

Edison & Ford™

WINTER ESTATES

Homes • Gardens • Laboratory • Museum

2350 McGregor Blvd. • Fort Myers, FL 33901 • 239.334.7419
P.O. Box 2368 • Fort Myers, FL 33902
www.efwefla.org

NOVEMBER 2009 EVENTS

MONTHLY UPDATE

Closed Thanksgiving Day
Open Thanksgiving Weekend

Estates Holiday Garden Market

Annual Event on Thanksgiving Weekend
Bigger than Ever!

Nov. 27, noon – 5:00 p.m.; Nov. 28, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.;
Nov. 29, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Thanksgiving weekend is a great time to gather friends, family and holiday visitors to come to the Edison & Ford Winter Estates to enjoy and purchase garden plants and items from dozens of vendors from throughout Florida. Heritage plants, exotic tropical's like orchids and bromeliads, fruit trees, roses and herbs are only some of the spectacular plants gathered for this event held around the gardens at the Banyan Tree. Holiday gifts like the Estates Heritage Herb Baskets and other items from the Estates Garden Shoppe will also be included.

Admission to the event is free for all and Estates Members have the added advantage of touring the riverside gardens and restored homes at no ticket charge.

New Volunteer Orientation

- November 10, 10:00 a.m.

Join Estates staff to learn about volunteer opportunities, background and history, and general Museum information. This is a mandatory training for all new Estates volunteers but potential volunteers are welcome.

FREE Admission to Veterans and their Families

- November 11

The Estates is offering free admission to United States Veterans and their families. Free admission includes a tour of the historic homes, botanical gardens, the Estates Museum and the Edison Research Lab. Veterans must present a VA identification card or their DD214 papers to receive free admission.

Docent Training

- November 19, 9:00 a.m.

New Estates volunteers who are interested in becoming Edison and Ford porch, Lab and Museum Docents, or who wish to learn to lead group tours of the site grounds must attend this meeting and learn the essentials.

Home Schoolers: "Rocks, Minerals & Thomas Edison"

- November 20, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Home schooled students and their parents can enroll in a half day of curriculum that follows the Florida Sunshine objectives for learning. Home schoolers will learn about minerals and rocks including what Edison did with iron ore and Edison's own concrete mixture. Pre-visit curriculum materials will be mailed to registered families. Estates Members \$5; non-members \$15 (one adult, one child) additional \$5 per child. Registration is required.



Estates "Creative Cottage" Opens November 27 – mid January

The seasonal Creative Cottage is back again in the historic Edison Caretaker's House with a wonderful group of local artists, authors, craftspeople and chefs. Featured artisan, Norman Love, internationally known, award-winning chocolatier has created a special "Edison" hand-crafted chocolate in honor of Thomas Edison. The "Creative Cottage" will be open 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily until December 11. During the Estates Holiday event, "Edison & Ford Holiday Nights" hours will be extended to 9:00 p.m. Estates Members are *FREE*. A "shoppers pass" may be issued at the main ticket office to visit the "Creative Cottage." Call for details. Member discounts are always 10%.



HOLIDAY NIGHTS

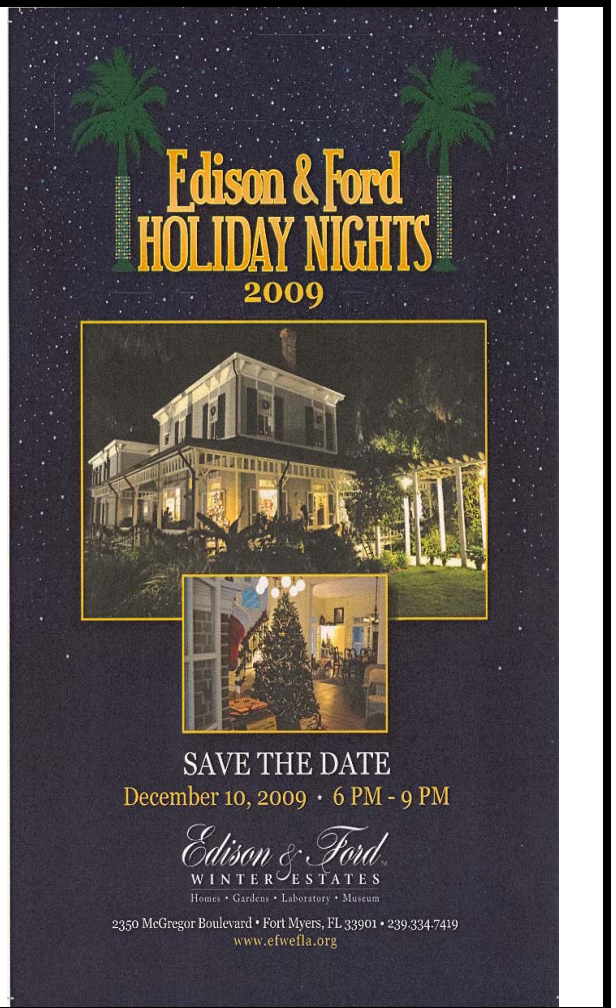
Holiday Party
December 10, 6:00 p.m.

Kick off the holiday season with the first annual holiday party at the gloriously decorated homes and gardens of the Estates. Guests will enjoy a special preview of the Estates annual event, food and beverages by the river, and live music. To RSVP call 239-334-7419.
Estates Members \$50; non-members \$60.

Edison & Ford Holiday Nights
December 11 – January 2
5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

The Estates holiday tradition continues with “Edison & Ford Holiday Nights,” southwest Florida’s 34 year annual event. The winter homes of the Edison and Ford families will be seasonally decorated with the “favorite things” of the Edison and Ford families. The Edison Botanic Lab and Estates Museum will be open every evening with special exhibits as well as nightly holiday performances by area students and groups.

Special discount nights available to Lee County Residents opening weekend (December 11 – 12). Groups rates are available to groups of 20 or more people with advance reservations. For more details call 239-334-7419.



The poster features a dark blue background with a starry night sky. At the top, two palm trees are silhouetted against the sky. The title "Edison & Ford HOLIDAY NIGHTS 2009" is written in a stylized, golden font. Below the title is a photograph of a large, white, two-story house with a porch, illuminated at night. A smaller inset photo shows the interior of a room decorated for the holidays with a Christmas tree and lights. At the bottom, the text "SAVE THE DATE" is followed by "December 10, 2009 • 6 PM - 9 PM". The Edison & Ford Winter Estates logo is also present, along with the address "2350 McGregor Boulevard • Fort Myers, FL 33901 • 239-334-7419" and the website "www.efwefla.org".

Edison Ford Winter Estates Foundation *9th Annual Foundation Gala* **Friday, November 6th**

The Edison & Ford Winter Estates and Sam Galloway, Jr., President of the Edison Ford Winter Estates Foundation are celebrating “Moments in Black & White Gala 2009.” The gala features a reception and private dinner at the Ford Estate and includes live entertainment, silent and live auctions featuring items that represent a “piece of the past and treasures of today.” Limited seating. For more information contact the Edison Ford Winter Estates Foundation office at 239-274-2377. The Edison Ford Winter Estates Foundation provides preservation and restoration support to the Edison & Ford Winter Estates, Inc.

The Edison & Ford Winter Estates is a National Register Historic Site and a Save America’s Treasures site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It is managed by a private, non-profit organization with a Board of Trustees. The Estates operates on revenues and grants from the Historical Museums Grants-in-Aid Program through the Bureau of Historical Museums, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State and Secretary of State, the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs and the Lee County Tourism Commission. The Estates is open daily 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., with the final tour departing at 4 p.m.

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“Welcome back “snowbirds”
Come visit the NEW public garden



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