



NEWS RELEASE



ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Inmate labor saves more than \$6,000 in October

In October, inmate work squads from the Alachua County Jail worked on a variety of projects that saved county taxpayers more than \$6,000. Last month, the squads:

- Removed seats from lecture hall, pulled trees, leveled mulch and pressure washed at the Santa Fe College Institute for Public Safety.
- Removed weeds and cut overgrowth at University of Florida's Harn Museum Butterfly Garden.
- Trimmed bushes and trees for the Gainesville Housing Authority.
- Set up tents, tables and chairs and hung banners for American Heart Association's Heart Walk.

In October, the squads performed 468 hours of labor for a savings of \$6,126.12. So far this year, the squads have performed 4,228 hours of labor for a savings of \$55,344.52.

Last year, the squads performed 6,378 hours of work for a savings of \$83,488.02, according to the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI). From October through December 2007, a total of 677.5 hours of inmate labor were reported for a savings of \$8,868.48. Since the squads were initiated in October 2007, they have created a total combined savings to taxpayers of \$147,701.02.

AWI determines the value of work by multiplying the hourly wage value of \$13.09 by the total number of hours worked. The hourly wage value is based on a base rate of pay. They do not include holiday pay, overtime pay and shift differential pay, vacation pay or any other benefits such as health insurance benefits, profit sharing, stock bonuses, tuition repayments, or meal payments. The base hourly wage is determined from the Florida Occupational Wages 2007 Edition prepared by AWI. For more information on work squad programs, call Lt. Mike Donovan, Transport & Facility Support Bureau Chief at the jail at 352-491-4468. For more information on this news release, call Eugene Morris, Bureau Chief for Inmate Programs and Services at the jail at 352-491-4525.