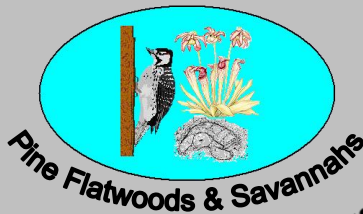


Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve Presents

THE PANHANDLE HABITAT SERIES



Pine Flatwoods & Savannahs



Sandhills and Steepheads



Seagrass Beds & Salt Marshes

The Sandhills and Steepheads Class covers sandhills and steephead ravines. Learn about the physiogeographic features of the region including the formation of these hills, soil makeup, and formation of the ravines. Plant and animal communities are explored along with their relationships to one another and to their environment. Be prepared to spend the morning in the classroom and the afternoon on the Bear Creek Ravine Trail. We will walk through the sandhills and down into steephead ravines. We should see many rare and unique plants and animals on this field trip. (This class does require hiking on steep terrain.)

This One-Day class will be offered on May 5, 2010, 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time at the Bear Creek Forest Education Center on Hwy 267 in Gadsden County.

The Pine Flatwoods and Savannahs Class covers the ecology, geology, and natural history of the pine flatwoods and savannahs. Learn about the various habitats and plant communities found in this fascinating system. Subjects will include biodiversity, plants and animals and their interactions, the vital importance of the system and threats and conservation. Be prepared to spend the morning in the classroom and the afternoon in the field exploring the flatwoods and savannahs of the Apalachicola National Forest. Waterproof footwear is advised as the savannahs can be quite wet.

This One-Day class will be offered on May 19, 2010, 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve Nature Center.

The Seagrass Beds & Salt Marshes class covers the ecology, geology, and the economic importance of coastal marshes and seagrass beds. Learn about these two productive habitats, their importance to the health of our oceans and regulatory and conservation issues. Be prepared to spend part of the day in the classroom and part exploring the salt marshes and snorkeling/wading in the seagrass beds of St. Joseph Bay. (Snorkeling equipment is NOT provided.)

This One-Day class will be offered June 24, 2010, 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time at the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve Headquarters Building.

Intended Audience: These professional level classes are intended for coastal decision makers such as ecologists, park rangers, permitting staff, planners, ecotour operators, elected officials, developers, volunteer organizations and concerned citizens.

Registration is required: You **MUST** register with **payment** received no later than five days before the class. **Cost: \$10.00 per person per class payable to Friends of the Reserve.** To register or for more information contact Matthew Anderson (850) 653-8063 or Matthew.r.anderson@dep.state.fl.us

