

## **Homeschool Classes at Edison Ford**

### **Transportation Engineering Marvels - Panama Canal**

**March 5, 2025 | 10AM - 12PM**

In this interactive homeschool class students will learn about the engineering and construction of the Panama Canal. In the “Lego Maze Water Test Challenge” activity they will create a maze that allows water to flow through it, simulating the locks of the canal. This activity helps students understand the engineering challenges of waterway construction and the importance of effective water management. The class is designed to facilitate homeschool learning for grades 1-6. Homeschool classes at Edison Ford are aligned with Next Generation Science and Florida State Standards. Classes are a combination of instruction and hands on activities that are designed to facilitate homeschool or virtual science education. Become a family member of Edison Ford and receive discounted registration!

March 5 & 13: grades 1-3

March 6 & 12: grades 4-6

### **Garden Talk: Sanserverias**

**March 8, 2025 | 10 AM**

Did you know that the Estates has a Sanseveria garden? We'll look beyond the invasive “Mother-in-Law’s tongue” plant to dozens of other species and learn what makes these easy-care plants so collectible. We'll also discuss dracaenas.

Garden Talk participants will receive a coupon for 20% off plant purchases in the Garden Shoppe. Guests should wear comfortable shoes, sunscreen and a hat, and bring drinking water. Purchase tickets for each talk at the ticket counter.

Members: \$15; non-members: \$20

### **Tropical Floral Arrangement Class**

**March 09, 2025 | 10am - 12pm**

Whether you're a seasoned florist or just discovering your green thumb, this workshop is perfect for all skill levels. We'll provide all the necessary materials, including a wide selection of tropical foliage and containers. But here's the exciting part – you're also invited to bring your own tropical foliage from your garden! Incorporate your personal touch into your arrangement and make it truly unique. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn the art of tropical floral arrangement. Space is limited and registration is required.

Members: \$75, non-members: \$85

## **Step into History Digital Edition: The Hunt – Edison’s Search for Natural Rubber**

**March 12, 2025 | 10:30 a.m.**

Step into history with lead historian Chase with a discussion on Thomas Edison’s search for natural rubber. The 1920s saw the United States face a crisis with rubber prices rising and no source to be found domestically. Thomas Edison accepted this challenge by testing thousands of plants gathered from around the world thanks to his friends like Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone. Edison’s Fort Myers laboratory would find success, but it would be too late with advances in synthetic rubber and his passing in 1931. Join us for this free virtual presentation to learn about Edison’s quest for natural rubber and challenges he faced through his years of experimentation. Advance registration is required.

## **Garden Tour (Registration Required)**

**March 12, 2025 | 10am - 11:30am**

The Edison and Ford Winter Estates botanical gardens contain more than 1,700 plants from six continents including flowering plants and trees, fruit trees, palms, bamboo, cycads, vines, roses, orchids, and Florida natives. On this tour, experienced garden staff lead visitors through the 20-acre site and highlights the different types of plants and their importance to the Edison and Ford families.

Visitors will see the Moonlight Garden, many rare plants and get to go behind-the-scenes in the propagating nursery. Some of the plants in the gardens are available for sale in the on-site Garden Shoppe.

The garden tour is offered the second Wednesday of the month, and tickets go on sale online the first of each month for that month’s tour. Registration is limited.

Members: \$30, non-members: \$35

## **Silk Scarf Painting Class with Artist Marie Dyer**

**March 15, 2025 | 9am - 2:30pm**

If you need some time to relax and unwind, join us for a silk scarf painting class with Marie Dyer surrounded by Edison’s gardens. You will leave the class with a silk scarf that can be worn or hung as a piece of artwork. All materials are included in the fee.

No experience is required. Space is limited.

Members: \$90, non-members: \$100

### **Future Makers Spring Break Camp**

**March 17-21, 2025 | 9am - 4pm**

Join us as science and history come alive in our “living laboratory!” No experience is necessary to participate in these fun and fast-moving S.T.E.A.M. (science technology, engineering, art, and math) camps. For students currently in grades K-5, unless otherwise noted. Campers must bring lunches, and snacks if desired. Become a family member of Edison Ford and receive discounted registration!

Campers release their full potential in this project-based camp, getting a crash course in code, electronics, and robotics. The camp then focuses on open-ended projects as the campers apply what they learn.

Registration open now! For more information on camps, visit [edisonford.org](http://edisonford.org)

### **Gardening Class: Plant a White Garden**

**March 18, 2025 | 1:30 p.m.**

White gardens were all the rage with the arrival of the Arts & Crafts movement that redesigned homes and gardens, and Vita-Sackville West’s white garden at Sissinghurst in England set the standard. Since we can’t use the same plants, we can appropriate the concept, and this class will cover plant choices and design ideas to create a sub-tropical white sensation on your lanai, balcony or in your garden. Each participant will receive a 20% discount coupon for plant purchases in our Garden Shoppe.

Advance Registration is required, as class size is limited. Class will be held at the Garden Council building, located across the street from the Edison and Ford (Larchmont Street) parking lot.

Cost: EFWE members: \$45; non-members: \$60

### **Digital Discussion: The Boston Red Sox and Spring Training in Fort Myers**

**March 18, 2025 | 10:30 a.m.**

Edison Ford Winter Estates continues the celebration of 100 years since spring training began in Fort Myers by focusing on the Boston Red Sox.

They moved to Fort Myers in 1993 and since that time have won four World Series titles. Learn about the rich history of the team and their spring training history in Fort Myers. Join museum manager Holly Shaffer for this free virtual presentation.

### **Baseball Presentation: Fort Myers Spring Training History**

**March 21, 2025 | 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.**

In celebration of 100 years since spring training began in Fort Myers, join Museum Manager Holly Shaffer for two presentations in the museum on Fort Myers spring training history on March 21.

At 11:00 a.m. she will speak on the Philadelphia Athletics and their spring training history in Fort Myers.

At 2:00 p.m. she will present an overview of the 100 years since spring training began in Fort Myers.

The presentations are included with the price of admission, and free for Edison Ford members.

### **Gardening Class: Shade Gardening**

**March 22, 2025 | 10 a.m.**

Brighten a dark corner of your garden or a shaded balcony with a striking array of foliage, form and texture. We will present a palette of tropical and sub-tropical plants that thrive in a low-light environment; other growing needs will also be addressed. We will discuss seasonal options as well as perennial choices and how a well-placed tree or two can be the start of an intriguing shady showcase. A garden tour of our shady enclaves is included with this class. Registration is required

Cost: EFWE members: \$45; non-members: \$60

### **Vintage Base Ball Game – at Terry Park**

**March 22, 2025 | 10 a.m.**

Edison and Ford Winter Estates will host a day of vintage “base ball” at historic Terry Park. Join us to celebrate the early days of our national pastime with three teams playing consecutive games (the Fort Myers Vagabonds, Bradenton Shamrocks, and the Central Florida Awkwards). The teams will play by 1860s rules. Players will wear vintage uniforms, no gloves, and use wood bats and lemon peel baseballs. Spectators will see the game played as it was when Thomas Edison was a teenager and he developed his life-long love of the game, inspiring him to proclaim: “Baseball is the greatest of American games.”

Game Location:

Terry Park

3410 Palm Beach Boulevard

Fort Myers, FL 33901

Admission: \$5 for adults, children 18 and younger admitted free.

### **Acrylic Landscape Painting Class with Marie Dyer**

**March 23, 2025 | 9am - 2:30pm**

Come spend the day with impressionistic local artist Marie Dyer as she guides you in this plein air acrylic landscape painting workshop. She will cover the fundamentals of composition and structure, color creating mood, mixing paints, and assist in developing a pallet that speaks to you! Students will be inspired by the lush surroundings on site in this one-of-a-kind class.

No experience is required. All materials are included; space is limited.

Members: \$90, non-members: \$100

### **Pre-K Classes**

**March 27, 2025 | 10am - 11:30am**

Join us for one or all of our upcoming pre-k class titled “Symphony of Imagination: A Journey into Sound.” Embark on a musical adventure where young enthusiasts will create instruments and explore sound through engaging activities. This class combines creativity and fun, helping children develop their auditory skills and a love for music.

Back by popular demand, these classes are designed for children aged 18 months – 5 years. Don’t miss an excellent opportunity for curious children to learn more about science, the world around them, and socializing with others! Class sizes are limited and involve parent participation.

### **New! Botanical Abstract Mono Prints Class with Artist Marie Dyer**

**March 30, 2025 | 9am - 1:30pm**

Artist Marie Dyer will teach you the basics to effective mono printing. You will use acrylic paints, plants, household items, and construction materials when experimenting and designing your art on paper. No experience is necessary and your one-of-a-kind creations will be suitable for framing.

All materials included and no experience is needed. Space is limited and registration is required.

Members: \$90, non-members: \$100

