

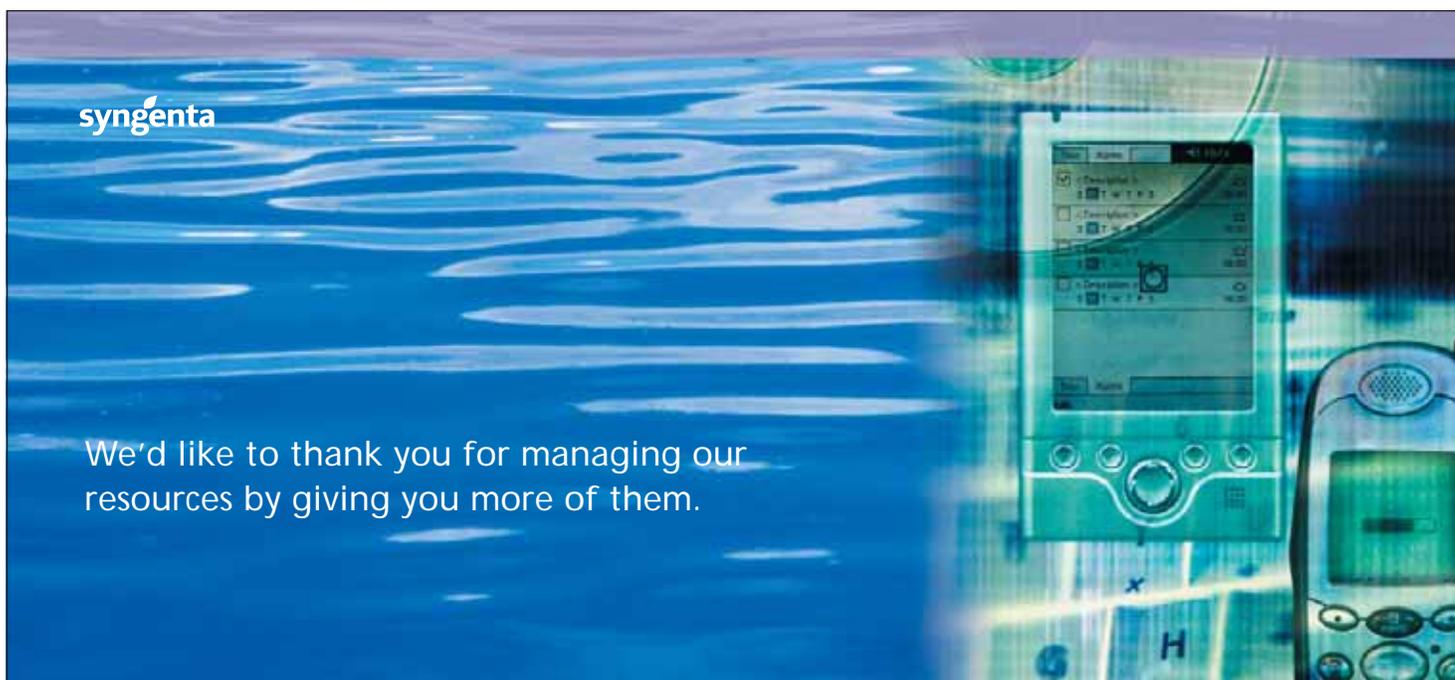
# FLEPPC Pops Up At Spring Garden Festival

**Kanapaha Botanical Gardens** was the site of the *14th Annual Spring Garden Festival* in Gainesville and the FLEPPC education and membership booth was on display. Approximately 10,000 people attended this immensely popular two-day festival that featured more than 200 vendors offering plants, landscape displays, gardening supplies, non-profit educational materials, plant seminars, music, food, artwork, and a stroll through the beautiful 62-acre botanical gardens.



The FLEPPC display featured one of our local “most *not* wanted” invasive plants, air potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*). A large glass vase was filled with air potato tubers, with a challenge to festivalgoers to guess how many potatoes were in the jar. With 83 people participating, there was a wide range of guesses ranging from a low of 28 potatoes to a high of 1,304. Three people came within one potato of the correct number: 236. A drawing was held to determine the winner and 12-year-old Alex Roundtree won the grand prize: a native fringe tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*) donated by Tropic Traditions, Inc., a wholesale nursery from Newberry, Florida and one of the many vendors at the festival. Another popular event was the air potato toss where participants could toss a potato into a garbage can to win a piece of candy. The FLEPPC message was delivered to many interested folks and a good time was had by all.

For more information about Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, go to [www.kanapaha.org](http://www.kanapaha.org)



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