

2015



Leon County
Annual Report

Board of County Commissioners

District 1

Bill Proctor, 2004-05 Vice-Chairman

Term: 2002-2006

606-5361

proctorb@leoncountyfl.gov

District 2

Jane G. Sauls

Term: 2004-2008

606-5362

saulsj@leoncountyfl.gov

District 3

Dan Winchester

Term: 2002-2006

606-5363

danw@leoncountyfl.gov

District 4

Tony Grippa

Term: 2004-2008

606-5364

grippat@leoncountyfl.gov

District 5

Bob Rackleff

Term: 2002-2006

606-5365

racklefb@leoncountyfl.gov

At-Large

Cliff Thaell, 2004-05 Chairman

Term: 2002-2006

606-5367

cliff@leoncountyfl.gov

At-Large

Ed DePuy

Term: 2004-2008

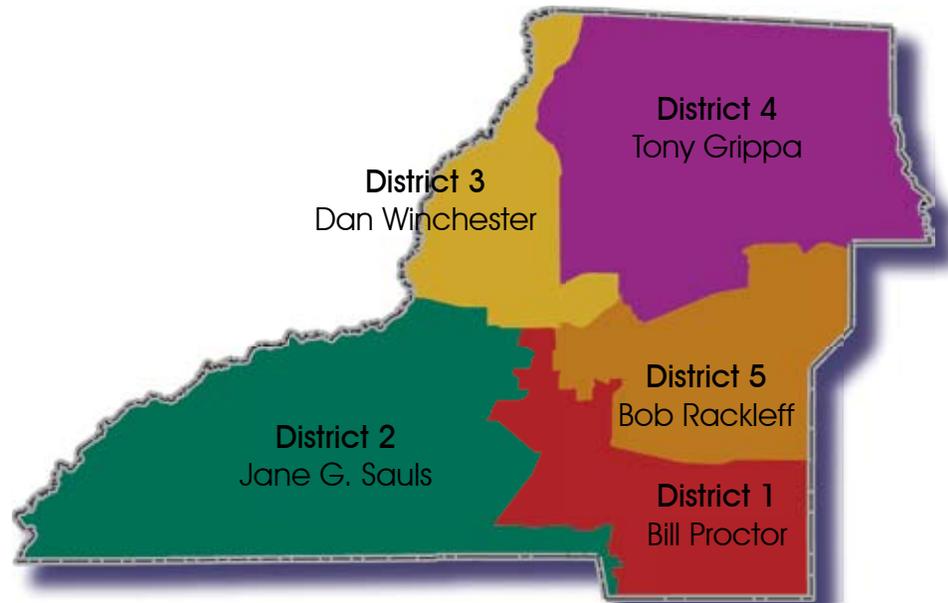
606-5369

depuye@leoncountyfl.gov

Serving the Citizens of Leon County

Each commissioner serves a four-year term. Every November, commissioners choose a chairman to serve as the Board's leader during the upcoming year. They also elect a vice-chairman. The chairman presides over official meetings and signs contracts on behalf of the Board. He or she is the official representative of the commission, and he or she represents the Board in negotiations with other parties.

At the end of each year, commissioners meet to discuss the most important issues facing the County and to establish the Board's priorities for the upcoming year. To learn more about your County Commission, to read commissioners' biographies, and to find other information, visit www.leoncountyfl.gov/bcc.



Commissioners (from left to right) Tony Grippa, Bill Proctor, Bob Rackleff, Jane G. Sauls, Cliff Thaell, Ed DePuy and Dan Winchester.



Message from the County Administrator

I am pleased to present the 2005 Leon County Administrator's Annual Report. This document aims to inform Leon County citizens about the accomplishments of County government over the past year. This report introduces an engaging new format. Through pictures and project descriptions, you can see the progress your County government is making to enhance your quality of life.

The Board of County Commissioners and our dedicated team of County employees work hard to provide the highest quality services to citizens. In the area of public safety, we have made significant improvements. January 2005 was the first year mark for Leon County's Emergency Medical Services (LCEMS) Division. LCEMS provides superior and cost-effective emergency medical services and transport to the citizens and visitors of Leon County. EMS personnel is doing an exemplary job, responding to emergencies in record times and saving lives daily. The County maintains a focus on clinical improvements and efficient response, and we continue to strive to be the best EMS system in the country.

The County continued to demonstrate its commitment to the community with several substantial projects aimed to enhance education, safety, and overall quality of life. This past year, the County made great strides to protect citizens' health and the environment by addressing septic tank failures in Killbuck Lakes. Construction on a new sewer system begins in fall 2005. The County continues to focus on our outstanding library system, adding computers and computer programs to our libraries and enhancing our on-line customer services. In addition, the County Commission has committed funding for stand-alone branch libraries in Northwest and Southeast Leon County. When dangerous weather threatened Leon County, personnel from Public Works, the Volunteer Center, EMS, and other departments, all contributed to emergency response efforts locally, ensuring that citizens were safe and well informed. In addition, many Leon County personnel and employees helped with relief efforts in areas impacted by hurricanes this year.

Leon County is on the verge of some dynamic, well-planned changes. At nearly every turn, there is new residential development. People are moving back to downtown, retailers are moving in, and more families are calling Leon County home. There are plans for a new performing arts center, and road projects that include bicycle lanes and sidewalks are moving forward to bring more recreational opportunities for all citizens. Also, we're working closely with the Chamber of Commerce to enhance economic development opportunities and create jobs.

I thank the Board for planning for the future and making sound decisions to ensure that our community continues to flourish. There will be challenges ahead, including addressing affordable housing, expanding our job base, improving our permitting process, and developing a consolidated 9-1-1 system and emergency operations center to allow for better Countywide coordination of law enforcement and emergency response.

Leon County has continued its long tradition of practicing fiscal discipline while maintaining the highest level of service possible. The Fiscal Year 2004-05 budget provided funding to continue high levels of service to the citizens of Leon County while reducing the general millage rate from 8.55 to 8.54. The Board of County Commissioners also approved a reduction in the millage rate in September 2005 for the FY 2005-06 budget. This year marks the 14th consecutive year the millage rate has been reduced or held constant.

I hope you find the information in this report useful, interesting, and enlightening.

P.A.



Parwez Alam, County Administrator
606-5300
parwez@leoncountyfl.gov

The County Administrator is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners. Parwez Alam serves as the chief executive officer of the County, and it is his responsibility to implement all decisions, policies, programs, and motions approved by the Board. This execution is done through the department directors and administrative personnel, who report directly to the County Administrator.

In addition, the County Administrator's Office recommends an annual County operating and capital improvement budget to the Board and coordinates the Board's meeting agendas and workshops.

Parwez Alam has served the citizens of Leon County for nearly 20 years.

Contact: Andrea B. Simpson
Senior Assistant to the County
Administrator
606-5300
simpsona@leoncountyfl.gov

This document fulfills the annual reporting requirements of Chapter 125.74, Florida Statutes and Sec. 2-501(1), Leon County Administrative Code. 1000 copies were printed for community distribution at a cost of \$3775.

County Attorney's Office



Herb Thiele, County Attorney
606-2500
thieleh@leoncountyfl.gov

The County Attorney's Office provides high quality, timely, professional, cost-effective legal representation to the Board of County Commissioners and other officials of Leon County as directed by the Board of County Commissioners.

The County Attorney is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The Leon County Charter provides that the office of the County Attorney shall be responsible for the representation of County government, the Board of County Commissioners and all departments, divisions, regulatory boards, and advisory boards of County government in all legal matters relating to their official responsibilities. The office of the County Attorney shall also review all ordinances, resolutions, contracts, bonds, and other written instruments. The County Attorney is not authorized to provide civil legal advice to private citizens in his capacity as County Attorney.

Herb Thiele has served the citizens of Leon County since 1990.

County Attorney Accomplishments:

- Participated as co-Plaintiff in *Alachua v. Schembri* litigation against the State of Florida regarding the Department of Juvenile Justice's funding shift to counties, wherein the counties and the Florida Association of Counties prevailed in having the then-existing, fund-shifting statute declared unconstitutional.
- Filed documents with the Environmental Protection Agency in the Atlanta District Office regarding formation and implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) under the Clean Water Act. The process is ongoing for all identified Leon County lakes.
- Filed Clean Water Act Notice regarding the City of Cairo, Georgia's sewage treatment plant. Actively monitored downstream events and pursued finalization of permitting issues with the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Successfully challenged Florida Department of Environmental Protection's proposed rule, resulting in withdrawal. Pursued scientific analysis for new Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) rule for the Lake Lafayette Basin.
- Prepared Hopkins North Chapter 163 Development Agreement, which was approved by the Board.
- Assisted in the acquisition of all Orange Avenue properties acquired to facilitate large road widening improvement project.
- Prevailed in Court regarding a code violation; won an award of \$13,000 in attorney's fees.
- Facilitated the sale of the property at Miccosukee and Magnolia to RAM Development (Walgreens) for \$315,000 and construction of an underground storage vault for maintenance of County stormwater.
- Prepared, or assisted in developing, contracts on numerous issues including the E-9-1-1 system, Water and Sewer, Fire Services, Advanced Life Support, and the Parks and Recreation Interlocal Agreements with the City of Tallahassee. In addition, assisted in the Killlearn Lakes Interlocal Agreement with the City regarding sewer service in this area.
- County Attorney received the President's Award from the Florida Association of County Attorneys, the Chairman's Award from the City, County, and Local Government Law Section of The Florida Bar, and was appointed as the Vice President of the Counties and Special Municipal Districts Department of the International Municipal Lawyers Association.
- Hosted three Florida State University College of Law Externs via the College's internship program, where students receive college credit for internships served with local law offices.
- Organized the gathering and display of the artwork from various local elementary, middle, and high schools on the 5th Floor of the Leon County Courthouse, and the County Attorney's Office, hosting a "cookies and punch" reception for the elementary school students whose art is displayed in the County Attorney's Office.

Tourist Development Council

Tourist Development Council Accomplishments:

- Re-established *Get Out & See Tallahassee* program in April and May 2005 in connection with National Tourism Week, inviting Tallahassee residents to visit 15 local attractions for free on a Saturday in May. Participating attractions reported more than a 100% increase in visitation throughout the day.



- Captured more than 12.6 million consumer impressions with features in publications such as *Coastal Living*, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *AAA Home & Away*, and *Red Hat Lifestyle Magazine*.

- Showcased the Tallahassee/Leon County area to more than a dozen travel journalists on media tours and conducted more than 25 one-on-one meetings in Orlando,

Jacksonville, and Miami/Fort Lauderdale with regional newspapers, magazines, and trade publication editors.

- Attracted more than 36,000 visitors, \$8.6 million in direct spending, and \$14.9 million in economic impact by hosting and assisting with 66 sporting events in fiscal year 2004/05.
- The Sports Council coordinated the "Big Bend Shootout" boys' basketball tournament, which brought 34 elite teams to town for three days in June. The event attracted 800 visitors, with direct spending of \$158,000. Total expenses for the event were less than \$40,000, while generating an economic impact of \$273,340.
- Leon County hosted prominent national automobile shows, such as the Hot Rod Magazine Power Tour, which attracted 4,000 visitors who booked 2,012 room nights with an economic impact of \$546,680. The Ford Retractable Club Fall 2005 Board Meeting and National Conference were also held in Leon County, drawing 200 visitors over five or more nights with an economic impact of \$136,670.
- Fiscal year 2004/2005 reservations for meetings and conventions through June 2005 generated \$2 million in local economic impact.

Executive Director: Guy Thompson
606-2300
thompsongu@leoncountyfl.gov

The Leon County Tourist Development Council (TDC) works to enhance the local economy and quality of life through the benefits associated with a strong visitor industry. The tasks are to maximize the number, length of stay, and economic impact of visitors to Leon County. TDC programs and services are coordinated by three service contract organizations - the Tallahassee Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), The Zimmerman Agency, and Florida State University. The CVB is a private, non-profit membership organization, which markets the Tallahassee area as a visitor destination, under a contract with the TDC. The CVB "sells" Tallahassee as the site for sporting events, meetings/conventions and bus tours.

Website Earns Top Honors

The Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International honored the Tourist Development Council/Tallahassee Area Convention & Visitors Bureau website with the top award in the "CVB/Destinations Best Overall Website" category for its creative appeal. The website (www.seetallahassee.com) provides an online Visitors Guide with information on what to do and see in Tallahassee and the surrounding areas. It also has an events calendar and an email notification feature that allows visitors to receive information on special events and promotions.



Website Notes:

- 7,000 unique visitors visit the website each month, on average.
- More than 2,000 visitors have registered with the site to receive visitor information.
- 851 website visitors plan a visit to Tallahassee.
- 923 requested a Tallahassee Visitors Guide.

Office of Management & Budget

Director: Alan Rosenzweig
606-5100
rosenzweiga@leoncountyfl.gov

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) ensures that program managers, based on the availability of revenues, receive the exact amount of resources needed to operate effectively and efficiently. OMB is responsible for the development and monitoring of the annual operating and capital improvement budgets, fiscal policy analysis, and special projects research. OMB also coordinates program evaluations and provides management consulting services as requested by the Board, the County Administrator, and Program Managers. Staff continuously reviews and streamlines the budget process. Other programs in OMB include Risk Management and Grants Coordination.

Grants

Leon County participates in the Community Human Service Partnership (CHSP) process. It is an annual funding process open to any non-profit agency providing direct human services. Agencies submit one application. A diverse group of volunteers reviews agency applications, conducts site visits, and provides funding recommendations based on the program's relevancy, fiscal accountability, agency management, and demonstrated need for CHSP funding. Staff from the City of Tallahassee, Leon County, and the United Way reviews the recommendations and allocates the funds. For the 2004/05 fiscal year, the CHSP received applications from 80 agencies, requesting a total of \$6.8 million. The partnership awarded \$4.7 million to 123 programs, managed by 74 agencies. Leon County contributed funds to 27 agencies and 32 programs with its available funding.

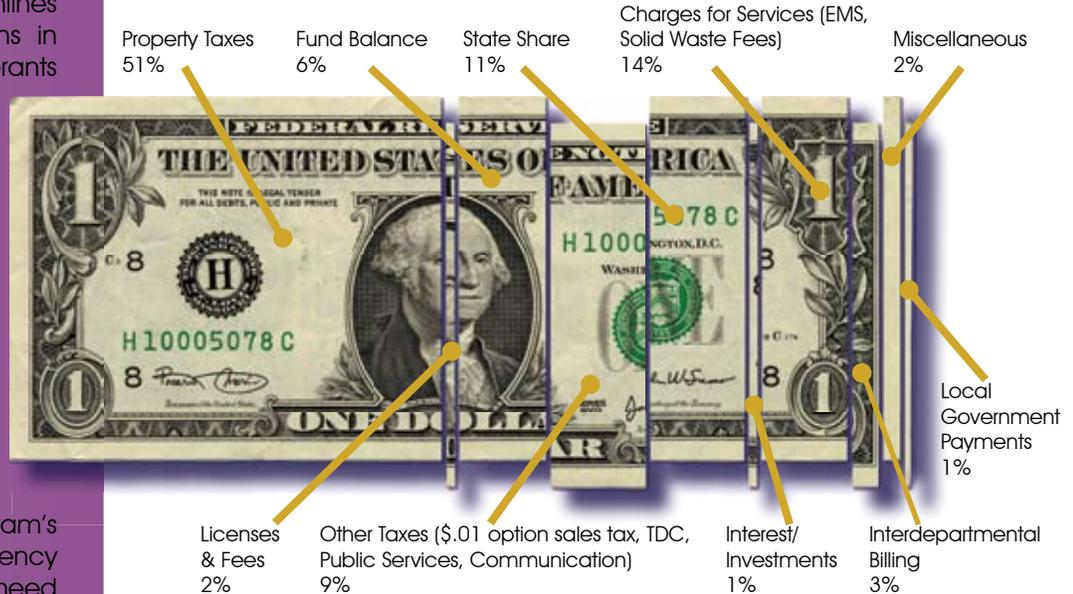
For additional information, the Leon County budget can be viewed at www.leoncountyfl.gov/omb.

Office of Management & Budget Accomplishments:

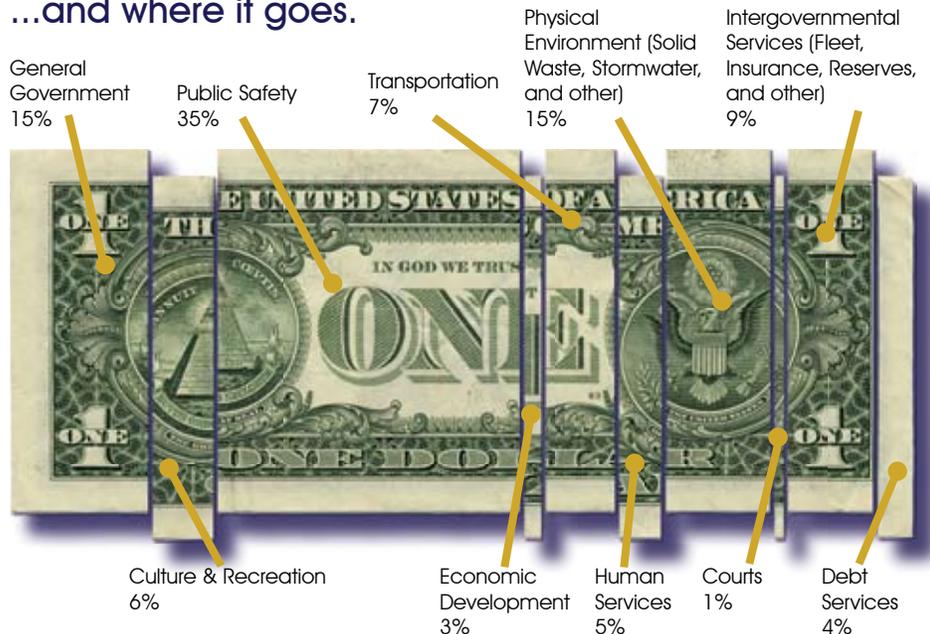
- Moody's Investors Service assigned a high rating to Leon County government for its sale of a \$53.5 million bond to fund capital improvements. The savings to the County will be approximately \$1.1 million or \$110,000 annually.
- Leon County ranks lowest in operating budget among like-sized counties, with a net budget of \$191 million.
- Leon County remains the lowest for dollars spent per County resident compared to similar counties.
- Leon County has consistently maintained or lowered the millage rate since fiscal year 1993.

Fiscal Year 2005-06

Where the \$210 million comes from...



...and where it goes.



Planning for the Future

On Thursday, May 19, 2005, County Commission Chairman Cliff Thael and Tallahassee Mayor John Marks signed a historic agreement between Leon County and the City of Tallahassee that will guide the local governments' roles and responsibilities for the next 15 years. The agreement addresses the provision of parks and recreation services, fire services, and water and sewer services. This agreement is another example of the two governments' collaboration on important issues that impact our community.

County Commission Chairman Thael and City Commissioner Allan Katz negotiated the agreement on behalf of their commissions. The two commissioners were appointed by their peers to finalize the details, resolving several complex issues between the City and County.



Intergovernmental Affairs Accomplishments:

- Helped secure \$16.1 million in federal funding for the expansion of Capital Circle NW/SW (SR263) from Tallahassee Regional Airport to I-10.
- Helped secure \$500,000 for the restoration of Harbinwood/Lake Jackson.
- Coordinated a work group made up of representatives from the City of Tallahassee, Florida State University, Florida A & M University, Tallahassee Community College, the Leon County School Board, and the Leon County Economic Development Council to ensure the best possible use of downtown state-owned surplus properties.
- Coordinated the Airport Gateway Corridor Advisory Committee, and provided a report on transportation improvements to the Board.
- Completed a comprehensive review of the Economic Development Council, which resulted in a performance-based contract.
- Completed a comprehensive review of Innovation Park with recommendations for further economic development at the park.
- Contracted with the Leon County School Board to improve driver education in Leon County by providing \$114,000 in earmarked funding to purchase computer simulators that test reaction times, difficult road conditions, and overall driver performance.
- Managed the Targeted Business Pilot Program, which is an initiative to induce business growth in Leon County. Also, managed the Qualified Target Industry Match Program, which is a state incentive program that targets companies that create high-wage jobs in targeted industries.

**Director: Vincent S. Long, Assistant
County Administrator**
606-5300
vincel@leoncountyfl.gov

The mission of Public Services is to maintain Leon County's high quality of life through the provision of services that address the public's health, safety, and welfare. The Public Services department is comprised of Intergovernmental Affairs, Library Services, Veteran Services, the Volunteer Center, Cooperative Extension, Health and Human Services, Emergency Medical Services, the Planning Department, and the Elder Ready Community Project. The Assistant County Administrator, Vincent Long, provides direction to the division directors, as well as the core group of professional staff who perform policy analysis, legislative coordination and public relations related activities in

support of the Board. Long also works closely with the County Administrator to execute the Board of County Commissioners' highest priorities.

Intergovernmental Affairs

The Division of Intergovernmental Affairs provides coordination and assistance to the Board and ensures that Public Services divisions receive the resources, guidance, and support they need to best serve the community. Specifically, this division is responsible for: researching, analyzing, and developing policy recommendations for the County's high priority issues; developing and implementing the Board's annual federal and state legislative priority package; monitoring all legislative issues impacting Leon County; and assisting in Countywide program research, development, and implementation.

Contact: Benjamin H. Pingree
Assistant to the County Administrator
606-5300
pingreeb@leoncountyfl.gov

Public Information Office

Jennie Khoen
Public Information Officer
606-5300
khoenj@leoncountyfl.gov

The Public Information Office (PIO) is responsible for public information and education, communications strategy and message development, media and public relations, and the marketing of County programs and services. The PIO aims to develop and maintain a continuous positive image of Leon County government by fostering proactive and responsive communication with the public.

A New Look

The PIO enhanced the County's branding efforts to give Leon County government a fresh, new look. The County's new colors are navy and gold, and are reflected in the official County seal.



The Public Information Officer serves as Leon County's United Way Campaign Chair and works with Leon County employees to coordinate events and activities to help the County reach its fundraising goal. Here, local leaders search for hidden keys as part of a "Survivor" challenge at the 2004 Local Government Campaign Kickoff. United Way of the Big Bend awarded Leon County with the "2004 Most Creative Campaign" award.

Public Information Office Accomplishments:

- Developed and adopted a Strategic Communications Plan that outlines public information initiatives to enhance the overall communication effectiveness of Leon County government.
- Conducted a survey among County employees to evaluate current internal communications practices in order to make meaningful improvements to the County's communication efforts. The PIO enhanced communication methods based on the survey results.
- Developed an electronic employee newsletter called "In the Loop" that is distributed to County employees bi-weekly.
- Enhanced television programming on Comcast Cable Channel 16 to include rebroadcasts of Commission meetings, public service announcements, and enhanced County news and information on the scrolling message board.
- Coordinated ground-breaking ceremonies, dedications, and ribbon cutting ceremonies for County projects, including the Orange Avenue Construction Project and the opening of the new Center for Dental Care and Prevention.
- Coordinated press conferences and community/public meetings and events, and distributed numerous news releases to promote County services and programs.
- Developed media guidelines, including protocols for employees who are contacted by the media, and tips for dealing with the media.
- Developed a Public Information page on the internal website that includes PIO information, such as templates for news release and media guidelines.
- Developed a photo gallery on the Leon County Website to display photos of citizens who receive County Commission resolutions, County projects, and other events.



Hurricane Response

Hurricanes Wreak Havoc in Florida and Southeastern Gulf Coast: Leon County Opens Doors to Evacuees and Assists with Relief Efforts

The past year was a tumultuous one for residents living in Florida and the southeastern United States. In 2004, five hurricanes and several tropical storms devastated parts of Florida, leaving death and destruction in its wake. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina, one of the most deadly natural disasters in American history, hit the Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama areas of the Gulf Coast, killing hundreds and forcing thousands to seek refuge.

Thankfully, Leon County was spared any major damage from these severe weather events. Leon County became the staging ground for volunteers headed to the disaster areas, and the State Emergency Operations Center became the coordination center for the hurricane relief effort. Due to the catastrophic nature of Hurricane Katrina, more than 2,000 evacuees sought refuge in Leon County. The County was, and continues to be, instrumental in the coordination efforts with the local Red Cross and other local agencies during the recovery period.

As part of the response efforts, Leon County EMS personnel were deployed along with Leon County Sheriff's Office deputies to impacted areas; VolunteerLeon, the County's Volunteer Services Division, played a critical support role to the Red Cross in recruiting and training thousands of volunteers; and, the County's Public Information Office staff helped disseminate important information to the press and community. Additionally, County employees dedicated many hours volunteering at the Red Cross shelter, service center, and some even traveled to the disaster areas, utilizing the County's Disaster Leave Program. The County also waived library and campground fees for evacuees.

Emergency preparedness begins with each resident. However, the coordination of responding to any disaster is the primary responsibility of your County government. We continually strive to improve our efforts to be able to respond to any natural or man-made disaster.



The Leon County Division of Emergency Management (DEM) is charged with coordinating the activities of more than 50 local response agencies in the event of a disaster, including the Red Cross, EMS, and volunteer relief. DEM is responsible for activating and maintaining an emergency operations center during times of emergency, coordinating the opening of shelters for citizens evacuating from at-risk areas, and coordinating local response activities with our 13 regional County agencies, as well as the State EOC.

Leon County Emergency Medical Services personnel joined other emergency medical personnel from the Big Bend to help with the emergency response effort from Hurricane Ivan. Leon County was the largest EMS contingent in the convoy. The group assisted in evacuating patients and responding to emergency calls until the local EMS units could meet the call demand on their own.



Emergency Medical Services

EMS Chief: Tom Quillin
606-2100
quillint@leoncountyfl.gov

The EMS division provides clinically superior, cost-effective emergency medical services and transport to the citizens and visitors of Leon County. Since the County launched the EMS system in December 2003, the EMS team has provided the highest quality emergency care available. The County continues to enhance this vital service.

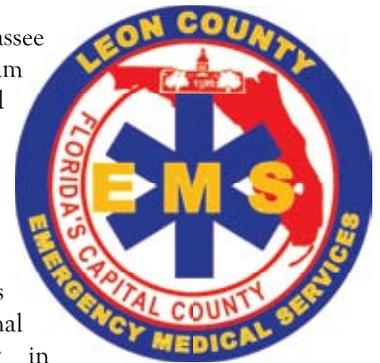


Leon County Emergency Medical Services

*Preserving Life, Improving Health,
Promoting Safety*

EMS Accomplishments:

- LCEMS was a founding partner of the Tallahassee SAFE Kids Coalition, an educational program that aims to reduce the number of unintentional childhood injuries and deaths.
- Contributed to the Leon County/Tallahassee Heart Ready Coalition, which is a community partnership between public and private organizations. The healthcare providers facilitate CPR training and Automated External Defibrillation (AED) availability, resulting in increased survival rate from cardiac emergencies.
- Established a Countywide public access AED program. The life-saving devices were installed at eight County locations. If used in the first few minutes of a cardiac arrest, AEDs have proven to significantly increase survival rates.
- Developed and implemented a comprehensive injury prevention program. Leon Lifesaver, an interactive robotic ambulance, delivered injury prevention and safety education to children in classrooms and at numerous community events.
- Leon Lifesaver (robot) taught children about the 9-1-1 emergency number, pedestrian and animal safety, the importance of wearing seatbelts, helmets, and other safety equipment, and the dangers of strangers and guns.
- Implemented the Smith System Driver Training program and DriveCam Driver Feedback System that aim to improve driving habits and decrease accidents.
- Established progressive medical treatment protocols, including enhancing protocols related to cardiac emergencies and strokes. Paramedics can now electronically transmit 12-lead EKGs from the emergency scene to a local hospital for review by the emergency physicians prior to the patient's arrival, allowing adequate preparation.
- Participated in the North Florida Regional Domestic Security Task Force and the Local Emergency Planning Committee in an effort to improve services and prepare for a potential disaster.
- Utilized federal grant funding to add equipment and training necessary to respond to major emergency scenes.
- Transferred Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) administrative oversight responsibilities from the Sheriff to LCEMS.



Improved Dispatch Services

The EMS Division and the Leon County Sheriff's Office have worked cooperatively to improve EMS dispatch services. The dispatch service received national attention this year after a dispatcher and EMS paramedic provided life-saving CPR instructions to a 9-1-1 caller whose newborn baby had stopped breathing. CNN, ABC's Good Morning America, and NBC's The Today Show featured the story.

The County has upgraded the computer program designed to give pre-arrival instructions in first aid and CPR, as well as provided additional medical training to dispatchers.

In addition, the County has installed an Automatic Vehicle Location system in all EMS Division vehicles. The system identifies which ambulance is closest to an emergency call. The Computer Aided Dispatch system has also been upgraded to improve functionality — further streamlining the dispatch process and improving response times.

LeRoy Collins Public Library System

More Than Just Books

The LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System has soared into the information age with new interactive computer programs intended to help patrons. The library kicked off its “Live Homework Help” program that directly links a student to a specialist who helps the student understand homework concepts and assists in solving problems. The program has helped students succeed in their studies. Also, the “Learning Express” program offers practice tests for portions of the FCAT and interactive mock exams for the ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, Firefighter, Police Officer, Paramedic, EMT Basic, U. S. Citizenship, Cosmetology, and many others.

In addition, computer use in the six library facilities increased more than 150%. Users enjoy free access to the internet for job searching, submitting employment applications, and searching general, business, and medical information. Twenty additional computers were added this year for a total of 185 computers for the public. More than 3,200 people a day visited the library facilities - an increase of 4% over last year.

The library has also improved and expanded its online customer services allowing patrons to manage their library accounts from remote locations, make requests, renew materials, and more.

Library Accomplishments:

- Developed “Nearly Due Notice,” which is an email sent to remind patrons when three days remain before a renewal or return is necessary.
- Constructed additional elevator from the parking lot to the entrance landing and upgraded the ramp, improving access to the building.
- The library was the recipient of more than \$1,100,000 in grants and donations:
 - › \$500,000 State Grant Award for the construction of the Lake Jackson Branch Library
 - › \$361,116 State Libraries grant
 - › \$54,813.60 E-Rate grant
 - › \$100,000 from the Friends of the Library for a new Bookmobile
 - › \$50,000 from the Friends of the Library for the Literacy Program.
- Developed the Park Avenue Book Self-Checkout Station, allowing patrons the convenience of checking out materials on their own, while decreasing checkout time and providing privacy.
- Added the award-winning program, BabyTime, to the Northeast Branch Library/ Bruce J. Host Center and to the Dr. B. L. Perry, Jr. Branch Library.
- Increased total attendance at all library programs systemwide by 20%.



Director: Helen Moeller
606-2665
helenm@leoncountyfl.gov

The LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System enriches the community by inspiring a love of reading, providing a dynamic resource for creative and intellectual pursuits, and enabling residents to live a life of learning.



Hank Taylor (L) and Jon Copps (R) entertain children with song and folk tales as part of the Summer Youth Library Program.

Health & Human Services

Director: Joe Sharp
606-1900
sharpj@leoncountyfl.gov

The Health and Human Services Division provides programs that address health, safety and other social services. The Division consists of the following: Health Services, Human Services, Housing Services, Veteran Services and the Volunteer Center.

Healthy Smiles

In March 2005, members of the Leon County Commission, the Leon County Health Department Director, and representatives from the Florida Department of Health dedicated the Leon County Health Department Center for Dental Care and Prevention. This newly renovated building has 12 operatories where children receive teeth cleanings and examinations. The facility is the largest in Florida and the largest public health dental facility in the southeastern United States. The Leon County Commission approved use of the building, located at 912 Railroad Ave., next door to the historic train station, for a dental facility in 2002.



Health Services Accomplishments:

- Provided primary healthcare services for 7,188 patients through Leon County's health care program in partnership with CareNet and community-based clinics.
- Reduced primary healthcare services cost per patient per year from \$250.31 to \$146.55.
- Filled 53,345 prescriptions for uninsured and indigent citizens.
- Avoided 1,641 hospital emergency room visits.
- Avoided 359 hospital inpatient admissions.

Human Services Accomplishments:

- Contributed more than \$1 million as part of the Medicaid Match Program. As mandated by Florida law, the County pays 35% of the cost of hospitalization for Leon County Medicaid patients with hospital stays more than three weeks long. The County also pays \$55 per month for each County nursing home resident.
- Allocated \$35,642 to five patients that qualified for the Health Care Responsibility Act, which funds out-of-county emergency hospital care for indigent Leon County patients.
- Funded more than \$240,000 in medical examinations to determine cause of death.
- Contributed more than \$344,000 for patients treated at the Apalachee Center for Human Services under the Baker Act and the Marchman Act.
- Laid to rest 10 individuals who qualified for the County's Indigent Burial Program.
- Processed 220 Direct Emergency Assistance Program applications for citizens meeting eligibility criteria to provide funding for basic necessities such as rent, utilities, fuel, food, and medication in an effort to prevent homelessness, malnutrition, and disease.

Housing Services Accomplishments:

- Awarded \$1.6 million in grant funding to 120 clients for home rehabilitation, home replacement, down payment assistance, home counseling, and disaster mitigation services.
- Issued \$16.8 million taxable Affordable Housing Multifamily Revenue Bonds for the acquisition and construction of the 312-unit Lakes of San Marcos Affordable Housing Apartment complex, with 75% of the units set aside for affordable housing.
- The Florida Housing Finance Corporation featured Leon County's Housing Program in its State Housing Initiatives Partnership Annual Report.
- Increased the number of public and community educational events related to housing by 5%.

Health & Human Services

Veteran Services Accomplishments:

- The County has awarded 366 active duty military personnel grants totaling \$155,203, since the program's inception in October 2001. The program provides financial assistance in the form of grants for ad valorem property taxes to eligible Leon County residents. The Veteran Services Division manages the grant program.
- Leon County veterans received more than \$1 million in retroactive payments and awards this year.
- The Veteran Services Division organized and executed the 2004 Leon County Veterans' Day Parade.
- The Veteran Services web pages on the Leon County website have been expanded and updated, addressing issues and problem resolution areas with links to outside agencies.

VolunteerLEON Accomplishments:

- In partnership with United Way of the Big Bend and FSU Center for Civic Education & Service, VolunteerLEON launched www.VolunteerLEON.org/VolunteerConnection, a website that provides a way for citizens to connect with non-profit and government agencies that need volunteers.
- VolunteerLEON's webmaster, Amanda Phillips, was appointed to the Points of Light Foundation's National Technology Task Force. The task force oversees technology initiatives of the Foundation and the Volunteer Center National Network including 1800Volunteer.org and MissionFish.com.
- VolunteerLEON hosted its first youth leadership and service camp. The camp challenged 65 high school students from every school in Leon County to be active in their communities and empowered them to address issues of concern now and in the future.

VolunteerLEON Youth Corps participated in Join Hands Day, an intergenerational day of service. Leon County youth and adults worked together to clean up and beautify Lake Ella.



Veteran Services

Division Director: De'Lean Johnson
606-1940
johnsondl@leoncountyfl.gov

Honoring Leon County Soldiers

The Leon County Storefront Military Display honors America's men and women in uniform. The display, located at 115 South Monroe St., is a tribute to our hometown heroes. Current or former residents of Leon County, who serve or have served on active duty in any branch of the military since September 11, 2001, are eligible. The photos are also exhibited in an on-line display found at www.leoncountyfl.gov.



Volunteer Center

Division Director: Jeri Bush
606-1970
jerib@leoncountyfl.gov

When five storms pummeled Florida during the 2004 hurricane season, VolunteerLEON staff significantly contributed to the response efforts. Staff worked the Leon County Emergency Operations Center Citizen's Information Line and opened a Volunteer Reception Center. In addition, VolunteerLEON staff was instrumental in the statewide response efforts. The Governor's Commission for Community Service called on VolunteerLEON staff to help initiate the statewide system for coordination of volunteers and donations. VolunteerLEON staff recruited and trained volunteers to manage and staff the hotline. More than 500 volunteers answered more than 80,000 calls.

Cooperative Extension

Division Director:
Lawrence Heitmeyer
606-5200
lawrence@leoncountyfl.gov

The Cooperative Extension is a partnership between state land grant universities, the United States Department of Agriculture, and county governments. These groups share in the planning, financing, and operation of extension programs. The University of Florida administers Extension services in Florida. Leon County government provides support for local faculty, staff, and facilities. Leon County Extension conducts research-based educational programs in agriculture, horticulture, natural resources, family and consumer sciences, and 4-H youth development. Locally-based advisory committees assure that programs are designed to meet community needs. Cooperative Extension programs emphasize volunteer training, allowing services to reach more of the County's population.



Leon County youth enjoy canoeing at 4-H Camp Cherry Lake located in Madison, FL, about 77 miles from Tallahassee. In 2005, nearly 100 youth from Leon County attended the annual summer camp at the lake. In addition to canoeing, the kids, ages 8 to 18, enjoyed swimming, archery, crafts, team sports, campfires, fishing, and a talent show, as they learned more about our environment.

Cooperative Extension Accomplishments:

- Improved the health and well-being of citizens through education on water quality protection and the protection of other natural and agricultural resources.
- Volunteers contributed more than 5,000 hours to educate the public on horticulture and natural resources programs.
- The Environmental Education Program aided nearly 20,000 citizens by providing information and assistance.
- Nearly 1,000 families completed the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program by making a positive food consumption change. Participants reported an average savings of \$19.86 per month in food costs.
- The parent education program facilitated 46 parenting classes for a total of 711 educational contacts with Leon County parents and other caregivers.
- More than 200 state and County employees participated in worksite health and wellness programs, learning lifestyle behavior changes to reduce their risk of chronic diseases.
- 13,069 youth enhanced life skills in decision-making, leadership, environmental stewardship, communication, and healthy lifestyle choices by participating in 4-H programs and activities.



- More than 600 employees from three agencies participated in the 2005 "Walking Through Florida" program, accumulating 76,200 miles of physical activity over eight weeks. The program increased physical activity, promoted weight loss, and improved healthy habits among the participants.

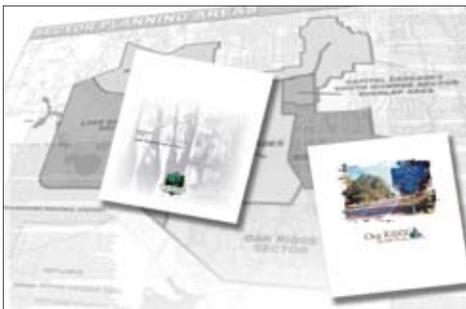


Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department



Planning Accomplishments:

- Introduced the Southern Strategy Area Economic Development Plan, which contains numerous recommendations to enhance economic development in this area.
- Approved modifications to the Enterprise Zone Boundary in an attempt to maximize the effectiveness of the Tallahassee/Leon County Enterprise Zone (EZ). The EZ is a 20-square-mile area that is targeted for economic revitalization. The program offers financial incentives to home and business owners who renovate their homes, create jobs, and expand businesses within the EZ. The program also provides sales tax refunds on business equipment and building materials, property tax credits, and the potential for sales tax exemptions on electrical energy.
- Adopted the Conservation Subdivision Ordinance and Greenways Master Plan that preserves environmental resources and open space in the County.



Plans With a Vision

The Planning Department utilizes sector planning, which is a growth and development tool utilized by cities in Florida and the nation. A diverse group of community stakeholders work collaboratively to develop each plan, which helps shape the community's future. The Gaines Street Revitalization project and the Bradfordville Sector

Plan are examples of sector planning in Tallahassee and Leon County. Sector planning is also identified in the comprehensive plan's Southern Strategy policies. This year, the County adopted the Lake Bradford and Oak Ridge Sector Plans which provide a vision to unite the neighborhoods in this area, the universities, Innovation Park, and the Tallahassee Regional Airport. Diverse stakeholders of the sector worked together to provide direct input on the area's future. The plan addresses the protection of the nearby lakes, transportation, and quality of life issues.

Planning Department
Director: Wayne Tedder
891-8600
tedderw@talgov.com

The Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department provides accurate information, creative and effective planning recommendations, and expertise to the City and County governments, the Planning Commission, appointed boards and committees, residents, and businesses in the areas of long-range land use, environmental, transportation planning, and land use administration. Planning staff aims to be responsive to the requirements and needs of those they advise by encouraging full public participation, coordinating efforts with other City and County staff, and adhering to established planning practices and principles.



Your sales tax dollars are being used to preserve, protect, and enhance your quality of life through the implementation of holistic and coordinated planning, transportation, water quality, environmental and green space projects.

BluePrint 2000 projects are funded from the 2000 sales tax extension. Several projects are currently underway, including the widening of Capital Circle Southeast (South of Tram Road to Connie Drive) from two lanes to six. When complete, the road will also have a wide meandering sidewalk, bicycle lanes, stormwater improvements, and a landscaped median and borders. Construction will begin on Capital Circle Northwest (Highway 90 to I-10) in fall 2005. The three lane road will be expanded to six lanes. Both projects will ease congestion and make for safer driving, while incorporating aesthetic and recreational amenities.

For a complete list of BluePrint 2000 projects and for more information, visit www.blueprint2000.org or call 891-1880.

Growth & Environmental Management

Director: Gary Johnson
606-1300
garyj@leoncountyfl.gov

Growth and Environmental Management (GEM) is a group of divisions and programs that provides one-stop permitting and processing services related to development activities. GEM consists of four divisions: Building Inspection, Development Services, Environmental Compliance, and Support Services.



Development Services
Division Director: David McDevitt
606-1300
mcdevitt@leoncountyfl.gov

Environmental Compliance
Division Director: John Kraynak
606-1300
kraynakj@leoncountyfl.gov

Smart Growth

The County implemented a fee-in-lieu of sidewalks ordinance that requires developers to construct sidewalks during the building process to ensure pedestrian mobility in neighborhoods. However, in some instances, it is not practical for a developer to construct sidewalks because of existing physical conditions or imminent roadway construction. The County adopted a program that allows certain developers, who qualify under the code, to provide a payment of a fee-in-lieu of construction that the County will use for future sidewalk construction within the vicinity of the project.

To ensure the equitable and efficient use of revenues from the program, the ordinance requires that revenues from the Sidewalk Trust Fund (STF) must be expended within a period of seven years from the date of collection.

Development Services Accomplishments:

- Completed Comprehensive Plan amendments revising the transportation concurrency provisions to address constrained roadway facilities. These provisions allow for a different method to relieve the County's congested roadways.
- Executed a comprehensive revision of the County's Temporary Use Ordinance that provides clarification on the requirements for a temporary use permit and associated enforcement provisions.
- Implemented an ordinance revising the County's re-granting of vested development rights for Planned Unit Developments.
- Provided technical assistance to the County Commission and the County Attorney's Office in support of the Board's opposition to the proposed Wakulla County Comprehensive Plan amendment (N.G. Wade proposal).
- Served on the Leon County School Board's Site Selection Committee that recommended three school sites, which were subsequently approved by the School Board.
- Served on the Regulatory Reform Sub-committee of the Residential Lot Availability and Affordability Committee whose purpose was to address the lack of residential lots inside the Urban Service Area. The County Commission adopted the recommendations.

Environmental Compliance Accomplishments:

- Adopted an ordinance that revised the Fred George Special Development Zone. This ordinance changed the recognized flood elevation in the basin to protect structures and to allow for more accurate stormwater permitting.
- Developed an ordinance that modifies the flood protection permitting elevations for structures. The ordinance increased the finished floor elevation for structures built adjacent to floodplains to prevent structural flooding.

Growth & Environmental Management

- Reviewed 943 Environmental Management applications.
- Conducted 244 site plan reviews.

Building Inspection Accomplishments:

- Provided assistance to the Florida Association of Counties and the Building Officials Association of Florida during the 2005 Florida legislative session regarding local impacts of the proposed legislation.
- Conducted 8.6% more inspections from last fiscal year, due primarily to the 14.6% increase in permits issued.
- Assisted in statewide interpretation of the Florida Building Code.
- Assisted in the development of the National Swimming Pool Code.



Support Services Accomplishments:

- Implemented the new Lot Mowing and Filthy Fluid Discharge ordinances through the Code Compliance Program.
- Coordinated and implemented new measures to reduce customer waiting time and improve staff efficiencies.
- Collected approximately \$1.8 million in permitting revenue from Development Services and Environmental Compliance land use and permitting reviews, and \$1.2 million for building permits during Fiscal Year 2004-05.
- Assisted 490 Contractor's Licensing walk-in customers and responded to 3,213 code complaint calls.

Environmental Biologist, Jill Weisman, uses a GPS unit to locate and inventory environmentally sensitive features, such as wetlands and forests, on a site that has been submitted for development.

Building Inspection
Division Director: Ray Burroughs
606-1300
rayb@leoncountyfl.gov



Management Services

Director: Kim Dressel
606-1700
dresselk@leoncountyfl.gov

The Department of Management Services Administration Division provides oversight, policy development, and coordination of the Facilities Management, Management Information Systems, Minority/Women Business Enterprise, Probation/Supervised Pre-Trial Release and Purchasing divisions. The Administration Division ensures these offices receive the resources, guidance and support necessary to effectively and efficiently meet customers' needs.

Bank of America building (top)
Renaissance Center (bottom)



Facilities Management
Division Director: Tom Brantley
606-5000
brantlet@leoncountyfl.gov

The Facilities Management Division serves the citizens of Leon County and occupants of County facilities through the provision of professional construction, operation and maintenance services. It also provides clean, safe and fully-functional County facilities.

Making Room for Progress

The Courthouse Annex renovations are in full swing. The Board of County Commissioners is preparing space in the Annex (the Bank of America Plaza behind the Courthouse) for Constitutional Officers who will be relocating from the Courthouse. Beginning in fall 2005, Guardian Ad Litem, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, Supervisor of Elections, and several offices of the Clerk of the Courts will move to the Annex. Upcoming construction at the Courthouse will provide four additional courtrooms and several hearing rooms.

The County has also been working with the City of Tallahassee toward acquiring the new Renaissance building in Frenchtown to house the Tallahassee/Leon County Planning Department and the two governments' growth management departments. When complete, it will be a convenient, one-stop permitting shop. The joint location of these departments will provide much improved services to citizens in the area of growth management and permitting and accomplish the goal of working toward functional consolidation of City and County services.

Support Services Accomplishments:

- Assisted in the implementation of the Article V statute revisions, with the reallocation of equipment, space, funding, and other items.

- Developed proposals for the relocation of the Growth and Environmental Management Division.
- Coordinated survey of County employees' interest in participating in a parking and commuter option program.

Facilities Management Accomplishments:

- Implemented a program to save energy over time throughout all County building facilities by replacing current lighting and mechanical equipment with more efficient systems. This project will cost approximately \$5 million to perform, and offers more than \$500,000 a year in expected energy savings.
- Supervised the land acquisition for the construction of the Woodville Community Center, a 4,800-square-foot facility.
- Supervised the acquisition of 11.96 acres on US 27 North and Perkins Road to build both a branch library and a community center.
- Managed the construction and installation of an outside elevator at the main library to meet ADA accessibility requirements.
- Managed the Courthouse and Courthouse Annex renovations and space reallocation and finalized design and construction contracts.
- Managed the Courthouse parking garage repair project. The structure was renovated to remove signs of structural distress, including cracks in the floors and sagging beams. Construction crews installed state-of-the-art, carbon fiber reinforced polymers to the garage floors to help provide the needed support to the structure.

Management Information Services

Management Information Services Accomplishments:

- Completed a data rewiring for the Leon County Jail facility, which included improved service for video surveillance systems by providing fiber connectivity.
- Developed and installed the Capital Area Flood Warning Network (CAFWN), in conjunction with Public Works and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The project provides real-time rainfall data collection to help identify potential flood conditions so that emergency response can be initiated.
- Participated in a pilot project with Broward, Duval, Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Orange Counties utilizing a statewide law enforcement facial recognition system. The system is now in production statewide.
- Installed a Tallahassee-Leon County Geographic Information Systems (TLC/GIS) Viewer application for approximately 650 users including: County EMS, Tallahassee Police Department, Leon County Sheriff's Office, City and County Growth Managements, and the Leon County Property Appraiser's Office. The application provides a map interface that can assist in the efficient deployment of critical services.

Management Information Services/
Geographic Information Systems
Division Director: Pat Curtis

606-5500

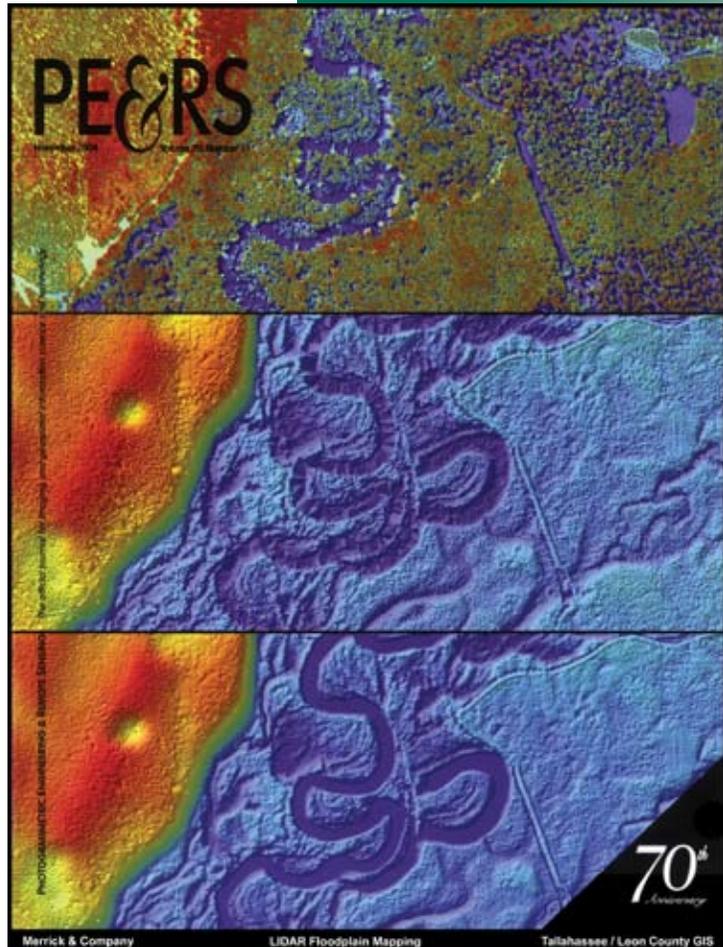
patc@leoncountyfl.gov

The Management Information Services (MIS) division serves its users with continually improved, efficient, cost-effective technology and telecommunications products, services, and information.

Digital Technology Helps Map Landscape

TLC/GIS is using state-of-the-art technology called LiDAR, or Light Detection and Ranging, to obtain a highly accurate digital elevation model and contour data. The technology uses an airborne laser scanner which directs a laser pulse toward the ground and reflects it back to the aircraft. Also, a Global Positioning System (GPS) provides accurate location and elevation points for everything the laser hits. Computer-based statistics are used to filter out trees, buildings and other non-ground points. This method leaves a digital representation of the ground elevations. The City and County use this data for engineering projects such as BluePrint 2000, flood hazard mapping, surface water drainage, and environmental studies such as the Woodville Karst Plain Water Quality Study.

The image (right) represents a portion of the Ochlockonee River north of Old Bainbridge Road and shows the different stages of processing of the digital elevation data. It was featured on the front cover of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing's (PE&RS) monthly journal.



Purchasing

Purchasing

Division Director: Keith Roberts

606-1600

keith@leoncountyfl.gov

The Purchasing Division is responsible for the procurement of supplies, equipment, and services for all departments under the Board of County Commissioners, and to a limited extent, the Sheriff's Office, the Court Administrator, and the Supervisor of Elections.

Minority and Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE)

Division Director:

Agatha Muse-Salters

606-1650

saltersa@leoncountyfl.gov

The Minority/Women Business Enterprise Program promotes the participation and the awarding of contracts to women and minority business enterprises in accordance with the Minority/Women Business Enterprise Policy.



Purchasing Accomplishments:

- Performed the annual warehouse inventory with no disruption to customers. The inventory results greatly exceeded industry standards for accuracy and variance.
- Warehouse staff reduced the valuation of stock-on-hand this current fiscal year by \$44,123.09. Using the industry standard carrying costs of 30% for inventories, this number represents an annualized savings of \$57,360.
- Provided procurement services to County departments and divisions by preparing 180 solicitation and contract documents.

New playground equipment purchased for J. Lee Vause Park.



Minority/Women Business Enterprise Accomplishments:

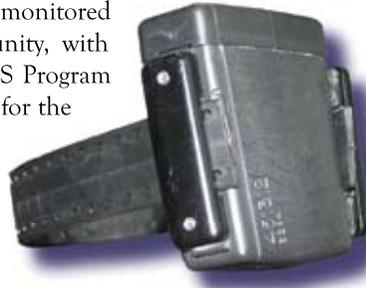
- Completed a disparity study report. As a result, the Board created a policy committee to review the findings and develop a policy to implement the recommendations.
- Collaborated with the City of Tallahassee and the Leon County School Board MBE Offices and implemented the M/WBE Certification Inter-local Consortium to address program development, training, and application reviews. Leon County, the City, and Leon County Schools now share the same inter-local certification application.
- Assisted in the establishment of the Florida Construction Business Alliance (FCBA), an organization for individuals and companies in the building construction and design industry. FCBA provides several benefits to its members including training, technical assistance, and referrals.
- Examined the benefits of adding a Small Business Enterprise component to the M/WBE program, while continuing to coordinate with the FAMU Small Business Development Center.

Each year, Leon County celebrates Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week, which aims to recognize the outstanding achievements made by minority businesses and government, and business leaders for their support toward minority business development. In addition, participants network with other business owners and attend educational seminars.

Probation & Pre-Trial Release

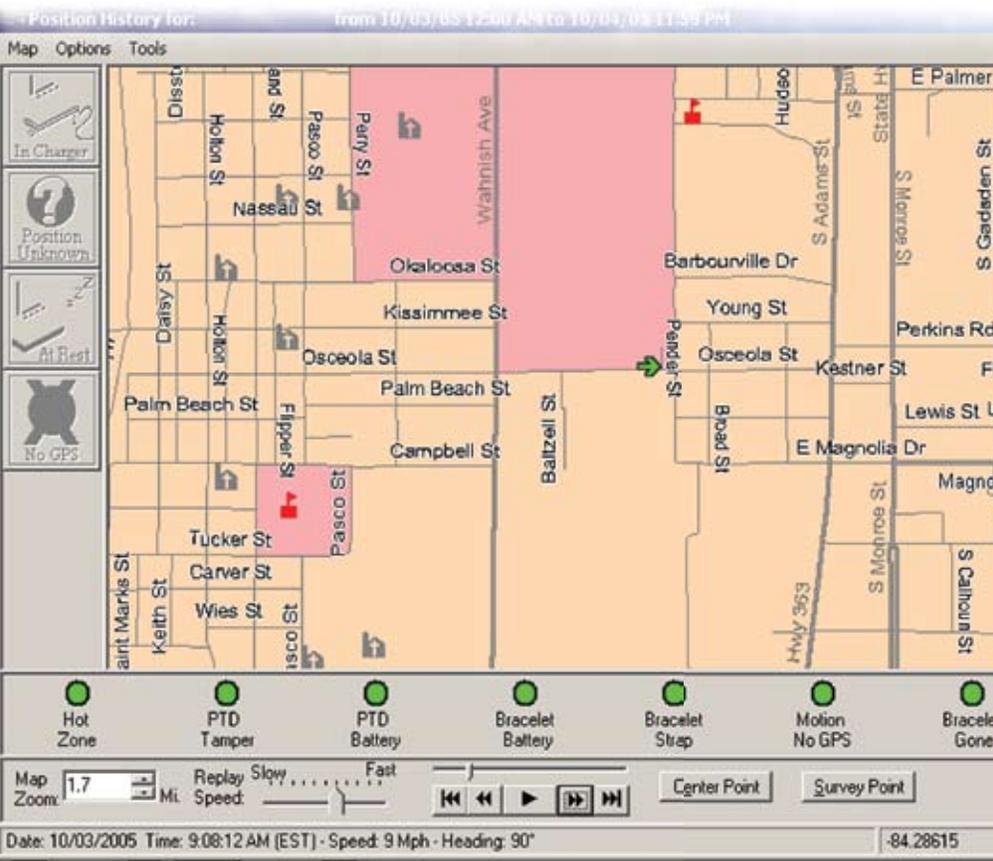
Probation Accomplishments:

- Provided community supervision on a daily basis for more than 1,900 defendants.
- Maintained the Community Service/Work Program as an alternative sanction used by the court in lieu of jail time, by referring offenders to agencies in the community to perform assigned tasks ordered by the court. Processed 290 referrals per month, providing 3,886 hours of labor with Leon County's Division of Operations.
- The Enhanced Probation Program expended \$6,795 in grant funding to local treatment facilities to provide counseling, substance abuse treatment, and other needs to defendants based upon their risk assessment.
- Supervised 358 defendants per month under the Supervised Pre-Trial Release program. The program aids in reducing jail overcrowding and provides an opportunity for the defendant to return to the community, his or her job, and his or her family.
- Managed the Global Positioning System (GPS) Program that allows community supervision of defendants who have been conditionally released pending disposition of their case or sentenced to a period of probation. This fiscal year, 152 offenders wore tracking devices that monitored their movements at home and in the community, with defined inclusion and exclusion zones. The GPS Program continues to be a successful alternative sanction for the court system.



**Probation
Division Director (Acting):
Wanda Hunter
606-5600**

The Probation Division provides information to the Court system to properly dispose of cases in a timely manner and to inform court representatives of the individual's status while on Probation, Pre-trial Release, or the Diversion Program. This process ensures the smooth and efficient operation of the Criminal Justice System and the guarantee of protection to Leon County citizens.



Special software allows Probation staff to monitor the whereabouts of offenders from their desktop computers. The green arrow indicates that the offender is traveling.

Public Works

Director: Tony Park
606-1500
tonyp@leoncountyfl.gov

The Department of Public Works serves the residents of Leon County by planning, developing, and maintaining quality infrastructure. This goal is accomplished by delivering environmentally sensitive and cost-effective products and services in order to achieve a high quality of life that includes health, safety, human comfort and convenience.

Public Works is the largest department in County government, consisting of eight major divisions: Administration/Transportation Systems, Engineering Services, Operations, Solid Waste Management, Mosquito Control & Stormwater Maintenance, Parks & Recreation, Fleet Management, and Animal Control.

Engineering Services
Director: Joe Brown
606-1500
joebr@leoncountyfl.gov

The Engineering Services Division provides professional support for Capital Improvement Projects and other programs, including surveying, right-of-way acquisition, design, regulatory permit acquisition, and construction inspection. Other support services include water/sewer franchising, review and approval of publicly dedicated subdivisions, issuance of right-of-way placement permits and driveway permits, and inspection/administration of the 2/3 Program. The Stormwater Engineering program's mission is to implement the most cost-effective options to reduce flooding and to improve the County's surface and groundwater quality.

Paving the Way to Progress

Crews broke ground on the Orange Avenue Construction Project in April 2005. Anticipated completion is July 2007. The project extends from South Monroe Street to Blair Stone Road and includes the following: roadway expansion from two to four lanes, landscaping, and the installation of sidewalks, bike lanes, curbs and gutters, and a stormwater drainage system.



The roadway improvements will yield better traffic flow and enhance opportunities for pedestrian and bicyclist activity. The total construction cost is \$28 million and is being funded by the one cent local option sales tax approved by Leon County voters in 1989 to finance road improvements. The planning for this road project began over 10 years ago. The public's input was instrumental in the road design.

Administration/Transportation Accomplishments:

- Completed and processed documents for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursements totaling more than \$400,000 for expenses incurred during last year's hurricane season.
- Completed engineering designs for sidewalk projects on Pedrick Road, Buck Lake Road, Walden Road, Pimlico, and Aeon Church Road.
- The Florida Department of Transportation awarded a Community Traffic Safety Team grant in the amount of \$120,000 to reimburse the Public Works Department for the cost of constructing the Pedrick Road sidewalk.
- Completed the Tharpe Street Corridor Study, including conducting several public meetings and gathering public input. The project aims to improve traffic conditions and make the road safer for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Engineering Accomplishments:

- Completed the Tharpe Street Planning Design and Engineering Study and the Balboa Drive drainage improvement project.
- Developed the Capital Area Flood Warning Network to address the urgent need for real-time storm event information. The project provides real-time rainfall data collection to help identify potential flood conditions in order to expedite emergency response initiation. Citizens and emergency responders can access the information at www.cafwn.org.
- Initiated the Beechridge Trail Extension project, which extended Beechridge Trail from Kinhega Drive to Bannerman Road.
- Initiated the National Pollutants Discharge Elimination System monitoring program to determine the effectiveness of the County's stormwater ponds and to ensure good water quality.

Protecting Your Health and Safety

Leon County is working with residents of Killlearn Lakes Units 1 and 2 to install a sewer system to rectify the chronic septic tank failures in this area. The County is holding a series of public meetings to educate the public on this project. More than 300 residents attended the first meeting in June 2005. Construction began in fall 2005 and is expected to be completed within approximately 12 months.

The County developed a website exclusively dedicated to the Killlearn Lakes Sewer Project. Residents can log onto www.klpsewer.com to learn about timelines, costs, and other important information.



Operations Accomplishments:

Transportation

- Implemented a new Private Dirt Road Repair Program allowing citizens to pay the County to make repairs on their private roads, which provides a cost savings to residents. Many of these roads become impassable during inclement weather conditions, preventing access by homeowners and emergency vehicles. The program has grown in popularity and proven to be very beneficial to citizens.

Right-of-Way

- Implemented an enhanced right-of-way initiative, which controls vegetation in roadside areas that are too steep to cut with conventional mowers.
- Participated in several tree planting projects including the County/City Arbor Day Celebration, the Leon County Adopt-A-Tree program, and the Chemonie Crossing Neighborhood planting. These projects resulted in the planting of 545 trees. The trees are funded by the Leon County Tree Bank.

Stormwater

- Completed stormwater maintenance improvements on Log Ridge Road in Killlearn Lakes.

Alternative Stabilization

- Chemically stabilized five miles of County roadway, chemically rejuvenated 4.1 miles, and applied Open Graded Cold Mix on 7.1 miles of County roads to extend the life of the roads.

A Leon County youngster sits in the driver seat of a Public Works bulldozer at the Public Works Equipment Expo to celebrate National Public Works Week. Children explored the powerful pieces of equipment and learned more about the important jobs Public Works personnel perform on a daily basis.



Operations

Division Director: Dale Walker

606-1400

dalew@leoncountyfl.gov

The Operations Division maintains and manages infrastructure and transportation programs, roadside beautification, and stormwater maintenance through cost-effective, environmentally sensitive products and services. The Operations Division includes the following programs: Transportation, Right-of-Way, Stormwater, and Alternative Stabilization.

Public Works

Animal Control

Division Director: Richard Ziegler
606-5400
zieglerr@leoncountyfl.gov

The Division of Animal Control works to improve animal and human well-being through education, prevention, and enforcement programs and to provide humane animal care and control services for the citizens and animals of Leon County.



Leon County Animal Control Division Director Richard Ziegler with his dog, Hannah, at the Responsible Dog Ownership Day community awareness event. The division attends numerous events like this throughout the year to provide information about animal control and animal bite prevention.

Mosquito Control and Stormwater Maintenance

Division Director: Glen Pourciau
606-2200
glenp@leoncountyfl.gov

The Division of Mosquito Control and Stormwater Maintenance provides services and educational programs to protect public health and the environment, to provide public safety and human comfort, to enhance the economy, and to promote a higher quality of life.

Animal Control Accomplishments:

- Recognized as the “Outstanding Agency for 2004” for its Animal Bite Prevention Program.
- Delivered much-needed supplies to sister counties devastated by hurricanes.
- Supported Florida Animal Control Association, Humane Society of the United States, and the Florida Veterinarian Medical Association in sponsoring Florida’s first vehicle license plate promoting spaying and neutering of pets. The tags went on sale in April 2005.
- Reduced the number of young bite victims in Leon County by 2.5% by expanding educational programs to include first and fourth grade students.

Mosquito Control & Stormwater Maintenance Accomplishments:

- Removed more than 30 dump truckloads of trash from the Lake Henrietta trash trap, including cups, bottles, paper, furniture, and wood that were washed down Munson Slough following rainfall.
- Completed improvements to the trash trap at Lake Henrietta, which resulted in less trash washing into the lake, as well as Lake Munson.
- Completed a major retrofit of stormwater pond in Avondale Subdivision, which alleviated yard flooding of several residences in the area.
- Four employees received state certification as Stormwater Management Inspectors.



Let's Play Ball

Leon County citizens living on the east side of the County can now enjoy a new location for outdoor activities such as: playing sports, walking, picnicking, or kite-flying. The County completed the first phase of the Apalachee Parkway Regional Park this year with the construction of two soccer/football fields, parking, enhanced landscaping, and irrigation capabilities. Leagues began using the fields in fall 2005. The Board appointed Apalachee Parkway Regional Park Planning Committee continues to work on



a comprehensive master plan for the entire park site. This project is part of the County's long-term plan to convert portions of the Leon County Solid Waste Facility (landfill) into recreational facilities. The committee's recommendations will be presented to the County Commission for consideration in the development of the park plans.

Parks and Recreation

Division Director: Pat Plocek

606-1470

plocekp@leoncountyfl.gov

Leon County Parks and Recreation develops and maintains the pristine parks in unincorporated Leon County. The County has more than 2,800 acres of community parks, boat landings, campgrounds, and greenways.

Parks and Recreation Accomplishments:

- Received a \$200,000 Federal Land and Water Conservation grant from the Department of Environmental Protection for construction of the new Jackson View Park. The park will feature hiking trails, parking, playground equipment, overlooks, and canoe launching areas. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2005.
- Teamed-up for the first time with volunteers of the Pop Warner Little Scholars, Inc. to provide sports activities for youth at County park facilities. This year, the Big Bend Pop Warner Conference significantly increased youth participation with tackle football, flag football, and cheerleading.
- Received two "Stewardship Forest Certification" awards from the Florida Forest Stewardship Program for work on the Miccosukee and Alfred Arms Greenways. The greenways are considered a model of public land stewardship by forestry, parks and recreation, and wildlife professionals throughout the state.
- Constructed a new boat ramp at Lake Munson Park. The ramp was built by state staff and funded by a state grant for boating improvements.



Parks and Recreation staff planted wildflower seeds in coordination with the Leon County Cooperative Extension Office, Dr. Jeff Norcini of the University of Florida/IFAS North Florida Research and Education Center at Quincy, and Buck Lake Elementary School students. The students assisted with sowing seeds in four test plots at Alford Greenway in September 2004 as part of their Environmental Service Learning Project.



Parks and Recreation staff provide information about services at a community event.

Public Works

Solid Waste Management
Division Director: Norm Thomas
606-1800
thomasno@leoncountyfl.gov

Leon County Solid Waste Management provides an integrated solid waste management system dedicated to excellent public service and responsible fiscal and environmental stewardship. It is made up of the following services: the Solid Waste Management Facility (landfill), Transfer Station, Rural Waste Service Centers, Household Hazardous Waste, and Recycling.



Leon County has adopted the "Recycle Guys" for its new public education campaign to teach children the importance of recycling.

Solid Waste Management Accomplishments:

Solid Waste Management Facility (Landfill)

- Formed the Citizens Liaison Committee to review operations and make recommendations for future enhancements at the landfill.
- Continued the FSU/FAMU Engineering School research project to reduce landfill odors.
- Landscaped entrance to facility and contracted with the Florida Department of Transportation to maintain US 27 South in front of the facility.
- The Florida Department of Environmental Protection awarded a grant to use recycled materials, including tire rubber waste, to reduce landfill odors.
- Continued to enjoy success from the free mulch service. The County converts debris into mulch at the Solid Waste Facility.
- Processed more than 3,000 tons of debris from the numerous storms that impacted Leon County.

Transfer Station

- The Florida Department of Environmental Protection granted the Transfer Station an Operating Renewal Permit.
- Installed an automated wheel washing system to prevent tires from tracking waste from the facility.
- Initiated the formation of a Citizens Liaison Committee to review Transfer Station operations and make recommendations for future enhancements.
- Completed a sewer extension onto Gum Road, as the County promised residents in the nearby neighborhood.

Recycling

- Partnered with the Florida Department of Management Services to develop a pilot program to recycle paper at state office buildings.
- Received a \$150,000 Florida Department of Environmental Protection Innovative Grant to study use of recycled glass in concrete products.
- The Solid Waste Community Education Coordinator visited 33 classrooms, reaching 1,700 students, with presentations on recycling, waste prevention, and environmental protection messages.
- Recycled 63 tons of electronics using a grant from Dell, Inc.

Rural Waste Service Centers

- Expanded services to include the collection of electronics, used oil, and fluorescent tubes.
- Trained all service center attendants in proper waste identification and disposal.

Household Hazardous Waste

- Conducted 21 Neighborhood Roundups, including six at the Rural Waste Service Centers and two cooperative collections with the City of Tallahassee's "Trash for Cash" program.
- Collected more than 400,000 pounds and recycled more than 250,000 pounds of household hazardous waste.
- Began a bulk paint operation to reduce disposal costs and increase reuse of latex paint.
- Assisted more than 120 small businesses with their hazardous waste disposal needs.
- Continued the partnership with the City of Tallahassee to improve stormwater quality and aquifer protection.

Fleet Management Accomplishments:

- Collected \$282,140 from surplus vehicles and equipment sales and \$100,500 as part of the Buy-Back program that requires the vendor to purchase the County's used heavy equipment.
- Maintained and repaired 27 EMS vehicles without increased staffing.
- Opened the new fuel depot, making refueling for County vehicles, and other agencies, safer and more efficient.



Fleet Management

Division Director: John Pompey

606-2000

johnnyp@leoncountyfl.gov

The Fleet Management Division provides the best quality maintenance and repair for County equipment and vehicles at the most economical cost to taxpayers. Fleet Management staff works to enhance customer satisfaction by soliciting input before, during, and after certain repairs, and performs all repairs with respect for the environment.

The Fleet Management Division provides repair and maintenance services for 459 vehicles and pieces of equipment owned and operated by Leon County. Additionally, vehicles owned by three Constitutional Officers receive the majority of their repairs and maintenance services from this division. The division also manages the provision of gasoline, diesel fuel, and motor oil for County vehicles. The refueling site also serves as a remote refueling station for the Leon County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.



Human Resources

Director: Lillian Bennett
606-2400
lillianb@leoncountyfl.gov

The Human Resources Division recruits qualified candidates and provides an array of services to employees so that Leon County residents will continue to receive excellent services and products from its government.



County Sets New Goals for Workforce Diversity

Leon County is taking extra steps to improve the diversity of its workforce. The Human Resources (HR) Division reviewed the utilization of minorities and women in the Board's workforce and presented the findings in its Summary of 2005 Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Annual Report. Based on the findings, the Board adopted a new set of goals as to the number of females and African Americans in targeted program areas that the Board would like the County to hire in designated EEO categories.

In addition, the Board approved a number of proactive measures to address the under-utilization of minorities and to maintain a diversified workforce. HR staff is collaborating with the community's institutions of higher learning and establishing internship programs to recruit more women and minorities.

Human Resources Accomplishments:

- Developed a new performance evaluation tool for career service employees.
- Conducted employee training for all County employees on "Speaking up for Respect in the Workplace" and "Managing with Respect."
- Awarded County Health Care Insurance services to Capital Health Plan, Vista, and United Health Care for 2006. The Board conducted a workshop and issued request for employee health insurance. The County entered into a contract with a consulting firm to analyze the proposals.
- Completed an annual human resources audit and market study of more than 400 County employee positions. Recommendations were included in the Fiscal Year 2005/06 budget.
- Completed the Annual Equal Employment Opportunity Report and obtained Board approval to increase participation of women and minorities in under-utilized categories and in County professional positions.
- Developed a tracking and monitoring system on hiring practices.
- Developed an on-line job application and on-line open-enrollment process.
- Investigated and took immediate action on employee workplace complaints.



Job seekers can view available job opportunities or apply for employment on-line by visiting www.leoncountyfl.gov, or by calling 606-2403.

Leon County Quick Reference

Board of County Commissioners
606-5302
www.leoncountyfl.gov/bcc

Bill Proctor, District 1 Commissioner
606-5361
proctorb@leoncountyfl.gov

Jane Sauls, District 2 Commissioner
606-5362
saulsj@leoncountyfl.gov

Dan Winchester, District 3 Commissioner
606-5363
danw@leoncountyfl.gov

Tony Grippa, District 4 Commissioner
606-5364
grippat@leoncountyfl.gov

Bob Rackleff, District 5 Commissioner
606-5365
racklefb@leoncountyfl.gov

Cliff Thaell, At-Large Commissioner
606-5367
cliff@leoncountyfl.gov

Ed DePuy, At-Large Commissioner
606-5369
depuye@leoncountyfl.gov

County Administrator
606-5300
www.leoncountyfl.gov

County Attorney
606-2500
www.leoncountyfl.gov/lcao

Animal Control
606-5400
www.leoncountyfl.gov/animal

Cooperative Extension Service
606-5200
<http://leon.ifas.ufl.edu>

Agriculture
606-5200

Family/Consumer Sciences
606-5203

4-H
606-5204

Horticulture/Forestry
606-5202

Emergency Management
488-5921
<http://lcso.leonfl.org/em.htm>

Emergency Medical Services
www.leoncountyfl.gov/lcems

Headquarters/Administration
606-2100

Dispatch
921-0900

Facilities Management
606-5000
www.leoncountyfl.gov/facilities

Fleet Management
606-2000
www.leoncountyfl.gov/pubworks/fleet

Growth & Environmental Management
606-1300
www.leonpermits.org

Building Inspection
606-1300

Inspection Hot Line (IVRS)
891-1800

Code Enforcement
606-1300

Concurrency Management
606-1300

Environmental Permitting
606-1300

Health Department
487-3155
www.leoncountyfl.gov/lchd

Health & Human Services
606-1900
www.leoncountyfl.gov/hhs

Human Resources
606-2400
www.leoncountyfl.gov/hr

Job Line
606-2403

Legal Aid
222-3004

LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System
606-2665
www.leoncountylibrary.org

Main Branch
200 West Park Avenue
606-2665

Fort Braden Branch
6327 Blountstown Hwy.
606-2900

Lake Jackson Branch
3840 North Monroe Street
606-2850

Northeast Branch
5513 Thomasville Road
606-2800

Parkway Branch
1210 Capital Circle SE
606-2750

Dr. B. L. Perry Jr. Branch
2801 S Adams St.
606-2950

Literacy Volunteers
606-2644

Freenet Help Desk
606-2705

Management and Budget Office
606-5100
www.leoncountyfl.gov/omb

Management Information Services
606-5500
www.leoncountyfl.gov/mis

Geographic Information Services
606-5504

Management Services
606-1700
www.leoncountyfl.gov/ms

Minority/Women Business Enterprise
606-1650
www.leoncountyfl.gov/mbe

Leon County Quick Reference

Mosquito Control
606-2200
www.leoncountyfl.gov/mosquito

Parks & Recreation Department
606-1470
www.leoncountyfl.gov/parks

Planning Department
891-8600
www.tal.gov.com/planning

Probation Division
606-5600
www.leoncountyfl.gov/probation

Public Information Office
606-5300
www.leoncountyfl.gov/admin/PIO

Public Information Desk
606-5366 (LEON)

Public Services Department
Intergovernmental Affairs
606-5300
www.leoncountyfl.gov/admin/I-GA

Public Works Department
606-1500
www.leoncountyfl.gov/pubworks

Operations (24-hour response)
606-1400

Purchasing Division
606-1600

Solid Waste Management
606-1800
www.leoncountyfl.gov/SolidWaste

Hazardous Waste
606-1803

Recycling Information
606-1802

Rural Waste Collection Center
606-1800

Transfer Station
606-1840

Supervised Pre-Trial Release
606-5700
www.leoncountyfl.gov/Probation

Tourist Development
106 E. Jefferson St.
606-2300
www.seetallahassee.com

Veteran Services
606-1940
www.leoncountyfl.gov/vets

Volunteer Center
606-1970
www.volunteerleon.org

Other County/State Agencies

Public Defender
606-1000
www.leoncountyfl.gov/PD

State Attorney, 2nd Judicial Circuit
606-6000
www.sao2fl.org

Circuit Court 2nd Judicial
577-4300
www.2ndcircuit.leon.fl.us

Constitutional Offices

Clerk of Court
577-4000
www.clerk.leon.fl.us

Supervisor of Elections
606-8683
www.leonfl.org/elect

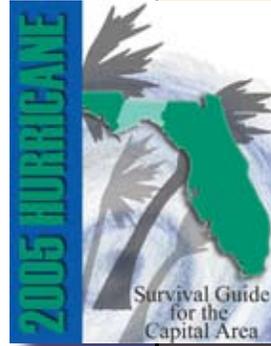
Property Appraiser
488-6102
www.co.leon.fl.us/propappr

Tax Collector's Office
488-4735
www.leontaxcollector.net

Sheriff
922-3300
<http://lcso.leonfl.org>

Be Prepared Before the Storm

Read the Hurricane Survival Guide by visiting www.leoncountyfl.gov. Copies are also available at your local Leon County library. Find other important hurricane preparedness information at <http://www.tallytown.com/redcross>.



- Decide NOW where you would go if ordered to evacuate. You may choose a hotel, motel, or the home of a friend or relative in a safe location. You may want to leave the region entirely, or, as a last resort, go to a Red Cross shelter.

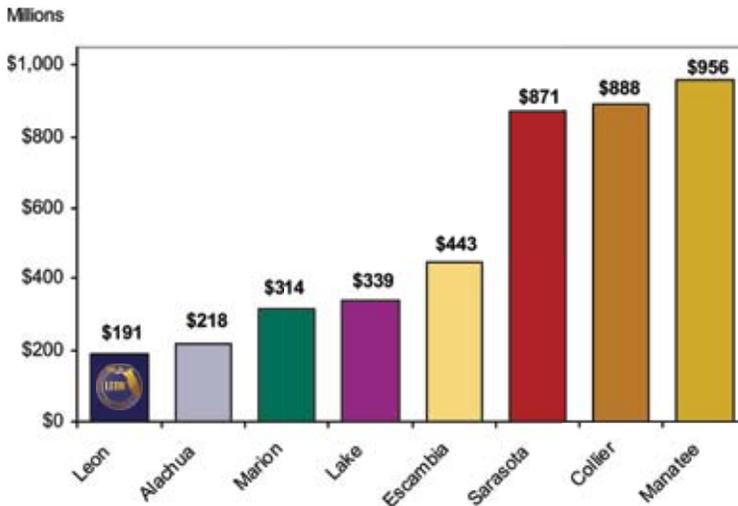
- Register NOW with your County Emergency Management Agency if you need special assistance during an evacuation.
- Have a Hurricane Kit which includes:
 - ✓Cash
 - ✓Four-week supply of prescription medicines. Maintain at least one month supply during hurricane season.
 - ✓Two weeks' supply of non-perishable foods
 - ✓Drinking water—at least one gallon per person per day for two weeks
 - ✓Flashlight and batteries
 - ✓Portable radio and at least seven sets of batteries
 - ✓First Aid Kit
 - ✓Coolers for food and ice
 - ✓Plastic tarp for roof or window repair
 - ✓Tools
 - ✓Camera and film
 - ✓Can opener
 - ✓Extra batteries
 - ✓Trash bags
 - ✓Toilet paper, paper towels, and pre-moistened wipes
- Plan for your pets.
- Review your insurance policies NOW.

Leon County at a Glance

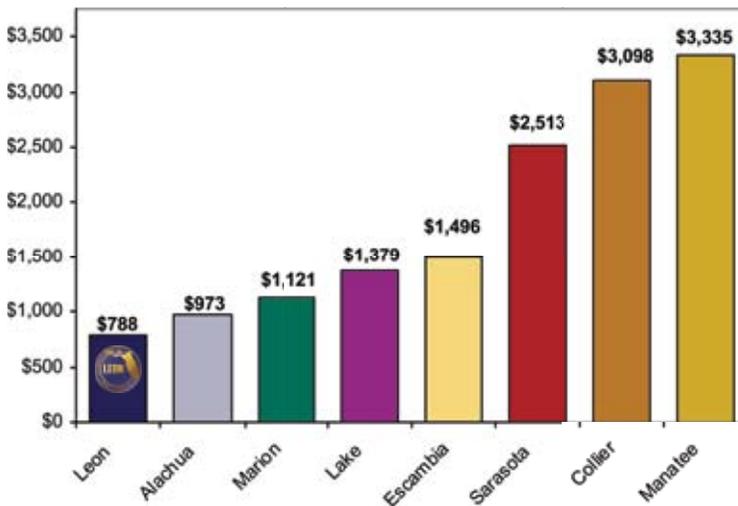
How Leon County Compares

These graphs demonstrate how Leon County compares to other like-sized counties in Florida.

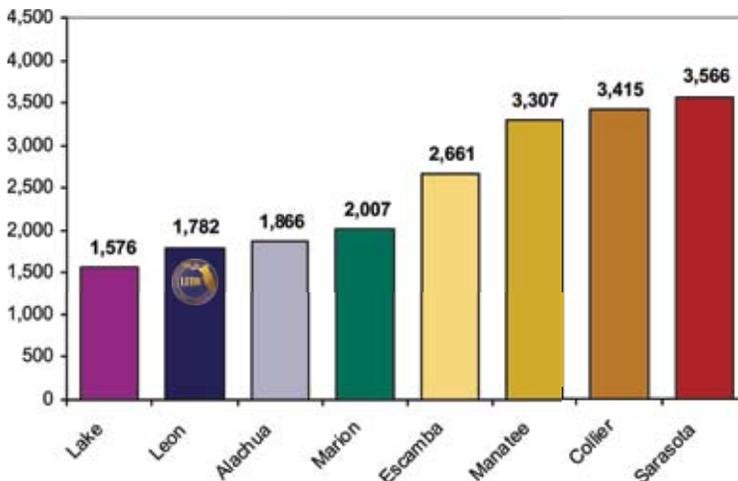
Total Net Budget (FY05)



Net Budget Per Countywide Resident (FY05)



Total Number of County Employees (FY05)



Statistics

Founded: 1824
 Land Area (Square miles): 671
 Registered Voters: 163,000

Demographics

Population: 263,400
 Total Housing Units: 3,304
 Single-Family: 1,467
 Multi-Family: 1,486
 Mobile Homes: 351
 Median Age: 29.5
 Median Household Income: \$52,962

Labor

Employment: 128,989
 Leon County Unemployment Rate: 2.5%
 Florida Unemployment Rate: 4.3%
 National Unemployment Rate: 5.1%

Property Value

Value of Real Property for FY 2005/06:
 \$12.3 billion (Taxable value)

County Budget FY 2005-06

Countywide Millage Rate: 8.54
 EMS Millage Rate: .50
 Primary Healthcare Millage Rate: .12

Total Budget: \$210,082,210
 Approved County Positions: 796

2005 Leon County Facts:

- Library services had 3.08 million uses system-wide.
- Public Works mowed 2,500 miles of roadway.
- More than 7,000 citizens are registered with CareNet, a program that provides primary healthcare to the uninsured.
- The Environmental Compliance Division conducted 6,500 compliance inspections.
- The Housing Services Division completed housing rehabilitation, home replacement, down payment assistance, and disaster mitigations services to 120 clients.
- The Guardian Ad Litem program represented almost 1,200 children alleged to be abused, neglected, or abandoned.
- 53,021 citizens received homestead exemptions and 2,010 citizens received the senior homestead exemption.

2005

Leon County Annual Report

Produced by
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pio@leoncountyfl.gov