

Flowers Abound



Flowers abound in the Tri-County Area of Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties.



Some mowing groups let the flowers go until they lose their petals. Others mow them down. Roadside phlox (*Phlox drummondii*) is an annual that is not native to Florida, but widely planted on roadsides throughout the northern half of the state. It is native to Texas. The species is a flowering plant in the genus *Phlox* of the family *Polemoniaceae*. Those are the purple, blue, red and white (and some other colors) in this photo. The yellow flowers are abundant at this point in the spring bloomage this year.



Some people say the yellow flowers are black-eyed Susans, but others say they are not. They are yellow flowers. There is some certainty about one flower in Florida. As for one official flower of Florida, the orange blossom (*Citrus sinensis*) was designated as the official state flower of Florida in 1909.

Photos By Jeff M. Hardison © May 2, 2017 at 7:17 a.m.