published professional photographer eager to share her knowledge and passion for this subject. *Thursday, January 26 at 1 p.m. in the SCCF auditorium. Cost of the program is \$5 per adult, with members and children attending for free.*

## **FLORIDA PANTHERS AND WILDLIFE CORRIDORS**

Florida panthers are the rarest mammals in North America – and their future depends on wildlife corridors. While not found on Sanibel, they play an important role in maintaining the ecosystems of Southwest Florida. The last few years have seen record-breaking panther deaths, but there is hope in protecting their habitat and allowing the elusive cat to spread north into its historic habitat. Prior to joining us, SCCF Public Outreach Coordinator Alexis Horn ran the Sierra Club’s Florida Panther program. Join her to learn about what makes Florida panthers unique and why they are so vital to our environment. *Thursday, January 12 at 10 a.m. in the SCCF auditorium. Cost of the program is \$5 per adult, with members and children attending for free.*

## **GATOR & CROCODILE TALES**

The biology of alligators and crocodiles is an ancient tale of survival. Florida’s history of gators and humans is closely intertwined. Learn about these living dinosaurs and what we must do to ensure our safety and their survival on the islands. *Wednesday, February 15 at 10 a.m. at the Nature Center. Cost of the program is \$5 per adult, with members and children attending for free.*

# SCCF February 2017 Program Schedule

## HURRICANES!

Hurricane Charley roared in from the south, skirted the coast and made landfall over North Captiva Island, rushed through Captiva Pass, swept the northern end of Pine Island on Friday, 8/13/2004. Following the warm water of Charlotte Harbor, it made landfall again over Punta Gorda. Wildlife, vegetation and human existence on these islands have always been shaped by tropical storms. Each season, hundreds of supercomputers spew out spaghetti models, which have saved countless lives, but according to local emergency managers, the projected cone can be wrong about 40% of the time. *Tuesday, February 21 at 1:30 p.m. Free to members and children, \$5 for non-members.*

## MAKING SUN TEA FROM THE GARDEN

Join Dee at the Native Landscapes & Garden Center for a Sun Tea Tasting and Garden Walk. A few of the Florida native plants used for tea that are growing in the gardens include Goldenrod, Passionvine, and Yaupon Holly. Growing in the Herb and Tea garden are lemongrass, Tulsi Basil, and Hibiscus sabdarifa. All of these plants can be purchased as packaged tea. Add a sprig of native mint from the garden plus a squeeze of lime and take a sip. We will sweeten our iced tea with Mangrove and Seagrass honey from SCCF preserves. Enjoy the tea and learn about the history of the human use of Florida's Native plants during the garden walk. *Wednesday, February 22 at 11 a.m. Meet in the Pavilion. Free to members and children, \$5 for non-members.*

## OWL TALES

The nesting season for Great Horned, Barn, and Screech Owls of the islands has begun. The Great Horned Owl does not make its own nest but uses one built by an osprey, hawk, or eagle. The Screech and Barn Owls nest in tree cavities made by woodpeckers or nest boxes. Will the Barn Owls use the nest box on the side of the Nature Center this year? Island Screech owls are in the courting phase with males guarding territory and calling to females. *Wednesday, February 1 at 10 a.m. The cost of the program is \$5 with SCCF members and children attending for free.*

## SHOREBIRDS OF SANIBEL & CAPTIVA

Join SCCF biologists to learn about the shorebird species that nest on our beaches, including snowy plovers, least terns and Wilson's plovers. SCCF has been monitoring beach nesting birds on Sanibel since 2002. Learn how you can safely share the beach and help us protect our feathered friends. *Thursday, February 9 and 23 at 2 p.m. Free to members and children, \$5 for non-members.*

## SONIC SEA: EVENINGS AT THE HOMESTEAD

Join us for a special screening of the award-winning documentary, *Sonic Sea*. *Wednesday, February 15 at the Bailey Homestead Preserve, 1300 Periwinkle Way. Advance purchase required. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Cost of the program and refreshments is \$10 per adult. More info on Pg. 3.*

## TANK TALK

The Nature Center has educational ambassadors living in tanks. Meet Indie the Indigo Snake, Lucky the softshell turtle and Sam the Florida snapping turtle. There are also beautiful diamondback terrapins (2 babies and 4 adults) and a mangrove saltmarsh snake swimming in tanks plus mud turtles, peninsula cooter and a slider. Take a tour with a biologist to learn about the SCCF research projects associated with these local critters. *Friday, February 10 and 24 at 10 a.m. in the Nature Center auditorium. Cost is \$5 per adult, with members and children free.*

## TIDES, CURRENTS & FLORIDA SHELF

Whether it is shelling, fishing, boating, birding or just enjoying the view of the water, tides and currents affect most of our lives daily. Have you ever wondered why the islands sometimes have just one tide a day or why you can see sea grasses when the tide chart says it is high tide? In the past few years more people have become aware of the Florida Shelf. Where is it and why is it important? This is an introduction how water behaves as the earth spins, the moon orbits and the winds blow. *Wednesday, January 11 at 1:30 p.m. Members and children 17 and under are free. Cost is \$5 per adult, with members and children free.*

## TRAIL WALKS: EXPLORE SANIBEL'S INTERIOR WETLANDS

Sanibel Island is a unique barrier island in Florida because it still has an interior freshwater wetland ecosystem that has not been lost to development. Join us for a guided walk through the interior wetlands and mid-island ridges of the Center Tract with discussion of native habitats, natural and cultural history and preservation efforts. *Trail walks will be offered through April 20 on Tuesday through Thursday at 11 a.m. Meet at the Nature Center and proceed to the trails. \$5 for non-members; free to members and children.*

## TURTLE TRACKS

Sanibel Island had one of the first sea turtle monitoring programs in the country. Learn about the life cycles and habits of the sea turtles and shorebirds that nest on our beaches, SCCF's monitoring activities, and what we are doing to protect them. *Thursday, February 2 and 16 at 10 a.m. in the Nature Center auditorium. Free to members and children, \$5 for non-members.*

## WEEDS AND SEEDS

We are a group of amateur botanists who enjoy finding and identifying native plants on Sanibel. Our walks, visiting different locations on Sanibel, last for two hours, and are guided by a leader with a plant list. The group will meet at the Nature Center porch. Depending on the location visited, you may need parking money. Please bring a hat, water, sunblock and comfortable enclosed shoes with socks. *Monday, February 13 and 27, March 13 and 27. Meet at the Nature Center at 8:45 a.m., at the base of the porch and carpool to the site. Walks are free but donations to SCCF are welcome.*



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**February 2017 Member Update**



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**SCCF Nature Center**

3333 Sanibel-Captiva Road

(1 mile west of Tarpon Bay Road) / P.O. Box 839, Sanibel 33957

SCCF Nature Center and Main Telephone:

(239) 472-2329 Fax: (239) 472-6421 [www.sccf.org](http://www.sccf.org) [blog.sccf.org](http://blog.sccf.org)

Native Landscapes & Garden Center: (239) 472-1932 (at the Bailey Homestead Preserve)

Marine Laboratory: (239) 395-4617

Wildlife & Habitat Management: (239) 472-3984

*SCCF is dedicated to the conservation of coastal habitats and aquatic resources on Sanibel and Captiva and in the surrounding watershed through:*



- Environmental Education
- Land Acquisition & Stewardship
- Marine Research
- Natural Resource Policy
- Native Landscapes & Garden Center
- Sea Turtles & Shorebirds
- Wildlife & Habitat Management

**Nature Center Hours:**

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. from October - May  
8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. from June - September

**Native Landscapes & Garden Center Hours:**

at 1300 Periwinkle Way, Bailey Homestead Preserve  
Monday - Friday — 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturday from 10 a.m. — 3 p.m. (January through April)

**Visit our Nature Center**

- Trails & Observation Tower
- Butterfly House
- Education Center

\$5/adult, children under 17 free, members free.

Find the latest real-time water quality readings from our RECON sensors at [www.recon.sccf.org](http://www.recon.sccf.org)

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