



MARCH WEATHER PREDICTION FOR FLORIDA

Slightly below normal temperatures and slightly above normal precipitation. Average temperatures should range from 61 in the north to 67 in the south.



MARCH GARDENING TIPS

March is the month to fertilize. Remember not to fertilize more than two times per year, as these excess chemicals wash into our stormwater. When your lawn starts greening up at the month's end, apply a slow-release fertilizer. Prune back your ornamental grasses to 12 inches above the ground, paying close attention not to cut off the growing points. Fertilize palms and Sagos with special palms fertilizer that contains magnesium, and supplement acid-loving plants like Azaleas and Camellias with fertilizer specially labeled for Azaleas. Using regular fertilizer will damage these plants' roots.



FLORIDA TIDBIT

1783...

Great Britain returned the two Floridas to Spain at the end of the American Revolution. Florida's first newspaper, *The East Florida Gazette*, was published in St. Augustine.

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION



City and County workers and volunteers team up for Hazardous Waste Collection Days held several times each year in Clearwater and other municipalities in Pinellas County. Residents are encouraged to properly dispose of household chemicals, paint, computers, televisions and other hazardous wastes.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR HUMAN RESOURCES

- Coordinated and implemented a Senior Management Leadership Program which included the use of personal assessments, 360 degree assessments, and one-on-one coaching, which culminated in a collaborative engagement exercise.
- Assisted the Parks and Recreation Department with the development, implementation and training for a mentoring program designed to enhance the knowledge, skills and abilities of staff.
- Initiated a program with Pinellas Technical Education Center to assist employees in obtaining their General Equivalency Diplomas to open up more career opportunities.
- Graduated the 21st class of employees from the Supervisory and Leadership Development Program.
- Expanded minority/diverse recruiting base to include: annual advertisement in minority publications, attended diverse job fairs, assisted the Police Department in their diverse recruitment efforts, and collaborated with Worknet Pinellas "Vets for Hire" program.
- Helped reduce the total number of city employees by finding alternative jobs for those whose positions were eliminated by budget cuts.
- Implemented a new employee electronic benefits enrollment system to reduce administrative burden associated with billing and payment processing.