

Lee County Roadway Landscape Volunteer Tree Planting Project 7/07/2010

On July 31st, Lee County DOT, the Lee County Roadway Landscape Advisory Committee, and the Florida Division of Forestry, invite volunteers to help plant over 80 native trees and shrubs at the water retention area located adjacent to the 7-11 gas station at the intersection of Gladiolus Parkway and Summerlin Road from 9:30 am—11 am. Parking will be in the 7-11 parking lot.

Volunteers will learn from experts how to properly situate and plant trees in the landscape. Specifically, they will help to place trees on site, dig holes, plant trees, and install any necessary staking and finish materials such as mulch. Volunteers are asked to bring gloves and sunscreen.

The project is an ongoing part of Lee County's efforts to beautify the community by creating roadway landscaping that is attractive, functional and safe with the following tree based benefits:

- increase shade;
- strategically break up the urbanized look of roadsides;
- reduce urban heat island impacts by cooling surrounding air;
- provide shelter to wildlife in the area of the planting;
- help to protect soil from erosion;
- reduce storm water flow;
- reduce the impact of damaging winds;
- create future financial incentive (fiber, wood, increased real estate values);
- increase opportunities for recreational enhancement by providing areas with shade.

The tree planting will start promptly at 9:30 am and will conclude at or before 11 am. Come and be a part of this exciting event. As more trees are planted properly, everyone wins.

RSVP for the event by contacting:

Joe Sulak with Lee County DOT at (239)-533-9400 jsulak@leegov.com

or

Mike Weston, FL Division of Forestry, at (239) 690-3500 Ext. 118 westonm@doacs.state.fl.us