

## LINDA LAWRENCE WALDRON

Linda does a monthly column called Green Gables in Gables Living Magazine which goes to 9600 households. Her current project is to increase the number of pollinator plants in the City's landscape and in resident's yards.

In 1937 66% of the planet was wilderness, now it is 33% wilderness—where are our fellow creatures supposed to live? The Journal of Biological Conservation states that 40% of all known insects face extinction due to habitat loss and pesticides. Insects like bees and butterflies pollinate 75% of our crops producing seeds or nuts and are a vital part of the food chain. 96% of land birds feed their chicks insects.

BUT insects are picky eaters, roughly 90% will only feed and reproduce on native plants they have evolved with. If you would like to help go to [www.plantrealflorida.org](http://www.plantrealflorida.org) This is the website of the Florida Association of Native Nurseries. Put in your zip code and you get a list of local nurseries where you can buy the plants for your own pollinator patch!!

If you go to [www.coralgables.com/pollinators](http://www.coralgables.com/pollinators) and scroll down you will see a link to the Coral Gables Branch Library Butterfly Garden Booklet, which Linda wrote when she spearheaded the development of the Butterfly Garden at the Library as Chairman of the Coral Gables Garden Club Butterfly Garden Committee. The booklet gives pointers on planting as well as a list of plants and the butterflies that need them!

Linda did a Garden Design class at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England

