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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NOTED ENVIRONMENTALIST LECTURE SERIES

The Environmental Learning Center (ELC) and Indian River Land Trust (IRLT) have combined efforts in presenting this season's Noted Environmentalist Lecture Series. These engaging talks focus on current environmental topics and include speakers from across the state of Florida.

The following speakers and topics are scheduled. All lectures are held at the ELC on Wabasso Island north of Vero Beach. Reservations are required and may be made by calling (772) 589-5050. The cost is \$30 per person or \$25 for members of ELC and IRLT.

Biofuels, Turning Garbage into Gas, January 21, 6:30 to 8 PM. The speaker, Dr. Ann Wilkie, is known for her engaging yet humorous presentations. She is an internationally known expert on biogas technology, is an Associate Professor in the Soil and Water Science Department at the University of Florida, and is on the editorial board of the journal *Biomass and Bioenergy*.

Marine Mammals, February 4, 4 to 6 PM. Guest speakers Dr. Juli D. Goldstein and Stephen McCulloch are both staff scientists at the Harbor Branch Marine Institute, now part of the Florida Atlantic University. Dr. Goldstein, a veterinarian, focuses on the husbandry, care and treatment of stranded and captive marine mammals. Mr. McCulloch, with 30 years experience in the field, is the founder of the Division of Marine Mammal Research and

Conservation at Harbor Branch. They will arrive with their Marine Mammal Ambulance to provide tours of this well equipped vehicle.

Eat Local, March 4, 6:30 to 8 PM. A never-before-assembled round table of local farmers, ranchers and harvesters will discuss the difference between “sustainable” and “industrial” agriculture and how to find locally grown/raised foods.

Beach Quest, April 1, 6:30 to 8 PM. Dr. Blair Witherington, a research scientist working on sea turtle biology and conservation at the Research Institute of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, will introduce participants to some of the wonderful and sometimes mysterious things to be found on their own beach outings. He and his wife authored the book *Florida's Living Beaches*.

The Coastal Plain, May 6, 6:30 to 8 PM. The research of guest speaker Dr. Bruce Means has been featured in documentary films for National Geographic Television, BBC Television and PBS. With 40 years of experience studying the coastal plain that stretches from New Jersey to Texas, he will share his findings with photographs of indigenous animals and plants.

Each of these events will be followed by a wine and local finger food reception.

For more information on the IRLT visit www.irlt.org and on the ELC visit www.DiscoverELC.org.