

Why Water Plants Don't Drown

- a workshop presented by Dr. Victoria Sullivan about the adaptations that allowed plants to live in wet habitats, and allowed exotics to become problems in these habitats



All organisms have adapted to living where they do.

In her workshop Dr. Sullivan will focus on plants that live in water and wet places and will describe the adaptations that allowed them to overcome stresses of these environments. In photographs and with living plants from surrounding waterways she will illustrate their adaptations. Some water plants, such as water hyacinth, hydrilla, and parrot's milfoil have invaded territories where they are not native and have become *too successful*. Dr. Sullivan will talk about the adaptations that have allowed these exotics to become problems and the various attempts to control them. She will discuss the damage caused by extraction of petroleum combined with the effects of global warming that has resulted in tremendous land loss in coastal areas offer insights as to what does the future holds for coastal areas and what role plants play in this future.



Dr. Victoria Sullivan holds a Ph.D. in Biology from Florida State University, and is a former professor of the University of Louisiana at

Lafayette. She is a resident of Sewanee, and winters in New Iberia, Louisiana. Sullivan has published botanical papers in the *Flora of North America*, *American Journal of Botany*, *Canadian Journal of Botany*, *Rhodora*, *Sida*, and *Plant Systematics and Evolution*, and has published *Why Water Plants Don't Drown*, a book focusing on the diverse and fascinating survival strategies of aquatic and wetland plants. She has published the science fiction novels, *Adoption*, and a sequel, *Rogue Genes*, works of flash fiction, and poetry. Her research on the plant genus *Eupatorium*, earned her the distinct honor of having a species, *Eupatorium sullivaniae*, named for her.

The *Ora et Labora* Program Series:

Location: St. Mary's Convent
1100 St. Mary's Lane
Sewanee, TN 37375

Date and Time: September 26, 2015
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$ 50 (lunch is included)

Reservations:

Please call the Sisters at 931-598-0046 or send in a check made out to "The Community of St. Mary"

