



The Leon County LINK

Connecting Citizens
with Leon County
Services

County Gives Tours, Lessons on 'Growing Green'

On the same day that Barack Obama announced the members of his environmental "Green Team," Leon County leaders – along with more than 50 cities and counties throughout the nation – were urging the President-Elect to invest economic-recovery dollars and long-term resources to fund local government projects that create green jobs, reduce energy consumption and cut greenhouse gas emissions.



County staff and members of the media attended an educational experience at the Leon County Solid Waste Management Facility last month, recognizing Climate Communities' Local Climate Action Week.

Participants took a guided tour of some of the area's most needed and often overlooked services, including the electronics, Styrofoam and Household Hazardous Waste recycling centers, as well as the landfill.

Featured presenters included Leon County Commissioner Cliff Thaeil, Management Services Director Kim Dressel and Solid Waste Management Division Director Norm Thomas, who spoke on Leon County's most recent efforts in its "Growing Green" campaign and the Climate Communities' Blueprint to reduce carbon emissions nationwide.

A larger event for members of the community is planned for Spring 2009. For more information, call Household Hazardous Waste at (850) 606-1803.

The Annual Report: Reflecting on Fiscal Year 07/08

The 2008 Leon County Annual Report is fresh off the presses, providing citizens a way to see the progress the County has made to enhance their quality of life over the past year.

It's a full-color, magazine-format publication that informs the public about the accomplishments of Leon County government through project pictures and descriptions.

This year's report has been redesigned and retooled with a cover that displays imagery representative of our County's diverse and natural beauty, as well as easy-to-find facts and figures for quick reference of its many service offerings.

The document can also be found on the Leon County website, www.leoncountyfl.gov, for those who might not have the opportunity to see the report in print format. Online visitors can also complete a brief survey on the report and provide the County with helpful feedback. For more information, call the Public Information Office at (850) 606-5300.



Technology Grants Offered

Applications are now being accepted for the annual Innovation Park Technology Commercialization Grant Program offered by the Leon County Research and Development Authority (LCRDA).

This year marks the 5-year anniversary of the grant program, which awards funding to deserving local researchers and entrepreneurs who are actively developing technology-related products and services in the commercial marketplace.

As much as \$45,000 will be awarded to competitors with the winning applicants receiving grants from \$2,500 to \$15,000 based on need.

Applications for the grants are now available at www.innovation-park.com, and the deadline is 1 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2009. Late proposals will not be accepted.

For more information, please contact Linda Nichol森 at (850) 575-0343 or innpark@embarqmail.com.

Arbor Day Celebration

This year's City/County Arbor Day Tree Planting will be held on January 24, 2009, at the new Pecan Pond Park.

The tree planting begins at 9 a.m. at the corner of Trimble Road and Pecan Road and will continue until all the trees are planted. About 100 long-leaf pine trees, various canopy and flowering hardwoods will be planted.

For more information, contact Tom Jackson at (850) 606-1400 or jacksonto@leoncountyfl.gov.

The Link is produced by the Leon County Public Information Office,
301 S. Monroe Street, Suite 502 - (850) 606-5300.

Beginning today, The Link will be published the first Wednesday of each month in the local section of the Tallahassee Democrat.

Animal Control Named "Outstanding Agency of the Year"



Thanks to continued efforts to improve its services to the community, Leon County Animal Control was awarded the Florida Animal Control Association's "Outstanding Agency of the Year" award for 2008.

Despite having fewer field officers and increased calls, the small team managed to provide the level of service Leon County residents have come to expect.

Leon County Animal Control provides public education programs to the community and visits elementary and civic groups to speak about safety for people and animals in addition to its other duties. The agency received a plaque at the FACA Award Banquet.

To reach Leon County Animal Control, call (850) 606-5400.

County Float Wins Award



The Leon County Board of County Commissioners' float was named "Best Government Agency Float" for the 2008 Winter Festival. The float carried banners that read: "Leon County Welcomes Our Veterans Home for the Holidays," and members of the armed forces rode and walked alongside the float. 4-H students led the way with a County banner. The structure was built to look like a house, complete with a fireplace, couch, bistro table and a chimney with smoke and flew military flags.

County Boosts Recycling Efforts

In an effort to increase recycling in Leon County, the Board of County Commissioners has contracted with Marpan Recycling to process certain debris that was previously disposed of at the Apalachee Solid Waste Management Facility.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Landfill Operations at the Apalachee facility, 7550 Apalachee Pkwy., will be closed to the general public. The facility will continue to accept waste tires and clean loads of yard trash (no plastic bags), Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Items such as construction and demolition debris, cardboard, furniture and carpet will now be processed for recycling at the Marpan facility, 6020 Woodville Hwy.

For more information, visit the Solid Waste Management Division's website at www.leoncountyfl.gov/SolidWaste or contact Solid Waste Management Director Norm Thomas at (850) 606-1800 or thomasno@leoncountyfl.gov.

January 2009 Board of County Commissioners' Schedule

- 7 **Joint City/County Adoption Hearing on Cycle 2009-1 Comprehensive Plan Amendments**, 6 p.m.
City Hall, 300 S. Adams, 2nd Floor, Commission Chambers
- 12 **Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA)**, 1 p.m.
City Hall, 300 S. Adams, 2nd Floor, Commission Chambers
- 15 **Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting**, 3 p.m.

Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing, 6 p.m.
County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Commission Chambers
- 19 **OFFICES CLOSED - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
- 26 **Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting (CRA)**, 12 p.m.
City Hall, 300 S. Adams, 2nd Floor, Commission Chambers
- 29 **Board of County Commissioners Workshop on Emergency Management**, 9 a.m.

Board of County Commissioners Workshop on Stormwater/ Transportation Infrastructure Improvements, 10 a.m.

Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting, 3 p.m.
County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Commission Chambers