Hilary's passionate leadership in researching and promoting all avenues of local recycling opportunities, as well as organizing a MG field trip to the recycling center in Pembroke Pines has inspired our group. Many MGs are now bringing their own dishes to our potluck supper meetings as well as rescuing recyclables from garbage containers for recycling. She should be very proud of this accomplishment!

Hillary's other passions include preserving native plants and experiencing and protecting Florida's endangered environment and wildlife. Here again she has inspired Master Gardeners with her enthusiastic example. In past years she addressed the entire MG group on the subject of natives, as well as instructed the incoming MG class about using Florida native plants in home landscape design. She arranged for a speaker from the Savannahs to teach MGs about Florida's native frogs, followed by a field trip to kayak the Savannahs and experience this local treasure many had never visited.

Her landscape design and plant retail work experience have been very helpful for the MG biannual plant sales in June and November. She has been instrumental in getting plants that have invasive tendencies removed from the shadehouse inventory and in organizing the plants for sale, as well as directing the people who sell them... Hillary is a great organizer!

Recently she has taken a lead in planting a demo vegetable garden at the Extension office and in revising and replanting the Extension front exotic demo garden. She also helped design the native plantings for the Martin County Courthouse planters, soon to be an educational statement to so many Martin County residents. Congratulations and thank you, Hillary!