

## **Field Trip to Wekiwa Springs State Park**

### **Participation requirements**

In order to participate in this program, you:

- must have the ability to follow verbal and/or visual instructions independently or with the assistance of a companion.
- must have the ability to withstand exposure to the outdoors and insects for the length of the event.
- must have the ability to traverse uneven and unstable terrain independently or with the assistance of a companion.
- must wear closed-toe shoes and clothing appropriate for the outdoors and outdoor conditions.

A **hat, sunscreen and insect repellent** are recommended (chiggers may be a concern).

Bring plenty of **water and snacks or a picnic lunch** to enjoy onsite after the tour. Or participants may choose to visit one of the area restaurants for lunch on their own.

**Difficulty:** Easy to moderate

The trip will be more of a slow meander rather than a walk, but it will be through uneven terrain.

### **Trip details**

**FWF member cost:** Included in symposium registration\*

**Non-member cost:** \$10\*

*\*An additional park admission fee is required by all participants. The fee is \$6 per vehicle (limit 2-8 people), \$4 per single occupant vehicle, and \$2 per pedestrian, bicyclist, extra passengers, or passengers in vehicle with Annual Individual Entrance Pass holder. Carpooling is strongly recommended to offset this fee.*

**Start time:** 9 a.m.

**Meet-up location:** Wekiwa Springs State Park, 1800 Wekiwa Cir, Apopka, FL 32712. Meet in the parking area at the park entrance ([MAP](#)). Participants will then drive to the hike location within the park.

**Trip length:** 2-2.5 hours

**Nearest restroom:** Onsite

### **Trip description**

Wekiwa Springs State Park is one of Florida's most popular state parks, with a first magnitude spring that is the headwaters of the Wekiva River. The park's 42,000 acres border the federally designated Wild and Scenic River basin, making it a truly wild place. Participants on this trip will meander through park's sandhill habitat to experience its abundant fall-blooming wildflowers and grasses.

### **Trip leader**

Nancy Bissett is a horticulturist, restoration ecologist and botanist with The Natives Inc., a Davenport firm offering consulting, ecological restoration and landscape architecture. As the developer of The Natives nursery, she has experimented with the propagation and growth of many native plants, including grasses, wildflowers and rare species. Nancy has developed techniques for restoring many upland communities, including site preparation, planting, direct-seeding native groundcovers and weed control. She has developed direct-seeding projects for state agencies, water management districts, mitigation banks, mined lands, developers and corporations.