

Fall 2026 Update



Punta Gorda Nature Park is literally the Green Thumbs' reason for being.

Volunteers give freely of their time, energy and love of gardening to sustain and enhance the park as the lovely oasis amidst development that has existed since its founding in 2012.



On the cusp of autumn, summer volunteers have again done a magnificent job maintaining Punta Gorda Nature Park. Yes, we indulge in patting ourselves on the back. Summer heat makes us sweat, rain breeds weeds and mosquitoes, and our ranks are thinned by those volunteers who are seasonal only. But careful planning and volunteer devotion help the plants flourish year-round. The volunteer efforts are fueled continually by visitor positive feedback and ongoing donations.

Please consider joining the Green Thumbs team

We'd love to welcome a few new volunteers! As people's schedules and circumstances change, there are always opportunities to lend a hand—and plenty of ways to get involved.



Weekly Gardening

Plant watering; pruning, trimming & weeding. Perhaps become a friendly "owner" of a planting bed and tend to its occasional needs



Project-based Gardening

We often need help with larger garden projects - two or three times a year



Help with Technology

Could you assist us with social media? Primarily Facebook and our website.

Our moto is "Make Sure Volunteers Feel Pride and Satisfaction". The camaraderie we enjoy is a magnet that bonds us. Stop by any Friday morning between around 9 and 10 AM to talk to us as we work or send a message to Info@PGIGreenThumbs.org (access link below)



Thank you to our generous neighbors

Of note this summer...generous neighbors donated their two huge staghorn fern clusters. It took a lot of effort to safely remove and transport these clusters that we estimate as weighing hundreds of pounds each. One cluster was separated, with the offsets becoming the basis of a special Talking Plants class taught by staghorn expert Kate Preston in August, where attendees all went home with a baby staghorn of their own. Some offsets were donated to the Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens. The large cluster will soon be hung from one of the park's oak trees for all to admire.

Tales from the Park

Here's another in our occasional series of short glimpses into the experiences of volunteers and park visitors that help tell the broad story of what Nature Park means to our community. After publication in a newsletter, each tale gets added to a section of our website.

A Volunteer Story by Green Thumb Dolly Tomalinas

I was asked many years ago to be a consultant for the herb garden bed being created in Nature Park – one of many themed planting beds. I was asked because of my reputation as an herb expert.



Gardening had been a lifelong interest of mine, with herbs being just one of the specialties developed in my experience. I use this knowledge in my role as a longtime Florida Master Gardener, in horticultural therapy work with the Tidewell Hospice program and in multiple community projects.

The opportunity to apply my herb knowledge and design expertise in this project felt very rewarding. I enjoy being a part of this group of dedicated volunteers. Ever since the early days of my involvement, I continue to advise the Green Thumbs. This has included advising not only on herbs but also on rose bushes, another favorite subject of mine. I also had the opportunity to present one of the group's Talking Plants classes.

My appreciation is about more than the plants we grow. It's about what this park and the volunteers who maintain it represent in our community. I was working on herb garden care in the park one day and encountered a very nice gentleman playing an accordion. He said to me "I come here all the time because it's very peaceful".

See our website for more Tales from the Park

Upcoming Events



New Greeter at Nature Park

Join us for our dedication event for the park's new sculptural mascot, Twiggy.

All are welcome on
October 30th at 10:00 am

TALKING PLANTS series

Green Thumbs will be kicking off 2027 with the fifth year of our Talking Plants series of free classes in the park. Save second Fridays in January, February and March from 10 – 11:30 AM. A future newsletter will describe the topics.



A message for our seasonal volunteers

We can't wait to welcome you back!
We're excited for you to return. Let us know when you anticipate returning with just a quick email. We're looking forward to another wonderful season



Donate via PayPal or see our website for multiple ways to donate

Email Us

Visit our Website

PGI Green Thumbs Inc | 1625 Aquí Esta | Punta Gorda, FL, FL 33950 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email & social marketing for free!