

Useful Websites!

<http://brevard.ifas.ufl.edu/>

This site has information on the Brevard County Extension office. All program areas have information posted along with a program calendar, bulletins and other general information.

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

This site has all of the bulletins written by specialists from the University of Florida. There is a search window in the upper left hand corner that your plant or topic can be typed in and then just click on “find key word”.

<http://creatures.ifas.ufl.edu/>

This site is the Entomology and Nematology Departments site so this has information on insects, spiders, etc. Pictures are included.

<http://www.wec.ufl.edu/extension/>

This site is the Wildlife and Ecology Conservation Departments site. Information on wildlife, both the desired and undesirable, can be found here.

<http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/>

This site is Dr. Ed Gilman’s and has everything you need to know about trees!!

Other Useful Services!

Unknown Plant! Bring stems with leaves, and flowers and fruit too if possible and we will send it to the Univ. of FL Herbarium.

Unknown Bug! Bring a sample to the Cocoa office and if we don’t know what it is we will send it to the Entomology ID Lab.

Brevard County Master Gardener Clinics

(held throughout the county throughout most of the year but many close down during the summer months and around Christmas – please call to confirm.)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
Central Brev. Libr (633-1792)	Sunday	1-3 pm
Merritt Isl. Libr. (455-1369)	Tues.	1-3 pm
North Brev. Libr. (264-5026)	Tues.	10 – Noon
Palm Bay Ext. (952-4536)	Tues. Thurs.	9 am-Noon 1-3 pm
Port St. John Libr. (633-1867)	Mon.	10 am-Noon
Satellite Bch Libr. (779-4004)	Wed.	10 am-Noon
Front. Str. C.C. (674-5722)	Thurs.	10 am-Noon
Patrick AFB BX lobby (799-1300 ext. 124)	Friday	10 am-Noon
Eau Gallie Libr. (255-4304)	Friday	2-4 pm

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University of Florida/ Brevard County Extension



General Tips On Trees!

Two Office Locations:

3695 Lake Drive 1455 Treeland Blvd. SE
Cocoa, FL 32926 Palm Bay, FL 32909
(321) 633-1702 (321) 952-4536

FS 6111 HORT

Selection - Right Plant for the Right Spot!

When choosing new trees (or plants) for the landscape look at the following:

- pH of your soil and what the trees prefer.
- Light conditions – Full sun (a min. of 6 hrs of direct sunlight a day), partial sun/shade or full shade.
- Soil moisture – dry, moist or wet.
- Mature height and spread of the tree. If you have power lines in your yard only plant small trees (less than 30 feet) near them. Also, notice the spread when planting so it is not too close to the house, fence, etc.
- Smaller trees are easier and quicker to establish so, save money and buy small size trees!

Planting

- Water deeply but infrequently!
- It is best to water early in the morning so the leaves dry off quickly.
- To save water, attach a rain shut-off gauge to your irrigation system if you run it on a timer.
- Marginal necrosis (where the leaf edges turn brown or the leaf tip turns brown) is a sign of WATER STRESS – too much or too little water!

Establishment

- Dig the hole almost as deep as the root ball but twice as wide.

- Plant the root ball even with or just above the surrounding soil.
- Before planting, soak the root ball so that it is dripping wet.
- When removing the plant from the pot, look for large roots circling the root ball. If circling roots are present then cut them with a knife, hand shears or shovel.
- Do not fertilize at planting.
- Do not amend the soil in the planting hole.
- The three most important things a newly planted tree needs is water, water, water. For the best establishment give the newly planted tree (that is planted in well-draining soil) 5 gallons of water for every inch of trunk diameter **every day** for 6-9 months for every inch of trunk diameter. Once establishment has occurred then new growth will begin. The tree will not need to be watered daily after that time.
- Protect trees from damage by providing mulch rings around them.

Fertilizing

- Only begin fertilizing the newly planted tree after establishment has occurred.
- BROADCAST the fertilizer over the ground at the base of plants (but not too close to the stem or trunk.) Therefore, DO NOT use fertilizer

spikes or dig holes and pour fertilizer down it.

- For a newly planted tree you can fertilize a couple times a year.
- For a mature tree it will normally be fertilized when the turf and/or shrubs are fertilized.
- Fish emulsion and seaweed make a great foliar spray for plants that produce food or are under stress like drought, flood or cold.

Pruning

- When removing branches from a tree make sure to **prune outside of the branch collar!**
- The use of pruning paint is not needed. Just prune correctly.
- Dead, diseased or damaged wood should be removed as soon as possible.

Citrus

- All citrus trees require regular fertilization every year. For mature trees that is three times a year.
- One inch of supplemental water is needed every 7-10 days in the event of no rainfall measuring at least 1 inch.

Palms (These are different from trees!)

- DO NOT PRUNE OFF ANY GREEN FRONDS! They need all of the green fronds to produce their food.