

For Immediate Release



Collier Community Foundation Funds Beach Restoration Research by Naples Botanical Garden

NAPLES, FL – Jan. 13, 2023 – Naples Botanical Garden thanks the Collier Community Foundation for their support of expanding research ensuring restoration and resiliency of beaches in Collier County. Beach dunes are one of the most important ecosystems in the County, part of the economic engine of this region and our front-line protection against storms and hurricanes. Beach dunes are dynamic systems that face constant forces of change but rely on a diversity of resilient plant species for quick recovery. Current management and restoration practices rely on monocultures of plant species, reducing our dune’s resiliency and ecosystem function in the face of increasing frequency and intensity of storms.

The Garden brings significant restoration experience from successful landscape-scale ecosystem restoration projects on-site. The Garden and the City of Naples piloted a program to restore dunes at public beach dune access points where

invasive species were removed from dune areas. These plantings of various and appropriate native plant material provided the greatest coverage and highest rates of successful growth when compared to traditional restoration efforts.

This funding will cover a local graduate fellowship researcher for four semesters to execute the documentation of management practices and quantifiable metrics of success and for collection trips to collect and grow local native plant species not currently available for restoration.



About Naples Botanical Garden

Naples Botanical Garden is where plants and people thrive together. In addition to our 170-acre showcase for tropical plants, the Garden offers a uniquely beautiful, natural, and ever-changing experience to bring our diverse community together to enjoy companionship, refuge, learning, and celebration.

Hours of operation are 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. (8 a.m. early entry for Members). Visit [naplesgarden.org](https://www.naplesgarden.org) for details.

Visit Our Media
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About the Collier Community Foundation

Collier Community Foundation™ is a tax-exempt, public, charitable organization

established in 1985 to increase and focus on local private philanthropy. Today, the Collier Community Foundation manages more than 850 funds, works with hundreds of nonprofits, and has granted over \$268 million to nonprofit organizations, community programs, and scholarships. Informed giving. Powerful results.™ Learn more at colliercf.org or call 239-649-5000.

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