Activity Guide

ON THE WATER
Kayak Tours

AMAZING NEW
Lecture Series

Eco Cruises on
Rookery Bay
Good Fortune II

Meet our
ANIMAL
Ambassadors

FREE
Nature Walks

Generously underwritten by John R. Wood Properties
A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

At John R. Wood Properties, we believe in the power of community. It's a culture built on ethics, philanthropy and services first established 60 years ago by our founder, John Wood.

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida’s tireless commitment to protect our area’s exceptional beauty and natural ecosystem also represents the best kind of commitment to community. The organization helps us see the connections we have with our natural world—both for our personal wellness, and the health of everyone around us.

It’s truly an honor to sponsor an organization who shares our values, and who is committed to fostering change within our communities and serving all who have made Southwest Florida their home in paradise.

2018-2019 CONSERVANCY ACTIVITY GUIDE

A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

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2018-2019 CONSERVANCY ACTIVITY GUIDE
At the Nature Center

LIVE NATURE CENTER PROGRAMS

OFFERED NOVEMBER 2018 - APRIL 2019

Join us for our live Nature Center programs as we explore the natural environments of Southwest Florida, meet native wildlife up close, and discover how the Conservancy of Southwest Florida works to protect our water, land, wildlife, and future. Get inspired to take action to make a difference for Southwest Florida’s unique natural environment.

BE A BIOLOGIST
Have you ever wondered what it takes to be a biologist? Step into the shoes of our Science and Research team as you learn about their current assignments. You will discover the unique ecosystems of Southwest Florida, and how our team is working hands-on to protect our land, water, and wildlife.

SCALE AND TAILS
Gather on the Lutgert Commons Area for an interactive presentation about a variety of reptile species found in Southwest Florida. You will even get to meet an ambassador reptile that lives here at the Conservancy!

OCEAN DISCOVERIES
Step inside the Dalton Discovery Center’s Oceans Gallery to learn about some special underwater friends. What Southwest Florida ocean species can you find inside our 5,000 gallon Patch Reef Aquarium?

WONDERS OF WILDLIFE
Learn about the inner workings of our von Arx Wildlife Hospital, and how we are working to protect Southwest Florida’s native animals. You will also get the chance to meet our three raptor animal ambassadors at our von Arx Wildlife Viewing Pavilion.

*Programs are subject to change. For the most up-to-date schedule, visit www.conservancy.org/nature-center/daily-programs.

"Best activity of our vacation!"

tripadvisor
At the Nature Center

Allyn Family Lagoon & Dock

On the water

KAYAK RENTALS
(2 HOURS)
RESERVED FOR CONSERVANCY MEMBERS ONLY
Conservancy members can launch safely from the Allyn Family Lagoon and enjoy a self-led, two-hour kayak exploration of the beautiful Gordon River. Reservations and payment are required in advance.
Book online today: www.conservancy.org/kayaks
SINGLES: $20 PER SINGLE + TAX
TANDEM: $30 PER TANDEM + TAX

GUIDED KAYAK TOURS
(2 HOURS)
Enjoy a Naturalist-led kayak tour on the Gordon River. Paddle through a maze of mangrove trees, spot jumping fish, wading birds, and maybe even a manatee! Discover the importance of mangrove estuaries as nature’s nurseries, and learn how you can help to protect local waterways.
See the schedule online: www.conservancy.org/kayaks
CONSERVANCY MEMBER: $40 + TAX
GENERAL PUBLIC: $50 + TAX
Reservations and payment are required in advance. Space is limited. Please call 239-213-2500. All tours are subject to tides and weather conditions.

"Take the boat tour, had a great time here."

Electric Boat Tours
Electric boat tours are frequently cited as our visitor’s favorite part of the Nature Center experience! Conservancy guests enjoy a relaxing 45-minute nature tour along the Gordon River. Learn about the importance of the majestic mangroves and the animals that inhabit this important estuary including wading birds, turtles, and more. This is a great way for families, nature lovers, and boaters to enjoy a unique experience on the water.
All tours are subject to tides and weather conditions.

Ask about our Kayak Rewards Program!
At the Nature Center

Dalton Discovery Center

www.conservancy.org/nature-center/dalton-discovery-center

In the Dalton Discovery Center, imagine yourself as a drop of water, taking a journey through the ecosystems of Southwest Florida. Along the way, you will meet the animals and plants that make Southwest Florida unlike anywhere else in the world. Our Uplands, Everglades, Mangrove, Beach and Ocean ecosystem exhibits are educational, interactive and home to several of our Animal Ambassadors.

UPLANDS:
Discover a few of Florida’s sensational snake species!

EVERGLADES:
Gather around to catch a glimpse of our exciting Everglades ambassadors.

MANGROVES:
How many species can you spot in the estuary aquariums?

BEACH:
Interact with some of Florida’s magnificent marine invertebrates in our Touch Tank.

OCEAN:
Peer into our 5,000 gallon Patch Reef Aquarium.

"Good people doing good things for Nature...and a fun place to experience!"

INTERACTIVE EXHIBITS FOR EVERYONE!

MEMBER SURVEY
At the Nature Center

von Arx Wildlife Hospital Exhibits

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida is home to Collier County’s only wildlife rehabilitation hospital. This emergency wildlife hospital provides quality medical care and rehabilitation for native mammals, reptiles and birds. While our state and federal permits do not allow rehabilitating wild animals to be viewed by or interact with the public, we do offer guests several engaging experiences to learn more about our work and how to help prevent injuries to wildlife.

www.conservancy.org/nature-center/wildlife-hospital-exhibits

Guests can explore:

SAPAKIE WILDLIFE EXHIBIT HALL
Check out our interactive exhibits to learn more about the animals that are admitted to the von Arx Wildlife Hospital. You can also find out how to help prevent injury to the wildlife we love in Southwest Florida.

CALLING JUNIOR VETS
Join Dr. Ollie Owl for a variety of hands-on activities that highlight the work of the von Arx Wildlife Hospital staff and how we care for patients. Pre-K visitors, especially, will love learning more about how to prevent injury to wildlife and their place in the conservation world.

ANIMAL AMBASSADORS
Peek in on our animal ambassadors in the von Arx Wildlife Viewing Pavilion. You can meet Aquila the bald eagle, Olive the barred owl, and Horatio the red-tailed hawk!

1. Olive the barred owl
2. Horatio the red-tailed hawk
3. Jr. vet activities in Sapakie Wildlife Exhibit Hall
At the Nature Center

Little Explorer play zone

Come to play, learn, and explore in the Little Explorer Play Zone! Kids can discover the incredible animals of Southwest Florida as they crawl through a gopher tortoise burrow, run through a mangrove forest, and try on a pair of wings.

Pre-K Programs

Bring your little ones to our Little Explorer Play Zone to participate in multi-sensory interactive activities, stories, and crafts. You will have the opportunity to learn about topics that relate to our mission of protecting Southwest Florida’s water, land, wildlife, and future. Little Explorers will also get to meet ambassador animals and explore the entire Conservancy campus!

Little Explorer programs are offered on select Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 AM. Most enjoyed by ages 5 and younger. No registration required.

NOVEMBER 6 & 8
Magnificent Manatees

NOVEMBER 20 & 23*
Bear Crossings

DECEMBER 4 & 6
I Love Bugs!

DECEMBER 18 & 20
Hermit Crab Homes

JANUARY 8 & 10
Small Green Snake

JANUARY 22 & 24
Ladybug Trails

FEBRUARY 5 & 7
Creaky Crickets

FEBRUARY 19 & 21
Bugs Bugs Bugs!

MARCH 5 & 7
Colorful Chameleons

MARCH 19 & 21
The Very Busy Spider

APRIL 2 & 4
Fabulous Fishes

APRIL 16 & 18
Where Should Turtle Be?

APRIL 30 & MAY 2
Fabulous Frogs

MAY 14 & 16
Are You My Mother?

MAY 28 & 30
Eyes on Endangered Species

* Friday

“Pre-K Programs

"This is a nice place to take children as it has hands-on activities."

Ensuring Our Pristine Paradise for Future Generations

“We can’t stop change, but we can do our best to slow it down and preserve what we have left. That’s why the Conservancy is part of our estate plans.”

— Ellis and Rieda Whaley

Those who support the Conservancy of Southwest Florida believe in preserving our water, land, and wildlife for future generations. A planned gift can help you achieve your philanthropic goals, and help to sustain the Conservancy’s mission.

We will work closely with your financial advisor to design a Gift Planning Option that will meet your personal, financial, and charitable goals. With your support, your children, grandchildren, and all future generations will enjoy the natural beauty of Southwest Florida.

(Federal Tax I.D. 59-1157084)

To discuss the best gift option for you or to notify us of a gift you have already established, please contact:

Aaron Lapp 239.403.4222 or AaronL@conservancy.org

1495 Smith Preserve Way | Naples, FL 34102 | www.conservancy.org

The Conservancy’s popular environmental education lecture series returns on select Tuesdays in 2019 with new topics and sell-out favorites. The lecture series frequently reaches capacity. Reservations are required.

**Doors open at 5:30 p.m.**
**Program starts at 6 p.m.**

Additional dates may be added. Please visit www.conservancy.org/evenings

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**MEMBERS** FREE  **NON-MEMBERS** $10

### Supporting Sponsors

Sponsored by

Collins Vision

### Riddles of the Ridleys
**JANUARY 22**
Dr. Jeff Schmid
Conservancy Research Manager

### The Western Everglades
**FEBRUARY 12**
Dr. Kathy Worley
Conservancy Environmental Science Director
Marisa Carrozzo
Conservancy Sr. Environmental Policy Specialist

### Behind the Scenes: von Arx Wildlife Hospital
**FEBRUARY 26**
Joanna Fitzgerald
von Arx Wildlife Hospital Director

### The Coming Reality of Sea Level Rise
**MARCH 26**
Dr. Harold Wanless
University of Miami Professor

### The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Algae Blooms
**APRIL 09**
Dr. Vince Lovko
Mote Marine Laboratory Program Manager

### Life and Times of the Anhinga
**MAY 14**
Dr. Jerry Jackson
FGCU Professor Emeritus

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“**So enjoyed the lecture - entertaining and informative - Conservancy is doing a great job.”**

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ATTENDEE
CONSERVANCY ACTIVITY GUIDE // 2018-2019

At the Nature Center

family fun earthday festival

IT'S OUR BIGGEST COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR. ENJOY A DAY PACKED WITH SPECIAL PROGRAMS, LIVE ANIMAL SHOWS, FOOD VENDORS, AND EXHIBITORS.

JOIN US SATURDAY, APRIL 13

See our full calendar of events online www.conservancy.org/events/calendar

“MY KIDS WERE ENTERTAINED ALL DAY!”

——— MEMBER SURVEY ———

More

FREE FOR CONSERVANCY MEMBERS!

OCTOBER 27
HOOTS AND HISSES
Spend a semi-spooky Saturday at the Nature Center as we celebrate the creepy, crawly holiday! Attend our daily programs, meet our animal ambassadors and create holiday-themed crafts to take home!

MAY 18
ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY
Help us raise awareness about Southwest Florida’s Endangered Species. Attend this special program and meet some of our threatened ambassador animals as we all do our part to protect our water, land, and wildlife.

JUNE 8
BABY SHOWER
It is baby season for wildlife in Southwest Florida, and the Conservancy is hosting a “Wildlife Hospital Baby Shower” to support our recovering babies. Help us stock up on food and supplies for our patients. Gifts can be sent online through Amazon or dropped off at the Nature Center 9 a.m. to noon.

www.conservancy.org/babyshower
GUIDED GROUP TOURS

GUIDED NATURE CENTER TOURS [UP TO 20 PEOPLE] $249

With a Naturalist guide, encounter live animals in the Dalton Discovery Center, enjoy a narrated electric boat cruise on the Gordon River, and take a peek into the von Arx Wildlife Hospital where we care for more than 3,800 wild animals per year. During your visit, you’ll learn about the Conservancy’s mission to protect Southwest Florida’s water, land, and wildlife, and how you can get involved.

Group tour participants also receive a 10% discount in our Nature Store.

“An interactive educational program to inspire the scientist in every child!”

“Fantastic activities that kept students very engaged and interested!”

Guided Tour Details
- Tour Length: 2.5 hours
- Group Size: Groups are up to 20 people. More than 20 guests will require an additional guide
- Reservations required, based on availability. Please call 239.213.2500.

“...The program was A++ and lots of fun. Our group sends congratulations on the outstanding work being done by you and the entire Conservancy staff."

—— QUAIL VILLAGE WOMEN’S CLUB———

EXPERIENCE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA’S NATURAL BEAUTY IN THE HEART OF NAPLES

STEM LEARNING ADVENTURES 2018-2019

At your school or the Nature Center, the Conservancy offers a wide variety of environmental educational programs that meet the Sunshine State Standards.

To learn more and register, visit www.conservancy.org/stem or call 239.262.0304 ext. 266.

STEM LEARNING ADVENTURES ARE FUNDED BY:

Andrew Family Foundation
Frances Pew Hayes Family Foundation
COMMUNITY SPEAKERS

Interested in a guest speaker for your next club, community, or organizational gathering? Let the Conservancy of Southwest Florida bring our traveling Environmental Education programs to you! Paid programs include a live animal presentation.

THE CONSERVANCY STORY

Southwest Florida is an ecosystem so rich with diversity it rivals the wildest places on earth. For more than 50 years, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida has been working to protect our natural assets for future generations. Learn about our unique approach to finding a sensible balance between growing populations and preserving the environment that attracted us to Southwest Florida. This program is offered complimentary. Donations are welcome.

“IT WAS OUR PLEASURE TO HOST THE CONSERVANCY ESPECIALLY WHEN THE PRESENTATION AND SUBJECT MATTER WAS SO INTERESTING AND IMPORTANT!”

Joe Taylor, President, Florida Title Solutions, LLC
On behalf of the Estero Chamber of Commerce

CUSTOM TOPICS

Looking for a topic? Please call 239.213.2500 for additional information.

LIVE ANIMAL PROGRAMS

The following programs are presented by a Conservancy of Southwest Florida Environmental Educator and last approximately 45 minutes.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Southwest Florida is critical habitat to many threatened and endangered species including manatees, gopher tortoises, Florida panthers, sea turtles, and many more. Learn about the Conservancy’s endangered species research projects, including the Sea Turtle Monitoring and Protection Program, one of the longest standing sea turtle research projects in the country. Catch a rare glimpse into the realm of Florida’s most endangered species, explore the threats they face, and discover what you can do to make a difference for species conservation in your area.

WILDLIFE TALES

The Conservancy’s von Arx Wildlife Hospital plays an important role in preserving Southwest Florida’s environment through the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of sick, injured, or orphaned wildlife. Each year, the Wildlife Hospital cares for over 3,800 animal patients. From habitat loss, to car collisions and domestic pet attacks, find out how humans impact native species and what you can do to prevent injury to wildlife. Discover how the hospital veterinarian and staff care for their unique patients and hear amazing stories of survival.

ALIEN INVADERS

Invasive species are making roots in Southwest Florida! Discover how so many exotic plants and animals have invaded Southwest Florida and the threats they pose to our native species. Discuss the research techniques used by Conservancy of Southwest Florida biologists to study and track invaders like the Burmese python. Learn what you can do to get involved and help prevent future invasions.

Scheduling

To schedule any of these engaging and informative presentations, please fill out a speaker request form: conservancy.org/offsite/speaker-request
CONSERVANCY ACTIVITY GUIDE // 2018-2019

Offsite Conservancy Programs

FREE nature walks

ROOKERY BAY
BRIGGS BOARDWALK

Open year-round dawn to dusk for self-guided walks. See animals and plants in a land almost unchanged for thousands of years.

JANUARY 2-MARCH 31: Conservancy guides are available seven days a week 9 AM-12 PM along the walk to answer your questions and point out interesting plants and animals. Guides also man a telescope on a raised viewing platform overlooking a large pond.

GUIDED TOURS: At 10 AM, guides will walk you through five Florida habitats from scrub to brackish ponds. Additional tour times may be available upon request.

NAPLES
CLAM PASS

December - April (Excluding holidays)
Monday - Saturday 9 AM
Sunday Birding, anytime between 9 AM – 11 AM

Take a guided walk along the boardwalk, bay, and beach. Learn more about the importance of mangroves and see some of the fascinating creatures and plants that flourish in this unique habitat. Clam Pass Park is west of U.S. 41 on Seagate Drive. Meet your guide at the tram stop for an approximately two hour walk.

ON SUNDAYS, 9 AM – 11 AM: Conservancy guides will point out which types of birds are resting at Clam Pass and why they choose to stop here. Get a closer look through the boardwalk scope.

Reservations not required.
Additional information, including directions, is available at www.conservancy.org/nature-walks

www.conservancy.org

Your Membership Makes a Difference

PUT SOUTHWEST FLORIDA IN YOUR HANDS

Environmental Science & Research
Environmental Policy & Advocacy
von Arx Wildlife Hospital
Environmental Education
Nature Center

Become a Conservancy of Southwest Florida member and support our work to preserve the water, land, and wildlife for future generations to enjoy.

We're constantly working to achieve our mission by finding a sensible balance between the demands of a growing population and the preservation of our natural resources. Our 21-acre Nature Center serves as the gateway to that mission. Filled with hands-on educational and fun activities, it's perfect for all ages and Conservancy member families get in free all year!

Become a Conservancy member today.

Join the 7,000+ supporting families today www.conservancy.org/join.

1495 Smith Preserve Way
Naples, FL 34102
239 262 0304

www.conservancy.org
**Rookery Bay EcoCruises**

The Conservancy was formed as a result of a group of citizens coming together to save Rookery Bay in 1964. Now, you and your guests can enjoy the magnificent beauty of Rookery Bay too. Come aboard the 35-passenger Good Fortune II pontoon boat led by Coast Guard-certified captains and a Conservancy naturalist who will lead you through the rich history of the area as well as point out the beautiful wildlife along the way. Depending on the season, guests often see osprey, bald eagles, dolphins, and more!

**BOOK ONLINE:** WWW.CONSERVANCY.ORG/GOODFORTUNE

Feel free to bring a small cooler and a snack while we take you on a beautiful tour your visitors and guests are sure to love. Our two-hour mid-morning and sunset cruises are very popular, reserve your seats today. Subject to weather conditions and tides.

**Midmorning & sunset cruises**

**MEMBERS: ADULT $37 CHILD $15** (12 and younger)

**GENERAL PUBLIC: ADULT $47 CHILD $20** (12 and younger)

Reservations required. Questions? Call 239.213.2500.

EcoCruises leave from our launch site on Rookery Bay. It is about 10.5 miles from our Nature Center. Visit our website for directions.

**BOOK ONLINE** RESERVE YOUR SEATS TODAY: WWW.CONSERVANCY.ORG/GOODFORTUNE

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**4 reasons to cruise today**

1. **Wildlife You Can Only Find Here**
   - Rookery Bay is home to several species of plants and trees native only to wetlands, as well as endangered animal species.

2. **Watching the Sun Set**
   - While you’re keeping your eyes peeled for creatures that come out to dine at dusk, don’t forget to take in the scenery around you as the sun touches ground. Sunset is the most beautiful time of day to be out on the water.

3. **Everyone Needs to De-Stress**
   - Boating is among the top three stress-relieving activities. Sit back and enjoy as the captain guides you through the wonderful waters of Rookery Bay.

4. **It’s Not as Expensive as You Think**
   - We pride ourselves as the lowest price eco cruise in the area. Join the Conservancy as a member and save even more!
2018-2019
ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2018
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Monday – Saturday
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Page 4
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Times vary
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10 AM Tues & Thurs
Magnificent Manatees
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Nature Center Closed

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Little Explorers Pre-K
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I Love Bugs!
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Dr. Jerry Jackson, FGCU
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“Life and Times of the Anhinga, Florida’s Underwater Spear Fisherman”
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4 & 6
Little Explorers Pre-K
10 AM Tues & Thurs
Good Fortune II
Times vary
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8 & 10
Little Explorers Pre-K
10 AM Tues & Thurs
Eco Cruise aboard
Good Fortune II
Times vary
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## April 2019

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## May 2019

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## June 2019

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<td>Dr. Vince Lovko, Mote Marine Laboratory Program Manager</td>
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<td>14 &amp; 16</td>
<td>Little Explorers Pre-K</td>
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<td>10 AM Tues &amp; Thurs</td>
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<td>Are You My Mother?</td>
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## Editor’s Picks

### February

- **EVENINGS**
  - “The Western Everglades: Where are We and Where are We Going?”
  - 6 PM

### March

- **LITTLE EXPLORERS**
  - Colorful Chameleons
  - Tues & Thurs
  - 10 AM

### April

- **EARTH DAY FESTIVAL**
  - 10 AM – 3 PM
  - Saturday

### May

- **FAMILY FUN DAY**
  - Endangered Species Day
  - 10 AM – 4 PM
  - Saturday

### June

- **WILDLIFE BABY SHOWER**
  - 9 AM – 12 PM
  - Saturday
Polluted water is impacting families throughout Southwest Florida. It has a ripple effect on our economy and our quality of life. Learn more about the causes of these water woes and how you can help. When you support the Conservancy of Southwest Florida you are supporting our efforts to protect the water, land, wildlife and future that make our home like no other place on earth. Together we can make a difference.

Join the Conservancy’s Action Alert system to stay informed about when your voice is needed on these critical issues.

www.conservancy.org

“...volunteering at the Conservancy has been ‘fulfilling’ is a bit of an understatement. Helping out at the Conservancy has become an even more rewarding and satisfying experience with every year.”

TIM THOMPSON
Conservancy Volunteer

MY FAMILY NEEDS CLEAN WATER TOO

GET INVOLVED

Become an important member of our team and share your time, talent and abilities.

A variety of fun volunteer opportunities are available. Interact with people, learn new skills, and enhance and share your knowledge about the environmental issues facing Southwest Florida.

For more information call 239.403.4212 or email James Kintz at jamesk@conservancy.org.

1495 Smith Preserve Way
Naples, FL 34102
239.262.0304
conservancy.org/get-involved/volunteer
For more than 50 years, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida has been a leading environmental advocacy organization in our five-county region. Our teams include scientific research, policy, education, and wildlife protection and rehabilitation. This combination of expertise is unique to the Conservancy and enjoys a national reputation for excellence. The Conservancy of Southwest Florida is a 501(c)(3) not for profit. 100 percent of donations stay in our 5-county area.

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
LEARN MORE AT WWW(CONSERVANCY.ORG