

# Hillsborough County Office of Neighborhood Relations



**CELEBRATING NEIGHBORHOODS!!**



## 6th Annual Neighborhoods Conference

By Wanda Sloan

Greetings Friends and Neighbors:

**“2008” has proven to be a year of change!** We made history with the Presidential Elections and a recession all in one year. As neighborhoods we are saying farewell to friends and neighbors and trying to figure out what to do about foreclosures and abandon homes. I was taught that when times get hard, you count your blessings. We are truly blessed! I’m excited about this year’s conference. We are going to celebrate our neighborhoods as they are today, and we are going to learn how to make them better tomorrow.

The goal of the conference this year is to educate! To teach board members to lead and create a sense of unity. We will all learn the steps on how to deal with foreclosures and tight budgets, while still building a sense of community and making our neighborhoods safe, attractive and friendly. We will learn from one another and make Hillsborough County an even better place to live and work. The conference is a great way for neighborhood leaders to network with each other and meet your government officials and local businesses. We are striving to meet the needs of our neighborhoods by changing and improving the conference each year.

Mark your calendar today for the 6th Annual Hillsborough County Neighborhood Conference, March 21, 2009, at the Hillsborough Community College Dale Mabry Campus. Applications will be available on our Web site in late December, [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/onr](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/onr).

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**Office of Neighborhood Relations**

**Phone: 813-272-5860**

**Serving Neighborhoods Throughout Hillsborough**

# Breakfast With County Administrator - Pat Bean



On November 19, 2008, Neighborhood Relations hosted our first presidents breakfast with Hillsborough County Administrator Pat Bean for all the Association Presidents. We wanted to show our appreciation for the effort, time and energy that the presidents put into making our neighborhoods a better place to live. The event was a great success with over 60 people attending. We had a time of fellowship, and good food. Ms. Bean made her way around the room getting acquainted with old and new friends.

Ms. Bean shared some insight for her admiration for neighborhoods and answered questions from the guests. Since we had such a great time and received positive feedback, Neighborhood Relations has decided to make it an annual event.

A special thank you goes to Mr. Papin, Director, and his staff at Children's Services for allowing us to use their wonderful facilities to host the breakfast and to Alex Martinez, Sr. Park Manager, and his staff at Lake Park for their assistance with the event.

Below are some photo's taken at the event:



Special Thank You to our Sponsors:



*Sandyne Enterprises, Inc*



**Attention!**  
Presenter is CCLA, CMCA,  
and AMS Certified

**Home Owner Association  
Presidents and Board Members  
Neighborhood Relations is offering a  
FREE training to all HOA Board Members  
Starting**

**January 22, 2009!**

**Learn:**

- Community Management
  - FI Statute 720
- Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Regulation
  - Collections
  - Enforcement and Rule Making
- Insurance, Budget/Financials, Reserves, Contracts & Audits

**For more information visit our web site at**

**[www.hillsboroughcounty.org/onr](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/onr)**

**Phone (813) 272-5860**

CODE ENFORCEMENT TIP OF THE MONTH  
e-Newsletter



Board of County Commissioners | Code Enforcement Department

September 2008

**TREE MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL**



**Q. Why are Trees important?**

Trees are an important part of every community. They contribute to their environment by conserving water, improving air quality, moderating the effects of the sun, rain and wind, preserving soil, providing oxygen, and supporting wildlife.

Trees absorb and store rainwater which reduce runoff and sediment deposit after storms. This helps the ground water supply recharge, prevents the transport of chemicals into streams, and prevents flooding. Fallen leaves make excellent compost that enriches soil.

Trees also provide many neighborhoods a great source of town pride as very old trees serve as historic landmarks. And well-placed trees can also serve as sound barriers by muffling noise from roadways and other urban activities. It is for many of these reasons that the planting of trees as well as the removal of trees is specifically regulated by Hillsborough County's Land Development Code.

**Q. Do I need a permit to remove a tree?**

In most cases, the answer is yes! However, there are certain species of trees which are exempt from permitting requirements, and there are other circumstances under which a permit may not be required for tree removal. If you are considering the removal of a tree, you are encouraged to contact the County's Natural Resources Unit to ensure that removal is done in accordance with the Land Development Code.

**Q. What is a "Grand Oak?"**

A grand oak is defined by the Land Development Code as:

- a tree of the genus *Quercus* with a trunk measuring 34 inches Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) and greater;

- a condition rating of good or better in accordance to the Tree Condition Evaluation Form referenced as Section 4.1.6.1.9 of the Development Review Procedures Manual, and
- whose trunk circumference, height and crown measurements are of the size and character to total a minimum 175 points in accordance to the Tree Point System methodology.

These trees are afforded special protection by the Land Development Code and can only be removed when authorized for removal by the Zoning Administrator.

**Q. Can I prune a "Grand Oak" tree?**

Pruning of a grand oak, with the exception of minor pruning, is prohibited unless conducted in accordance with the ANSI A 300 Pruning Standards as performed by an Arborist certified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) or a Registered Consulting Arborist with the American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA). A notarized affidavit affirming an ISA Certified Arborist or an ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist will conduct or onsite supervise the pruning shall be submitted to the County prior to the pruning of a grand oak. An ISA Certified Arborist or an ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist contracted by a property owner to prune a grand oak shall assume full responsibility for all pruning activities determined in noncompliance with standards specified within the Land Development Code.

**Q. How can I report a suspected violation to the County?**

Suspected violations of this Code should be reported to the Hillsborough County Natural Resources Unit of the Planning and Growth Management Department. The department can be reached by calling **813-272-5920**. Violations can also be reported online through the department's Web site at [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/pgm/landdevelopment/natural.cfm](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/pgm/landdevelopment/natural.cfm).



Sign-up to receive this e-newsletter or suggest topics by contacting Kemly Green at [greenkj@hillsboroughcounty.org](mailto:greenkj@hillsboroughcounty.org)  
10119 Windhorst Rd., Tampa, FL 33618 | 813-274-8600 | [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/hcce](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/hcce)

**Calling Volunteers**

**2009 Hillsborough County  
Neighborhoods Conference:  
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Each year the Office of Neighborhood Relations works to bring citizens a high quality Neighborhoods Conference. However, we cannot do this without help from community members and neighborhood leaders.

Our **third** conference planning meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2 PM to 4 PM on the 26th floor, Room B, of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd. Please join us and help plan the 2009 Conference. Parking is available in the Pierce Street Garage. Bring your ticket in for validation.

For more information on the 2009 Neighborhoods Conference Planning Committee or to volunteer contact Wanda Sloan at 813-307-3564 or [sloanw@hillsboroughcounty.org](mailto:sloanw@hillsboroughcounty.org).



## DTV Transition and the Coupon Program

### What is the digital television transition?

At midnight on February 17, 2009, all full-power television stations in the United States will stop broadcasting in analog and switch to 100% digital broadcasting. Digital broadcasting promises to provide a clearer picture and more programming options and will free up airwaves for use by emergency responders.

### What is the TV Converter Box Coupon Program?

Congress created the TV Converter Box Coupon Program for households wishing to keep using their analog TV sets after February 17, 2009. The Program allows U.S. households to obtain up to two coupons, each worth \$40, that can be applied toward the cost of eligible converter boxes.

A TV connected to cable, satellite or other pay TV service does not require a TV converter box from this program.

Consumers have a variety of options. Options to explore include:

1. Keep your existing analog TV and purchase a TV converter box. A converter box plugs into your TV and will keep it working after Feb. 17, 2009, or
2. Connect to cable, satellite or other pay service, or
3. Purchase a television with a digital tuner.

Have more questions? Visit our [FAQs](#) for more information!

**[www.dtv2009.gov/](http://www.dtv2009.gov/)**

**2009**

**Neighborhood Recognition Awards**

**Sponsored by the Board of County  
Commissioners and the  
Office of Neighborhood Relations**



The Hillsborough County Office of Neighborhood Relations is accepting nominations for the Board of County Commissioners' Neighborhood Recognition Awards. Nominations are due no later than 5 p.m., Friday, Feb. 13, 2009. Application forms can be obtained by calling (813) 272-5860 or visiting <http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/onr>.

## NEIGHBORHOOD RECOGNITION AWARD APPLICATION

### THE AWARD

Neighborhood leaders countywide are invited to nominate programs, projects and events that they have worked on during the past 12 months. The purpose of the program is to recognize and encourage neighborhoods that have been active in civic affairs and worked collectively to improve and enrich their communities and the lives of their residents.

### ELIGIBILITY

Nominee or Applicant must be a neighborhood, homeowner, civic association or crime watch group within Hillsborough County.

### NOMINATION CATEGORIES

Two awards will be given in six of the categories, one for associations of 400 households or less and another for associations with more than 400 households. Only the Youth Program and Umbrella categories will vary. There will be a Youth award for the best program for children 12 and under and one for teens. Only one award will be given in the Umbrella category. The nomination categories are as follows:

- Best Beautification Project
- Best Crime Watch/Crime Prevention Program/Project
- Best Environmental Program/Project
- Best Newsletter
- Most Successful Special Event
- Best Web site
- Most Successful Youth Program
- Best Umbrella Association of Associations

### APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please provide an overview of the program/project and the neighborhood being nominated. Materials that will enhance the nomination may be submitted in support of the application. If you need additional space, feel free to attach a **maximum** of three subsequent pages. Applications and supporting material must be submitted on 8½ x 11 white paper. Submit four copies of the award application and sup-

### RECOGNITION

Winners will be announced at the Hillsborough County Neighborhoods Conference luncheon to be held at the Hillsborough Community College Dale Mabry Campus on Saturday, March 21, 2009.

Please return your nomination form to:

**Office of Neighborhood Relations  
601 East Kennedy Blvd, 13th Floor  
Tampa, Florida 33602**

If you have any questions, call Hillsborough County Neighborhood Relations (813) 272-5860. All entries must be received in person or postmarked by **February 13, 2009 at 5 p.m.**

# NEIGHBORHOOD RECOGNITION AWARD APPLICATION

- 1. Neighborhood Association Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Number of Households in Association \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Which award are you applying for? (*Check only one.*)

Best Beautification Project	
Best Crime Watch/Crime Prevention Program/Project	
Best Environmental Program/Project	
Best Newsletter	

Most Successful Special Event	
Best Website	
Most Successful Youth Program	
Best Umbrella Association of Associations	

- 4. Association President \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Address \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Email \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. Nominator's Name \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. Address \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. Email \_\_\_\_\_

Give a detailed description of the project/program, how the neighborhood has improved or been affected by the project/program and how many people participated or have been impacted by the project/program nominated:

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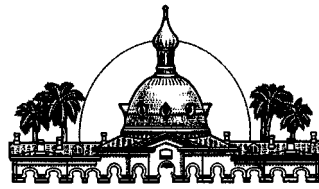
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Hillsborough County  
Florida

### **Office of Neighborhood Relations**

The Office of Neighborhood Relations works to improve the County's relationship with its neighborhoods and communities by working internally with departments to improve County services, and externally with neighborhood and community groups, municipalities, law enforcement, and other state and local agencies affecting neighborhoods.

### **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

<b>Ken Hagan, Chair</b>	District 2
<b>Mark Sharpe, Vice Chair</b>	District 7
<b>Kevin Beckner</b>	District 6
<b>Rose V. Ferlita</b>	District 1
<b>Al Higginbotham</b>	District 4
<b>Jim Norman</b>	District 5
<b>Kevin White</b>	District 3

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**Patricia Bean**

**Office of Neighborhood Relations  
601 East Kennedy Blvd, 13th Floor  
Tampa, FL 33602  
Phone (813) 272 5860  
Fax (813) 276-2621  
[www.hillsboroughcounty.org/onr](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/onr)**



NOVEMBER

# GREEN THEME

## PRECYCLING

- This is the practice of reducing waste by not bringing into the home or workplace items that will generate waste
- You can precycle by making bulk purchases to reduce packaging, avoiding unwanted (junk) mail and using electronic media for reading newspapers and magazines
- Precycling helps to ♦ reduce costs for waste hauling, recycling and disposal ♦ conserve disposal capacity ♦ conserve energy and natural resources and ♦ reduce pollution

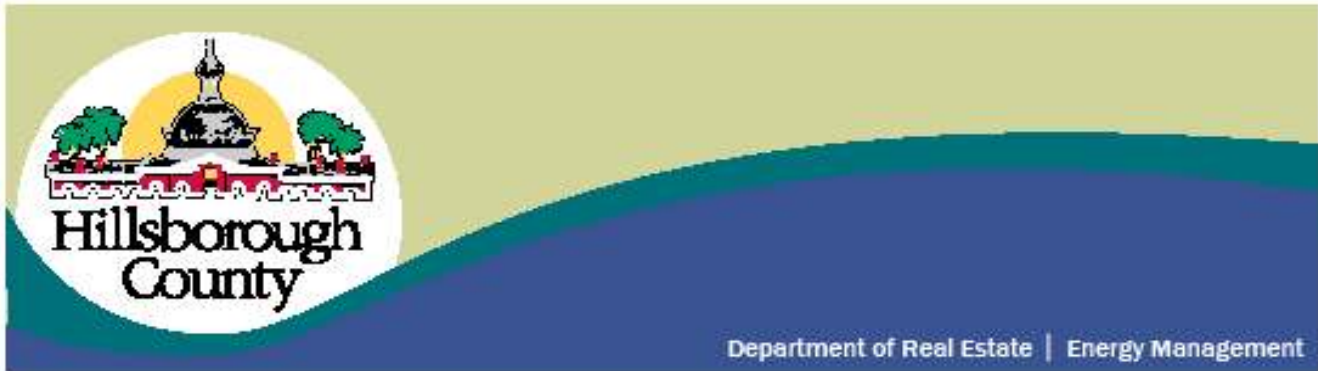


▪ To stop unwanted business mail, go to:  
[www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/nwpc/bizjunkmail.htm](http://www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/nwpc/bizjunkmail.htm)

▪ To stop unwanted personal mail, go to:  
[www.dmachoice.org/MPS/proto1.php](http://www.dmachoice.org/MPS/proto1.php)



Solid Waste Management Department  
272-5880



## Home Energy Hints



### Energy Saving Tip Of The Month

*Appliances account for about 20% of your household's energy consumption, with refrigerators and dryers using the most.*

#### **Practical ways to save on your monthly utility expenses:**

- Clean the lint filter in the dryer after every load for better air circulation. Periodically inspect the dryer vent to make sure it is not blocked.
- Make sure your refrigerator door seals are airtight. Test them by closing the door over a dollar bill so it is half in and half out of the refrigerator. If you can pull the bill out easily, the latch may need adjustment or the seal may need replacing.
- Load dishes in your dishwasher in their proper locations to ensure maximum cleaning efficiency and to save energy. Run your dishwasher after 7 p.m. and wash only full loads, using the shortest possible cycle.

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[www.hillsboroughcounty.org/realestate/facilities/energyguide](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/realestate/facilities/energyguide) | 813-276-8789

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Hillsborough County Office of Neighborhood Relations

601 East Kennedy Blvd, 13th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602



If this mailing information is incorrect call ONR immediately at (813) 272-5860.

Serving Neighborhoods throughout Hillsborough

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Office of Neighborhood
Relations

601 East Kennedy Blvd, 13th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 272-5860

www.hillsboroughcounty.org/onr

Bryant O. Johnson,
Executive Manager

SAVE THE DATE!!

SAVE THE DATE

The Office of Neighborhood Relations and Hillsborough Community College announce the 6th Annual Hillsborough County Neighborhoods Conference. Come join hundreds of neighborhood leaders and advocates for a day of informational workshops, exhibits, neighborhood awards ceremony, and luncheon.

Further information and conference registration will be available in late November 2008.

Date: March 21, 2009
Time: 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM
Location: HCC, Dale Mabry Campus

For more information or to lend assistance to conference planning efforts contact:

Office of Neighborhood Relations

601 E. Kennedy Blvd, 13 FL
Tampa, FL 33602
Phone: 813-307-3364

Fax: 813-276-2621

email: sloanw@hillsboroughcounty.org
www.hillsboroughcounty.org/onr

For exhibitor or sponsorship info call (813) 307-3364



Sponsored by your Board of County Commissioners and Hillsborough Community College.



Serving Neighborhoods throughout Hillsborough County!



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