



# News Release

*Alachua County Sheriff's Office*

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**For Immediate Release:**

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**Prepared by:** Eugene Morris, Jail PIO

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**Media Advisory: Inmate labor savings top \$19,800 in May**

In May, inmate work squads from the Alachua County Jail worked on a variety of projects that saved county taxpayers more than \$19,800. Last month, the squads:

- Cleared brush and removed debris from ditches for the City of Waldo.
- Removed trash for the Gainesville Housing Authority.
- Performed general cleanup for City of Archer.
- Conducted landscaping for the Santa Fe College Institute for Public Safety.
- Cut brush at the Ironwood Golf Course.

In May, the squads performed 1,515 hours of labor for a savings of \$19,831.35. In April, the jail added a second work crew to perform additional work projects. So far this year, the squads have performed 5,187 hours of work for a savings of \$67,897.83. Last year, the squads performed 5,994 hours of labor for a savings of \$78,461.46.

In 2008, 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 \$231,333.03.

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, Jail PIO at 352-491-4525.