Accomplishments for 2015

we partner on a lot of our projects with local organizations throughout the year. ..

Symposium

- We kicked off 2015 with our annual Symposium - Open the Garden Gate to “Wetlands.” This theme of “Wetlands” was carried through to the rest of the year’s educational programing

Fundraiser

- Our third annual fundraiser Starlight & Spartina at the Musgrove Plantation, SSI, an even greater success than last year. We raised around $20,000

Lunch & Learns

- Topics included: wetlands birds, rain gardens, wetland birds of prey, amphibians of maritime forest wetlands, and dragonflies & damselflies

Programs & Events

- Local teachers seminar for 60 coastal based educators was held at Cay Creek Wetlands Interpretive Center in partnership with the City of Midway

Partnerships

- Invasive plant species were removed from Cay Creek Wetlands Interpretive Center in partnership with the AmeriCorps NCCC team and the students at Bethesda Academy

- Seminar on butterfly populations and habitat concerns was held at the Derenne Library, Wormsloe in partnership with the UGA Center for Research and Education at Wormsloe

- Coastal Habitat Certification was awarded to Sapelo Island NERR

- Botanical field trip led by Martha Joiner to Manassas Bog in Bellville, GA

- Seed collection trips: St. Catherines Island & Cannon’s Point Preserve on St. Simons Island. Collections provide regionally-specific genotypes of native plants for propagation and public distribution at our spring and fall plant sales.

- Paddle trip on Cathead Creek and a Satilla River cruise in partnership with the Satilla Riverkeeper

- Spring and fall Native Plant Sales at Ashantilly Center in Darien, GA

- Members celebration at the Feast of the Coastal Wild oyster roast

- Field trips on native wetland wildlife & habitats were conducted at Cay Creek Wetlands Interpretive Center in partnership with The Orianne Society and the City of Midway

- Created a management guide for sustainable, constructed wetlands for coastal landscaping and gardening practices and storm-water runoff control in partnership with Verdant Enterprises

- Implemented a Coastal Incentive Grant to continue to educate communities through our outreach programs in 2015-2016 at Cay Creek Wetlands Interpretive Center in partnership with the City of Midway

- Partnered with the Jekyll Island Authority to provide space for native plant propagation, supplies, and staff time at the Jekyll Island Greenhouse complex

- Implemented a Five Star National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Grant supported by The Southern Company to begin planning and installation of a native plant wetland demonstration garden that was designed by Verdant Enterprises as part of the 2013 master plan for Cay Creek Wetland Interpretive Center

Volunteering

- Volunteers assisted in native plantings as part of the Living Shoreline project and groundcover restoration project at Cannon’s Point Preserve, St. Simons Island in partnership with St. Simons Land Trust
Mission

The mission of Coastal WildScapes is to actively preserve and restore the highly significant biodiversity of Southeastern coastal ecosystems by protecting existing native habitats, rebuilding the connectivity of impaired habitats and minimizing the future fragmentation of the coastal landscape. We have three overarching strategies to accomplish our mission:

- Educational Outreach
- Conservation Initiatives
- Grassroots Activities