



# Southeastern Palm Society™

April 7, 2010

[www.sepalms.org](http://www.sepalms.org)

## The Southeastern Palm Society's Spring Meeting

After what has seemed an endless winter, we're all looking forward to the Southeastern Palm Society's spring meeting, which will bring us together once again at the lovely Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Garden in Columbia, South Carolina. We'll meet there at 10:00 am on Saturday, April 24, 2010.

**Attractions.** The zoo and gardens cover 70 acres on both banks of the Saluda River just west of downtown Columbia. Besides being home to over 2,000 animals representing more than 350 species from around the world, the park boasts an extensive and fascinating collection of subtropical plants and palms. The garden's 34,000 square-foot walled garden is one of the best places in South Carolina to enjoy a tremendous variety of subtropical trees, shrubs, vines and perennials. Those who visited Riverbanks for SPS meetings in 1998 and 2003 will attest to its attractions, and the zoo itself is well stocked with both zoological and botanical wonders.

**Agenda.** SPS spring meetings are quite leisurely and informal, and our agenda for the day will follow that tradition. At 10.00 am there will be a plant sale in the parking lot at the Botanical Garden entrance, followed by a brief business meeting. We'll then break for lunch, followed by an afternoon wandering through the gardens and zoo.

**Lunch.** Riverbanks offers a variety of food and drink, including pizza, deli sandwiches, burgers, ice cream and Starbucks. (Personal food, beverages and coolers aren't allowed in the park.)

**Admission.** Riverbanks will generously waive the usual admission price of \$9.75 for SPS members and guests, but you must enter the park with the group.

**Directions.** Riverbanks is located just west of downtown Columbia and has two entrances. We'll use the Botanical Garden entrance rather than the Zoo Entrance. The Botanical Garden entrance is located at 1300 Botanical Parkway. Use US 378 (Sunset Boulevard) which runs between downtown and I-20 and I-26 to the west. From US 378, turn onto Botanical Parkway (a right turn coming from downtown and a left turn coming from I-20 or I-26) and follow it to the Botanical Garden entrance and parking lot. A map is available at the web site.

**Website.** [www.riverbanks.org](http://www.riverbanks.org).