

ARECACEAE – PALM FAMILY

Plant: woody vines, shrubs and trees

Stem: branched or unbranched, woody

Root:

Leaves: 1 or 2 compound (fan-shaped or palmate) or feather shaped (pinnate) with a conspicuous stalk (petiole), sheathed at base (usually split at maturity), base of stalk often remains on trunk or stem

Flowers: perfect and/or imperfect (monoecious or dioecious), regular (actinomorphic); flowers small and whitish; 2-4 sepals, petals and few to many stamens; ovary superior, 1-3 pistils, 3 styles

Fruit: berry or leathery-like berry or drupe, any size with one large seed

Other: very large family, mostly in tropics to subtropics; Monocotyledons Group

Genera: 200+ genera; locally *Sabal* (palmetto)

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Cabbage Palmetto; *Sabal palmetto* (Walt.) Lodd. ex J.A. & J.H. Schultes
Saw Palmetto; *Serenoa repens* (Bartram) Small

Cabbage Palmetto

Sabal palmetto (Walt.) Lodd.

ex J.A. & J.H. Schultes

Areaceae (Palm Family)

Fort Pulaski National Monument, Georgia

Notes: shrub or tree; flowers yellowish-white; a fan-leaved palm tree, leaf stalks continue into frond, at trunk end the leafstalk base is forked, loose fibers common on leaves, without spines on leaf stalk; fruit 0.5 in; state tree of Florida

[V Max Brown, 2006]



Saw Palmetto

Serenoa repens (Bartram) Small

Arecaceae (Palm Family)

Cedar Key, Levy County, Florida

Notes: shrub; flowers greenish white in spiked clusters; a fan-leaved palm, yellowish green to green, leaf stalks (petioles) do not continue into frond and have curved spines; fruit yellowish turning black (drupe of 10-15 mm); usually in sandy ground

[V Max Brown, 2011]

