



**Marion County
Board of County Commissioners**

Office of Public Information

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Today's Date: Nov. 22, 2011

**OFFICIALS TO HOST STATEWIDE INTRODUCTION TO FLORIDA EQUINE BEST
MANAGEMENT PRACTICES MANUAL AT MANURE MANAGEMENT SUMMIT**

Immediate Release

- WHO:** UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Service, in cooperation with Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)
- WHAT:** Official introduction to inaugural Florida Equine Best Management Practices Manual at the Manure Management Summit
- WHEN:** Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2011 ▪ 10 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.
(Register by Dec. 8)
- WHERE:** Ocala Breeders' Sales Company, Inter-track Wagering Facility
(1701 SW 60th Ave., Ocala)
- WHY:** Florida is home to about 500,000 horses and about 50,000 of them live in Marion County. Until now, this important industry has been without a best management practices manual for its operations. After years of collaboration, the FDACS is about to adopt the inaugural Florida Equine Best Management Practices Manual, and is introducing it at this event. Horse owners, farm managers and equine enthusiasts can get a first-hand explanation at this event from an FDACS representative of these official new guidelines for best managing horse farms while being environmentally responsible.

After learning the state guidelines, learn the steps Marion County has taken to protect the springs from local farm waste. In addition, hear how manure from Marion County farms is being used to generate electricity in other counties and find out if your farm could participate.

If you have questions, or want help implementing best management practices or managing the manure at your farm, get answers at this event or free one-on-one guidance through UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Service.

This event is free and includes lunch, but space is limited. Register today at <http://manuremanagementsummit-eorg.eventbrite.com/>. For more information, call 352-671-8400 or visit www.marioncountyfl.org/extensionservice.htm.

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"Meeting Needs by Exceeding Expectations"

Manure Management Summit

Official introduction to inaugural Florida Equine BMP manual

Tuesday, Dec. 13 | 10 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Ocala Breeders' Sales Company, Inter-track Wagering Facility
1701 SW 60th Ave., Ocala



Official unveiling of first-ever Equine Best Management Practices.

Get a first look here from Bill Bartnick, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Protect the springs.

Marion County is home to more than 50,000 horses, making it imperative to manage farm waste so it doesn't infiltrate the springs. Learn from Commissioner Stan McClain about the steps Marion County has taken to protect the water.

Make manure work for you.

Hear from the owner of the Lake City-area Suwannee Farms about how he powered his farming operations for six months using farm waste - some from Marion County.

Don't know where to start?

Marion County Extension Service can help with free education and one-on-one farm visits to help you responsibly manage farm waste and pasture-use.

And more!

Marion
County
FLORIDA
EXTENSION SERVICE

UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

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Black Gold Compost



Pre-registration by Dec. 8
for this free event is mandatory.
Lunch is provided.

For more information or to register:

www.manuremanagementsummit.eventbrite.com

www.marioncountyfl.org/extensionsservice.htm

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