

# Scenic Watch



Covering  
News From  
Oct  
2019

# Rethinking Plant Adaptation



Fun Festivals  
and Events

Central

Thr Nov 11  
Space Coast Fair, Viera  
Thr Nov 11  
Volusia County Fair and  
Youth Show, DeLand



Photo: Sebastián Mejía, Paris Review

From a Paris Review article on a variety of studies about plant adaption and reaction.

-- Cody Delistraty, Paris Review

[Read entire article](#)

## Scenic Highways: Ormond Scenic Loop and Trail

Nov 2-4  
Sebastian Clambake,  
Sebastian  
Nov 3  
DeLand Original Music  
Festival, DeLand  
Nov 3  
Safety Harbor Wine  
Festival, Safety Harbor  
Nov 3  
Stone Crab Jam, Crystal  
River  
Nov 3-4  
31st Annual Downtown  
Venice Art Festival,  
Venice  
Nov 3-4  
30th Annual Ruskin  
Seafood Festival, Ruskin  
Nov 3-4, 10-11, and 17-  
18  
Medieval Fair, Sarasota  
Nov 3-4  
The Fall Fiesta in the  
Park, Orlando  
Nov 3-4  
Halifax Art Festival,  
Daytona Beach  
Nov 2-4 and 10-11  
Lady of the Lakes  
Renaissance Faire,  
Tavares  
Nov 4  
Orlando Japan Festival,  
Orlando  
Nov 3-4  
42nd Annual Fall Country  
Jamboree, Barberville  
Nov 8-11  
40th Annual Greek  
Festival, Daytona Beach  
Nov 18  
Florida Surf Film Festival,  
New Smyrna Beach  
Nov 17-18  
Maitland Rotary Art  
Festival, Maitland  
Nov 9-11  
Native Rhythms Festival,  
Melbourne  
Nov 9-11  
Holiday Open House,  
Clermont  
Nov 9-11  
Sponge Docks Seafood  
Festival, Tarpon Springs



Photo: News-Journal, Jewell Tomazin

"Between the Ormond Scenic Loop and Trail, The Casements and Rockefeller Gardens, and beachfront parks, Florida's north Volusia County is home to many photo-worthy places.

One of Florida's well-known scenic routes, the Ormond Scenic Loop and Trail, is stunning and diverse from start to finish.

Narrow roads pass through preserved oceanfront on Highway A1A, wind along rivers and creeks on High Bridge Road and Walter Boardman Lane, venture beneath oaks and beside sugar mill ruins on Old Dixie Highway and are lined by the luxurious waterfront homes on John Anderson Drive...

With a loop of more than 30 miles surrounding the Halifax River, there are beautiful sights on every corner. Pictures do no justice to the trail, best explored by car or by bicycle, for those who have the endurance.

Only a few feet of land separates the road in some areas, which winds along marsh, creeks and rivers on High Bridge Road.

Preserved barrier island and dune habitats can be seen along parts of John Anderson Drive and A1A, giving passersby a glimpse of Old Florida..."

**Nov 9-11**

RibFest, St Petersburg

**Nov 9-12**

Siesta Key Crystal Classic Masters' Sandsculpting Competition, Siesta Key Beach

**Nov 9-18**

32nd Annual Festival of Trees at Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando

**Nov 10**

Veterans Day Parade, Orlando

**Nov 10**

Symphony on the Sand, Anna Maria Island

**Nov 10-11**

Homosassa Arts, Crafts and Seafood Festival, Old Homosassa

**Nov 10-11**

St Armands Circle Art Festival, Sarasota

**Nov 10-11**

27th Annual Flamingo Follies Holiday Art Show, New Smyrna Beach

**Nov 14-18**

Annual Sanding Ovations Master's Cup, Treasure Island

**Nov 17**

Downtown Melbourne Food and Wine Festival

**Nov 17-18**

DeLand Fall Festival of the Arts, DeLand

**Nov 19-Jan 1**

Space Coast Light Fest, Melbourne

**Nov 23-25**

Cocoa Beach Art Show and Music Fest, Cocoa Beach

**Nov 24-25**

Sponge Docks Arts and Crafts Festival, Tarpon Springs

## South

**Nov 1-3**

Paint the Beach Festival, Fort Myers Beach

**Nov 1-4**

-- Jewell Tomazin, News-Journal

[Read entire article](#)

## Undergrounding:

"Our power lines will be buried for storm safety. It could cost FPL up to \$35 billion.

"Florida Power and Light Co. and other electric utilities in the state now can proceed with burying lines in your neighborhood, but it's going to take at least 30 years to accomplish, and the price tag for customers is still a mystery.

The state Legislature approved a storm-protection bill last spring, signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis, that allows FPL and other electric utilities to charge customers for putting neighborhood power lines underground.

In a meeting with the Sun Sentinel Editorial Board on Wednesday, FPL CEO and president Eric Silagy finally put a figure on burying neighborhood lines for his customers: \$25 billion to \$35 billion...

In a recent session to create rules for the program, some commissioners were concerned about whether they'll have enough information to set electric rates, and how they'll be able to tell whether expenses being billed under 'storm-protection recovery' are different from those being charged through base rates — a mandate of the law.

FPL proposed utilities' providing project and cost detail in only the first year of the three years of data requested by lawmakers, with FPL lawyer Ken Rubin telling commissioners projects could change year-to-year due to storms and reliability data, change-out of equipment, electrical load changes and customers' acceptance of installing lines underground in a neighborhood.

Beach Road Trip  
Weekend, Key Largo  
Nov 2-3  
American Indian Arts  
Celebration, Big Cypress  
Seminole Indian  
Reservation  
Nov 2-4  
Feast of Little Italy,  
Jupiter  
Nov 3  
Florida Panther Festival,  
Naples  
Nov 4  
Taste of the Town, Fort  
Myers  
Nov 8-11  
Cape Coral Coconut  
Festival, Cape Coral  
Nov 8-11  
Sanibel Island Writers  
Conference, Sanibel Island  
Nov 9-11  
The Annual Ramble, A  
Garden Festival, Coral  
Gables  
Nov 9-11  
Anime Iwai Soar,  
Deerfield Beach  
Nov 10  
Small Press Fair, Fort  
Lauderdale  
Nov 11-18  
Miami Book Fair  
International, Miami  
Nov 14-18  
Key West Film Festival,  
Key West  
Nov 14-18  
Sunny Isles Beach Jazz  
Fest, Sunny Isles Beach  
Nov 16-25  
American Sandsculpting  
Championship, Fort Myers  
Beach  
Nov 17-18  
Harvest Festival, Miami  
Nov 24  
Big Pine and The Lower  
Keys Island Art Festival,  
Big Pine and The Lower  
Keys

## North

Deputy Public Counsel Charles Rehwinkel told commissioners they should get as much detail as possible from the utilities upfront. 'There's so much money involved that I think the additional effort and cost to get the details is worth it and overrides any customer confusion,' he said.

Jon Moyle, who represents the Florida Industrial Power Users Group — big-energy users — said 'both the Legislature and customers want clarity and a range of certainty about the rate impacts of the storm hardening plans.'

Mark Futrell, deputy executive director of the PSC staff, said in the rule-making session that he sees potential litigation if project details and expenses are not provided upfront.

But in the end, commissioners opted to give FPL and other utilities flexibility it asked for in detailing projects and costs.

Commissioner Julie Brown, responding to Futrell's concerns, said, 'I do feel there are plentiful checks and balances here in the public interest. ... We're going to have so much opportunity to review the projects and the costs associated. We're going to get annual reports.' The proposed rules will advance for approval if the Public Service Commission receives no request for a public hearing by Oct. 28."

-- Marcia Heroux Pounds, South Florida Sun Sentinel

[Read entire article](#)

**Undergrounding:  
"Consumer watchdog requests  
public hearing on underground  
power line rules over costs"**

Nov 1  
Ancient City Auto Show,  
St Augustine  
Nov 1-12  
Foo Foo Fest, Pensacola  
Nov 2-3  
55th Annual Florida  
Seafood Festival,  
Apalachicola  
Nov 2-3  
Blue Angels Homecoming  
Show, Pensacola  
Nov 2-4  
Gulfcoast Arts Festival,  
Pensacola  
Nov 7-10  
Emerald Coast Cruzin',  
Panama City Beach  
Nov 8-10  
Fall Palatka Bluegrass  
Festival, Palatka  
Nov 8-18  
Frank Brown Songwriters  
Festival, Perdido Key  
Nov 9-10  
Public Eye Soar Projection  
Festival, Panama City  
Nov 9-11  
The Amelia Island  
Wellness Festival, Amelia  
Island  
Nov 10  
29th Annual Arts and  
Crafts Festival, Pensacola  
Nov 11  
Veterans Day Free  
Admission at Castillo de  
San Marcos, St Augustine  
Nov 17  
Rainbow Springs Art  
Festival, Dunnellon  
Nov 17  
Super Scenic 72-Mile  
Garage Sale, St Augustine  
Nov 17-18  
Yankeetown Seafood and  
Arts Festival, Yankeetown  
Nov 23  
Historic Apalachicola  
Annual Christmas  
Celebration, Apalachicola  
Nov 24-25  
53rd Annual Arts and Craft  
Festival, St Augustine





Photo: SSMG

"State regulators speedily approved underground utility project rules for Florida Power & Light Co. and other electric utilities on Oct. 3. But not so fast, says the Florida Office of Public Counsel, which filed a petition Friday requesting a public hearing on the rules. A new law signed by Gov. DeSantis in July allows the state utilities to recover expenses for burying power lines. The rules would oversee a multi-decade statewide project to bury neighborhood power lines underground.

The cost to FPL and other electric utility customers in the state is unknown.

But Public Counsel J.R. Kelly said his office wants to make sure there's no 'double recovery' of expenses for underground projects through both a special recovery process created by the law and base rates. He also wants to make sure the money utilities spend on burying power lines is 'prudent and reasonable.'

The consumer watchdog says in the petition that proposed rules approved by the Florida Public Service Commission on Oct. 3 go further than the new state law allows, and asks the rules be revised.

'These rules ... exceed the statutory authority granted by the Legislature ... or are otherwise

[For many more events and details please visit the Orlando Times Travel Calendar here](#)



contrary to the state's interests,'the Office of Public Counsel says in its petition.

...Deputy Public Counsel Charles Rehwinkel told commissioners it's important they get as much detail as possible from the utilities upfront about their undergrounding plans and costs.

'There's so much money involved that I think the additional effort and cost to get the details is worth it and overrides any customer confusion,'Rehwinkel said.

FPL has 71,000 miles of neighborhood lines in its service territory, which is about half the state, and it has buried about 26,000 or 38 percent. That leaves about 43,000 lines to bury, according to FPL's CEO."

-- Marcia Heroux Pounds, South Florida Sun Sentinel

[Read entire article](#)

## Placemaking Technology: Shine Mural Festival in St Pete has a new twist this year



Photo: Scott Keeler, Tampa Bay Times

"Company brings wall murals into focus through smart app"



Photo: Charlie Belcher, Charlie's World, Fox 13 News

"There is a new way to learn even more about the murals in downtown St. Petersburg, thanks to Pixelstix.

They've teamed up with the folks from SHINE Mural Festival to create a digital gallery.

Using a smartphone with the Pixelstix app, visitors to a mural can scan a Pixelstix plaque which will load docent-level information about the mural and the artist onto their device.

Additionally, interactive maps show the locations of the festival's collection of murals, creating a personalized mural tour... "

-- Charlie Belcher, Fox 13 News

[See video to learn about the new technology, meet the founder of Pixelstix and experience Charlie's](#)



[World](#)

[Read more about the Shine Festival and murals in Tampa Bay Times](#)

