

Lizard in Technicolor



"Nature Notes"
by Nancy Zakon

My skin crawls at the word lizard...but they are pretty cool when you know more. Members at The Reef have snapped photos of this technicolor dandy, the red headed agama. The most prevalent "liz" in Africa, the agama attracted pet shops - owners and hurricanes did the rest. Florida has just what it needs: warmth, sandy soil, wet season (June – Sept.) when eggs are laid. And it's happy to spend its long 25-year life span here. Why the colors? Why is any dandy colorful? Attracting a mate (or two or three since these males have harems) and warding off predators. The more dominate the male, the



Photo by Tim Sheehan

more colorful. Their color combos include red, blue, yellow, green, purple, black – well, you get the idea. Females are more demure donning greens and browns. Think free mosquito controller when you see one. These insect-eaters are harmless and territorial, preferring to congregate their extended family around a rock or tree. If you have one in your neighborhood, why not give it a name? "Rainbow" - too obvious? ... What about "Tie-dye" or "MGM"?

Got Fruit?

Easy donation program helps Keys community

By Alex Woodsum,
Member Since 2010

Do you have fruit trees on your property with extra fruit on them or will you be out of town this summer or fall when your fruit trees are in season? Consider helping your local Keys community in this tough time by donating your extra fruit to help feed those in need. Everything from bananas to mangoes and citrus is being collected weekly and transported to Burton Memorial's food pantry in Tavernier.

Due to the impacts of Covid-19 and the extended closure of the Florida Keys, more people than ever in nearby communities are seeking out food pantries and are



Alex Woodsum's food collection program donates extra fruit and frozen, dry or canned goods to Keys food pantries in need.

in need of assistance. Many Ocean Reef Members have stepped up to donate what is left in their own pantries (including Card Sound Golf Club!) and on their trees as they leave for the season.

To sign up for the fruit collection program or to donate unopened frozen, dry, or canned goods, please email **Alex Woodsum** at alexwoodsum@gmail.com.

For those achieving goals...

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PENDING

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SOLD

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Listed for \$2,700,000

SOLD

6 BAY RIDGE
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SOLD

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