



**Marion County
Board of County Commissioners**

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**MARION COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION HOSTING
YOUTH POSTER CONTEST**

Immediate Release

MARION COUNTY, Fla. (June 6, 2011) – Marion County Parks and Recreation invites local youth to ignite their creativity this summer by participating in its first poster contest. The contest, held in partnership with the City of Ocala as part of local celebrations commemorating Park and Recreation Month, is open to children ages 6 – 14. Participants may submit art entries reflecting at least one of the themes associated with the contest’s “It Starts in Parks” message:

- Achievement.
- Sense of community.
- Respect for nature.
- Conservation of natural resources.
- Economic impact.
- Good health.
- Heritage.
- Florida’s future.

Posters may not exceed 36 square inches. Entries must be mailed or hand delivered to the Marion County Parks and Recreation office (111 SE 25th Ave., Ocala, FL 34471) by 4 p.m. on June 24, 2011. An entry form, available at the office and at www.marioncountyfl.org/parks.htm, must accompany each entry.

A three-judge panel comprised of members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council, Ocala Recreation Commission and the Ocala Municipal Arts Commission will select two winners (one each from age groups 6 – 9 and 10 – 14). The Marion County Board of County Commissioners and the Ocala City Council will recognize winners at one of their regularly scheduled meetings in July. For more information, visit www.marioncountyfl.org or call 352-671-8560.

Cities and counties nationwide celebrate Park and Recreation Month in July to recognize the role park and recreation facilities play in creating active and healthy communities and enhancing residents’ quality of life. To learn more, visit www.nrpa.org.

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