

Alachua County, FL

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- Area History
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Hillary Glanzer Santos Broker Associate



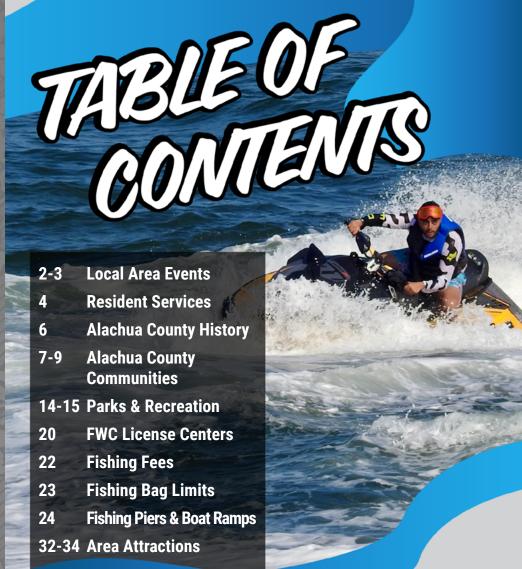




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LOCAL AREA EVENTS

YEAR ROUND

- ► Alachua County Farmers Market -Saturdays
- ► Archer Farmers Market Tuesdays
- ► Farmers Market at Celebration Pointe -Thursdays
- Grove Street Farmers Market -Mondays
- Haile Farmers Market Saturdays
- ► High Springs Farmers Market Fridays
- San Felasco Market Wednesdays
- Waldo Farmers & Flea Market -Saturdays & Sundays

JANUARY

- ▶ 1st Day Hike at Dudley Farms -Newberry
- Alachua County Bicentennial Celebration - Gainesville
- Annual Alachua Martin Luther King Jr Celebrations
- Art Week Gainesville
- Experience Psychic Fair Gainesville
- ► Florida Bridal Expo Gainesville
- ► Gainesville Cars & Coffee
- ► Hoggetowne Medieval Faire -Gainesville
- ► Rim Rumble Hike Micanopy
- Sunshine State Book Festival -Gainesville

FEBRUARY

- Flatwoods Fire & Nature Festival -Gainesville
- Newberry Quasquicentennical Celebration

MARCH

World Masters Athletics Indoor Championships - Gainesville

APRIL

- High Springs Pioneer Days
- WestFest Music Festival Newberry MAA
- Newberry Watermelon Festival

JUNE

- ► Fathers Day at Kanapana Botanical Gardens - Gainesville
- ► SportsFest Alachua

JULY

- ► Alachua 4th of July Fireworks
- Business Expo Gainesville

AUGUST

- Battle of the Bands Gainesville
- Red Shoe Affair Gainesville

SEPTEMBER

- ► Fall Vendor Fair Gainesville
- ► Stop Childrens Cancer Annual Charity Golf Classic - Gainesville

OCTOBER

- Antiques & Collectables Market -Gainesville
- Oktoberfest at Tioga Newberry
- ► The Ultimate Vendor Market -Gainesville
- Trick or Treat on Main Street Alachua
- Walk to End Alzheimers Gainesville

NOVEMBER

- ► Alachua Main Street Festival
- ▶ Beyond Bourbon Gainesville
- ► Cane Boil & Fiddle Fest Gainesville
- Downtown Festival & Art Show -Gainesville
- ► Gainesville Harley Fall Famity Festival
- High Springs Tree Lighting
- ► Rock the Runway Gainesville
- ▶ Tioga Car Show Newberry
- Woofstock Alachua

DECEMBER

- Alachua Christmas Parade
- Annual Gainesville Santa Crawl
- Annual Santa Paws 5K-9 & 10K-9 -Gainesville
- Annual Solstice Celebration -Gainesville
- Candy Cane Lane Festival Gainesville
- Christmas at the Patch Newberry
- Downtown Countdown Gainesville

DECEMBER CONTD.

- ► Flying Pig Parade Gainesville
- ► Gar-Erg-A-Thon Gainesville
- ► High Springs Christmas Parade
- ► Holiday Lights Downtown Tour -Gainesville
- Newberry Main Street Christmas Gingerbread Village - Newberry
- Nutcracker Christmas Parade High **Springs**
- ► Ranger led Rim Ramble Hike -Micanopy
- ► Sparks in the Park Gainesville
- ► The Arc of Alachua County Arts & Crafts Expo - Gainesville
- ► Toys for Pups Gainesville
- ► Vintage Holidays Guided Tours of Historic Haile Homestead - Gainesville Winter Wonderland - Gainesville
- Waldo Christmas at the Square
- * Events are subject to change



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In 1817, F. M. Arredondo acquired a 20-square-mile grant, known as the Arredondo Grant, in the southern part of what would become Alachua County. As Florida transitioned from Spanish to American control, settlers from both the United States and Europe began to inhabit the area. Wanton's Store, situated near the remnants of King Payne's Town, drew in European settlers who would go on to establish Micanopy. The Treaty of Moultrie Creek in 1823 mandated that the Seminole relocate to a reservation south of present-day Ocala, which further spurred an influx of settlers. Many took residence in abandoned Seminole towns like Hogtown. The Florida territorial legislature formed Alachua County in 1824, which at that time expanded from the Georgia border down to Charlotte Harbor. Initially, Wanton's served as the county seat, but in 1828 it was relocated to Newnansville, near modern-day Alachua. As the population grew, the size of Alachua County was diminished to establish new counties. In 1832, the northern section, including Newnansville, was carved out to form Columbia County, prompting the county seat to shift around temporarily until it settled in Spring Grove from 1836 to 1839. Hillsborough County was formed in 1834, encompassing the area from Tampa Bay to Charlotte Harbor. In 1839, the region of Columbia County located south of the Santa Fe River was reannexed to Alachua County, reinstating Newnansville as the county seat. Subsequent formations included Hernando County in 1843, taken from the southern part of Alachua County bordering the Withlacoochee River, followed by Marion County in 1844, and Levy County in 1846, created from the section west of the Suwannee River. It wasn't until 80 years later that Alachua County faced another reduction in size. In 1853, Alachua County residents realized that the proposed Florida Railroad route from Fernandina to Cedar Key would not pass through Newnansville. A general assembly convened at Boulware Springs to discuss relocating the county seat to a town along the anticipated railroad path. The proposal to shift the county seat faced strong opposition from Newnansville residents; however, Tillman Ingram, a plantation owner with a sawmill in Hogtown, offered to construct a courthouse in the new town at an appealing price, leading to the decision to approve the relocation. In 2020, the census listed the population at 278,468.

Alachua County Communities

Cities

Alachua - 10,574 Archer - I, 140

Gainesville -145,212 (COUNTY SEAT)

Hawthorne - 1,478 High Springs - 6,215 Newberry - 7,342 Waldo - 846

Unincorporated Communities

Arrendondo, Bland, Campville, Cross Creek, Earleton, Evinston, Fairbanks, Flora, Fort, Clarke, Gordon, Grove Park, Hague, Haile, Haile Plantation, Island Grove, Jonesville, Lochloosa, Melrose, Monteocha, Orange Heights, Pinesville, Rochelle, Rutledge, Tioga, Traxler, Wacahoota, Windsor

Towns

Laprosse - 316 Micanopy - 648

*Populations are approximate.

Alachua

Evidence indicates that pre-historic Paleo-Indians inhabited several documented sites within San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park. During the historic period, the Potano tribe's main settlement, located in North Central Florida, was also found within this preserve. In 1606, this settlement became home to the first Spanish doctrina in Florida's interior, known as Mission San Francisco de Potano, and it was the last to be deserted by the Spanish in the early 1700s, following raids initiated by the British. The area just northeast of what is now the City of Alachua was among the earliest American settlements in Florida during the early 19th century. Notably, many individuals involved in the Patriot War, which sought to annex Florida from Spanish control to the United States, lived in this area, including the Dell family. Although the precise date of settlement remains unclear, the community, originally called Dell's Courthouse and later renamed Newnansville, is considered one of the oldest distinctly American settlements in the state, alongside Micanopy. Newnansville served as the second county seat for Alachua County and was a significant hub during the Second Seminole War, notably hosting Fort Gilleland within its precincts. However, when the Florida Railroad, the first cross-state railroad, overlooked Newnansville in the early 1850s, the County Commission narrowly voted to move the county seat to a newly established city along the rail line, named Gainesville. Alachua was established in 1884, with its post office commencing operations in 1887, and it was officially incorporated as a city on April 12, 1905, boasting a population of 526 at that time. As per the 2020 census, the population of Alachua had grown to 10,574, making it the second most populated city in Alachua County.

Alachua County Communities

Gainesville

Archaeological findings indicate that Paleo-Indians inhabited the Gainesville region around 12,000 years ago, though it remains unclear whether they established any permanent communities. A campsite associated with the Deptford culture was located in Gainesville, believed to have been in use from 500 BCE to 100 CE. During the first century, members of the Deptford culture migrated southward into Paynes Prairie and Orange Lake, eventually transitioning into what is known as the Cades Pond culture. Those members of the Deptford community who stayed in Gainesville were eventually pushed out by newcomers from southern Georgia around the seventh century. These new arrivals evolved into the Alachua culture, constructing their burial mounds atop the earlier Deptford campsite. When Europeans first arrived in the area, the Potano tribe was present, descended from the Alachua culture. The arrival of Europeans led to a decline in the native population due to illness, enslavement, and conflict, while in the 18th century, Spanish settlers began raising cattle in Paynes Prairie. In 1821, Spain relinquished control of Florida to the United States. Gainesville was founded in 1854, named after Edmund P. Gaines, incorporated in 1869, and officially became a city in 1907. As of 2022, Gainesville serves as the county seat of Alachua County and is the largest city in North Central Florida, boasting a population of 145,212.

High Springs

High Springs, as it exists today, saw its first permanent settlement by English-speaking individuals in the late 1830s. Crockett Springs, situated approximately three miles to the east of modern High Springs, was among the initial settlements in the area. The foundation of a notable town emerged in the early 1880s with the arrival of the Savannah, Florida & Western Railway and the initiation of several phosphate mines. In 1884, a post office was created alongside a railroad station under the name Santaffey. This post office was subsequently renamed Santa Fe a few months after its establishment, then changed to Orion the following year, and by 1888, it was designated as High Springs. The town gained official incorporation in 1892. According to the 2020 census, the population stood at 6,215.

Newberry

In the 1880s, a phosphate discovery in the western section of Alachua County led to the establishment of Newberry as a mining settlement. The city's transformation into a railroad town and commercial hub occurred in 1893 when the Savannah, Florida, and Western Railway was extended south from High Springs to Newberry. Initially, a post office named Newton was set up in March 1894, but it was renamed Newberry later that August. By 1896, there were fourteen operational mines in the vicinity. To serve the influx of transient and often rowdy residents, Newberry boasted hotels, boarding houses, and saloons. However, the demand for phosphate came to an abrupt halt in 1914 following the declaration of war against Germany, which had been Newberry's main phosphate buyer. This led to significant job losses and increased social unrest in the community. According to the 2020 Census, the population reached 7,342.





BARBECUE DO'S:

- use proper barbecue equipment and tools, such as a grill, tongs, and spatulas.
- preheat your grill before placing any food on it.
- marinate your meat before cooking to enhance the flavor.
- keep a close eye on your food while grilling to prevent overcooking or burning.
- use a meat thermometer to ensure that your meat is cooked to the correct internal temperature.
- let your meat rest for a few minutes before slicing or serving to allow the juices to redistribute.
- keep your grill and utensils clean to prevent any foodborne illness.

BARBECUE DON'TS:

- use lighter fluid to start your grill.
 Instead, use a chimney starter or electric starter.
- overcrowd your grill. Leave enough space between the pieces of meat to ensure even cooking.
- use a fork to flip your meat. Piercing the meat can cause it to lose its juices and become dry.
- baste your meat with sugary sauces too early in the cooking process, as it can burn and create a bitter taste.
- leave cooked meat out in the sun for too long, as it can spoil quickly.
- assume that meat is fully cooked by its color. Always use a meat thermometer to check the internal temperature.
- leave your grill unattended while it's still hot. Always make sure to properly cool it down before leaving it.



Simple meal with a Gournet Feel

INSTRUCTIONS

BUTTERED-UP

- 1 Take the steaks out of the refrigerator and let them come to room temperature for about 30 minutes. This helps the steak cook more evenly.
- Preheat your oven to 400°F.
- 3 Season the steaks generously with salt and pepper on both sides.
- 4 Heat a large skillet over high heat until very hot. Add the steaks and cook for about 2-3 minutes per side, until nicely browned.
- 5 Remove the steaks from the skillet and place them on a baking sheet.
- 6 In the same skillet, add the butter and garlic. Cook for about 30 seconds, stirring constantly, until the garlic is fragrant.
- Pour the garlic butter over the steaks on he baking sheet.
- **8** Place the baking sheet in the oven and cook for about 5-7 minutes for medium-rare doneness, or longer if you prefer your steak more well-done.
- 9 Remove the steaks from the oven and let them rest for a few minutes before slicing.
- 10 Serve the steak with any remaining butter from the baking sheet and fresh herbs if desired.

INGREDIENTS

2 steaks (ribeye or sirloin are good choices)

Salt and pepper

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

2 cloves garlic, minced

Fresh herbs (optional)

Enjoy your delicion buttered-up steak!

PREP: 35 MIN • TOTAL: 50 MIN







Parks & Recreation

Bar Hammock Nature Preserve

Levy Loop Trail: 14920 SE 11th Dr.

South Trail: 300 SE 175th Ave. | Micanopy

352-264-6868

Bivens Arm Nature Park

3650 S Main St. | Gainesville | 352-334-5067

Boulware Springs Park & Historic

Waterworks

3300 SE 15th St. | Gainesville | 352-334-5067

Buck Bay Flatwoods Preserve

6502 N County Rd. 225 | Gainesville |

352-264-6868

Cellon Oak Park

4100 NW 169th Pl. | Gainesville |

352-264-6847

Cofrin Nature Park

4810 NW 8th Ave. | Gainesville |

352-334-5067

Copeland Park

7020 NE 27th Ave. | Gainesville |

352-264-6847

Cuscowilla Nature & Retreat Center

210 SE 134th Ave. | Micanopy |

352-574-2372

Cynthia Moore Chestnut Park & Clark

Butler Nature Reserve

2315 SE 35th St. | Gainesville | 352-264-6847

Devils Millhopper Geological State Park

4732 Millhopper Rd. | Gainesville |

352-955-2008

Dudley Farm Historical State Park

18730 W Newberry Rd. | Newberry |

352-472-1162

Earl Powers Park

5910 SE Hawthorne Rd. | Gainesville |

352-264-6847

Four Creeks Preserve

South: 6845 NW 37th St.

North: 8400 NW 13th St. | Gainesville |

352-264-6868

Fred Cone Park

2841 E University Ave. | Gainesville |

352-334-5067

Grove Park

6300 SE 152nd St. | Hawthorne |

352-264-6847

Gum Root Park

7300 NE 27th Ave. | Gainesville |

352-334-5067

Holden Pond Park

9725 Holden Park Rd. | Hawthorne |

352-264-6847

Jill McGuire Sante Fe Lake Park

24500 NE SR 26 | Melrose | 352-264-6847

John Mohon Nature Park

4101 W Newberry Rd. | Gainesville |

352-334-5067

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

4700 SW 58th Dr. | Gainesville |

352-372-4981

Kate Barnes Park

18700 S County Rd. 325 | Cross Creek |

352-264-6847

Lake Alto

17800 NE 134th PI | Waldo | 352-264-6847

Lake Alto Preserve

North Trail: 14500 NE Co. Rd. 1471

South Trail: 18795 NE 132nd Ave. | Waldo |

352-624-6868

Lochloosa Park

16204 SE 207th Ln. | Hawthorne |

352-264-6847

Longleaf Flatwoods Preserve

Co. Rd. 235, South of RTE 20 | Hawthorne |

352-735-1267

Marjorie Kennan Rawlings Historic

State Park

18700 S CR 325 | Hawthorne | 352-466-3672

Mark S Hopkins Park

817 SW 64th Tr. | Gainesville | 352-264-6847

Mill Creek Nature Preserve

14505 NW Co. Rd. 236 | Alachua |

352-264-6847

Monteocha Park

803 W 192nd Ave. | Gainesville |

352-264-6847

Newmans Lake Conservation Area

8635 NE 69th Ave. | Gainesville |

352-735-1267

Owens Illinois Park

11309 SE 16th Ave. | Gainesville |

352-264-3847

Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park

373 SW US Hwy. 27 | High Springs

386-454-1853

Phifer Flatwoods

12909 SE Hawthorne Rd. | Hawthorne |

352-264-6868

Poe Springs Park

28800 NW 182nd Ave. | High Springs |

352-264-6847

Possom Creek Park

4009 NW 53rd Ave. | Gainesville |

352-334-5067

River Rise Preserve State Park

373 SW US Hwy. 27 | High SPrings

386-454-1853

Rotary Park at Jonesville

14100 NW 32nd Ave. | Jonesville |

352-264-6847

San Felasco Hammock Preserve State

Park

12720 NW 109th Ln. | Alachua |

386-462-7905

Santa Fe Canoe Outpost Park

21410 NW Hwy. 441 | High Sprigs |

386-424-6228

Squirrel Ridge Park

1603 SW Williston Rd. | Gainesville |

352-264-6847

Sweetwater Preserve

309 SE 16th Ave. | Gainesville |

352-264-6868

Turkey Creek Preserve

6300 NW 93rd Ave. | Gainesville |

352-264-6868

Veterans Memorial Park

7400 SW 41st Pl. | Gainesville |

352-264-6847

Watermelon Pond Park

10700 SW 250th St. | Newberry | 352-264-6847

Watermelon Pond Preserve

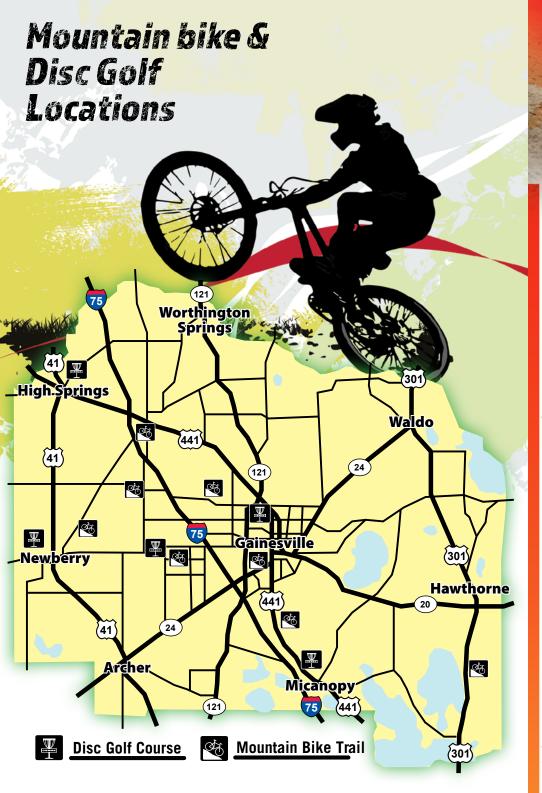
10700 SW 250th St. | Newberry |

352-264-6868

West End Park

12830 W Newberry Rd. | NEwberry |

352-264-6847



SINGLETRACK MOUNTAIN BIKING

HAVE FUN & BE

RESPECTFUL: Singletrack mountain biking is an exciting and

rewarding activity. Remember to enjoy the ride, take in the scenery, and respect nature. Stay positive, be patient with yourself as you learn and improve, and have fun exploring new trails and pushing your limits. **EXPERIENCE**: Singletrack trails are often more challenging than regular trails. It's important to have some experience and proficiency on your bike. TRAIL DIFFICULTY **RATING**: Singletrack trails are often graded on their difficulty level, usually using a color-coded system. Start with trails that match your skill level. TRAIL ETIQUETTE: Respect other trail users, yield to uphill riders, and follow any posted signs or guidelines. Don't litter and stay on designated trails. **PROTECTIVE GEAR**: Wear appropriate gear, most important a helmet. Other helpful choices are gloves, knee and elbow pads, and sturdy shoes. BIKE MAINTENANCE: Check tire pressure, brakes, gears, and suspension. Carry essential tools, such as a multi-tool, spare tube, and a pump, to handle any minor repairs or adjustments on the trail. HYDRATION & **NUTRITION:** Singletrack mountain biking can be physically demanding. Carry enough water and pack some energy-rich snacks. RIDE WITH A BUDDY: It can make the experience more enjoyable, but it also enhances safety in case of an any issues. TRAIL RESEARCH: Look for trail maps, reviews, and any relevant information about the area before heading out. PACE **YOURSELF:** Start at a comfortable pace and gradually increase your speed and difficulty level as you gain more experience and confidence.



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OUR STORY...

Cilantro Tacos was founded through our passion for great food and serving others.

We are a family-owned business, originally from the coasts of Southern California, & brought our love for Mexican cuisine to the wonderful community of Newberry, Florida in 2013. We think of you, our patrons, as FAMILIA, & our goal is to always make you feel welcome and satisfied each time. We pride ourselves in the quality, freshness, & vibrant flavors of our food.

Our meats are never frozen, and every meal is prepared fresh and made to order. From our fresh pico de gallo to our hand-smashed guacamole, you will savor the mouthwatering flavors & our take on street-style tacos.

With our food, we hope to show you the flavors of Baja California cuisine. We truly thank you for supporting our journey and allowing us to serve you.

7WC License Centers

You can purchase hunting and fishing licenses online https://myfwc.com, or call Fishing 888-347-4356, Hunting 888-486-8356 or visit one of the FWC agents available throughout the area:

Alachua TC - 34th St

5830 NW 34th Blvd. | Gainesville | (352) 264-7042

Alachua TC - Windmeadows Blvd

3837 Windmeadows Blvd. | Gainesville | (352) 548-3723

Alachua TC - Downtown

12 SE 1st Street | Gainesville | (352) 264-7041

Dicks Sporting Goods #1270

3964 Plaza Blvd. Butler North Gainesville | (352) 377-3316

Wal Mart #1081

2900 SW 42nd Street | Gainesville | (352) 371-3171

Wal Mart #538

W5700 NW 23rd Street | Gainesville

(352) 378-0619

Wal Mart #3877

1800 NE 12th Ave. | Gainesville | (352) 372-3191

HURRICANE SAFETY

Top Five Tips

If authorities issue evacuation orders, follow them promptly. Delaying evacuation can put your life and the lives of emergency responders at risk. They have the most up-to-date information on the storm and can provide guidance on the safest course of action. Remember that each hurricane is unique, so it's essential to stay informed and adapt your plans accordingly. Preparedness and early action are key to minimizing risks and ensuring the safety of yourself and your loved ones during a hurricane.

CAT1-2

CAT 3-4

2 SECURE YOUR HOME
FOLLOW EVACUATION
ORDERS & GUIDELINES

STAY INFORMED

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

EVACUATION PLANNING

CAT 5

HURRICANE CATEGORIES

The Highest Recorded Wind Speed of a Hurricane is 215 mph

Pishing Licensing

For specific zone areas, dates & details check online: https://myfwc.com, Telephone: (850) 488-4676, or scan the OR code.



Recreational Freshwater or Saltwater Fishing License Prices:

Resident Annual: \$17.00 Resident Five-Year: \$79.00 Non-Resident Annual: \$47.00 Non-Resident 3-Day: \$17.00 Non-Resident 7-Day: \$30.00

Resident Annual Saltwater Shoreline License:

No-Cost

Annual Resident Military Gold Sportsman's

License: \$20.00

Annual Resident Gold Sportsman's License: \$100.00

Five-Year Resident Gold Sportsman's License:

\$494.00 Annual Resident Silver Sportsman's 64+: \$13.50

Five-Year Resident Silver Sportsman's 64+: \$61.50

Resident Youth Fishing License: \$17.00 Resident Youth Gold Sportsman's License (available with completion of hunter education requirements): \$100.00

Promotional Prices, Freshwater or Saltwater:

Annual Gold Sportsman - \$50.75, plus applicable fees

5-year Gold Sportsman - \$247.75, plus

applicable fees Lifetime Sportsman:

Age 0-4 - \$201.50, plus applicable fees Age 5-12 - \$351.50, plus applicable fees Ages 13-64 - \$501.50, plus applicable fees

License-free Freshwater Days

First consecutive Saturday & Sunday in April Second consecutive Saturday & Sun. in June

License-Free Saltwater Days

First consecutive Saturday & Sunday in June First Saturday in September Saturday following Thanksgiving

education requirements): \$100.00 Welcone to delicious Collusion 4036 SW 30TH PLACE · GAINESVILLE · FL 32608 352-727-4440 Uber Eats

Bag & Length Limits

ONE DAY BAG LIMITS FOR FRESHWATER GAME FISH:

5 Black Bass (including largemouth, suwannee, spotted, choctaw & shoal bass, individually or in total), only one of which may be 16 inches or longer in total length. There is no minimum length limit for largemouth bass.

* No person shall kill or possess any Suwannee, shoal, spotted, or Choctaw bass that is less than 12 inches in total length.

* Chipola River and its tributaries: No person shall kill or possess shoal bass on the Chipola River or its tributaries. Any shoal bass that are caught must be released immediately.

20 Striped Bass, white bass, & sunshine bass (individually or in total), of which only 6 may be 24 inches or longer in total length. * In the Suwannee River, areas north & west of the Suwannee River, & in any tributary, creek or stream of the Suwannee River: the bag limit for striped bass is 3, each of which must be at least 18 inches in total length (20 fish combined bag limit).

* In the lower Ochlockonee River (downstream of the Jackson Bluff dam to Ochlockonee Bay): the bag limit for striped bass is 3, only one of which may be 24 inches or longer in total length. There is no minimum length limit (20 fish combined bag limit).

50 Panfish including bluegill, redear sunfish (shellcracker), flier, longear sunfish, mud sunfish, shadow bass, spotted sunfish (stumpknocker), warmouth & redbreast sunfish, individually or in total.

25 Crappie (speckled perch).

2 Butterfly Peacock Bass, only one of which may be 17 inches or longer in total length.

10 Alabama Shad, american shad, hickory shad, & blueback herring (individually or in total), which may only be taken with hook & line gear.

25 American Eels, must be nine inches or greater in total length. The recreational bag limit for american eels is 25 per angler per day. Wholesale/retail purchase exemption. Recreational anglers purchasing american eel as bait may possess more than the legal bag limit provided that the eels were purchased from a licensed dealer.

For more information check online: https://myfwc.com, Telephone: (850) 488-4676, or scan the QR code.



Boat Ramps and Fishing Piers

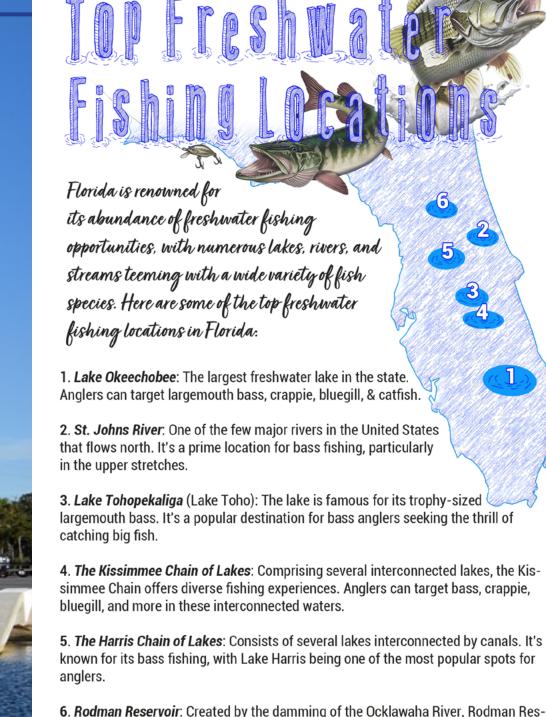
FISHING PIERS

- Earl Powers Park Pier 5910 SE Hawthorne Rd. | Gainesville
- Lake Alto Preserve Pier North Trail: 14512 NE Co. Rd. 1471 | Waldo
- Lindsey Phillips Park Pier 6901 Hwy. 301 SE | Hawthorne
- Lochloosa Conservation Area Pier
 19680 US-301 | Hawthorne
- Lochloosa Park Pier
 16204 SE 207th Ln. | Hawthorne

BOAT RAMPS

- Earl Powers Park Boat Ramp 5910 SE Hawthorne Rd. | Gainesville
- High Springs Boat Ramp End of NW 210th Ln. | High Springs | 352-264-6847
- Holden Pond Park Boat Ramp 9725 Holden Park Rd. | Hawthorne
- Jill McGuire Sante Fe Lake Park Boat Ramp 24500 NE SR 26 | Melrose
- Lake Alto Boat Ramp 17800 NE 134th Pl. | Waldo
- Lindsey Phillips Park Boat Ramp 6901 Hwy. 301 SE | Hawthorne
- Melrose Boat Ramp 6116 Trout St. | Melrose | 352-264-6847
- Owens Illinois Park Boat Ramp 11309 SE 16th Ave. | Gainesville
- · Palm Point Park Kayak Access 7401 Lake Shore Dr. | Gainesville

Waldo Canal Park Boat Ramp 400 Canal St & 149th Ln. | Waldo



ervoir is known for its trophy bass fishing. Anglers come here seeking the chance to

catch monster-sized bass in a picturesque setting.

A Closer Look at

Gainesville Ecosystem

Gainesville, often recognized for its vibrant cultural scene and academic presence, is equally celebrated for its rich and diverse ecosystems that provide a sanctuary for a variety of flora and fauna. Nestled in North Central Florida, the region boasts a unique blend of subtropical and temperate climates, resulting in a lush landscape that thrives under the warm sun and occasional rain. The area is interspersed with an intricate network of wetlands, forests, and prairies, each playing a pivotal role in maintaining the ecological balance. The canopy of the longleaf pine forests, for instance, creates a habitat for countless species, from the majestic gopher tortoise to the elusive Florida scrub-jay. These forests are not just visually stunning; they are vital for carbon storage and serve as a crucial buffer against climate change.

In contrast, the wetlands are teeming with life, acting as nurseries for fish and providing a home for a variety of bird species. As you wander through the creeks and marshes, you may encounter alligators basking on the banks or the graceful flight of herons as they hunt for their next meal. The biodiversity here is astounding - with over 300 species of birds recorded in the area - making it a birdwatcher's paradise. Moreover, Gainesville's ecosystem isn't just about the wildlife. The plant life is equally fascinating, featuring everything from vibrant wildflowers that bloom in spring to towering oak trees draped in Spanish moss. The seasonal changes create a dynamic tapestry of colors and textures that draw nature enthusiasts and photographers alike to capture its beauty.

Whether you're hiking through Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park or exploring the scenic trails of the San Felasco Hammock Preserve, Gainesville's natural parks and forests offer a vivid glimpse into Florida's ecological heritage. As you immerse yourself in this serene environment, you'll not only appreciate the natural beauty surrounding you but also understand the importance of preserving these ecosystems for future generations.

Wildlife Spotting: What You Can Expect to See

Gainesville, nestled in the heart of North Central Florida, is a treasure trove of natural beauty, teeming with diverse wildlife just waiting to be discovered. As you explore the region's hidden natural parks and forests, prepare for an encounter with an array of fascinating creatures that call this area home.

Start your wildlife spotting adventure in the lush wetlands of Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, where you might catch a glimpse of the majestic American alligator basking in the sun. Keep your eyes peeled for the park's resident bison herd, a rare sight in Florida that adds an element of the wild west to your visit. Birdwatchers will be delighted by the vibrant array of feathered friends, including herons, egrets, and the elusive swallow-tailed kite swooping gracefully overhead.

Venture into the shaded canopies of the nearby San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park, where the tranquility of the forest is punctuated by the sounds of chirping birds and rustling leaves. Here, you might spot deer delicately navigating the underbrush or see a playful family of raccoons scurrying along the forest floor. The park is also home to a wealth of reptiles and amphibians, so don't be surprised

if you stumble upon a sunbathing turtle or the soft croak of a tree frog hidden among the foliage.

If you're fortunate, you may even encounter the rare and majestic Florida panther, a symbol of the state's wild heritage. While sightings are uncommon, the thrill of potentially crossing paths with this elusive feline adds an exhilarating element to your expedition.

As you traverse the trails and winding paths of Gainesville's natural parks, remember to bring your binoculars and a camera. The rich tapestry of wildlife, from the smallest insects to the largest mammals, offers endless opportunities for discovery and appreciation. Whether you're a seasoned naturalist or a curious newcomer, wildlife spotting in Gainesville is sure to leave you with unforgettable memories of Florida's enchanting wilderness.

Best Times to Visit: Seasonal Highlights

When planning your adventure in Gainesville's natural parks and forests, timing can make all the difference. Each season unveils a unique palette of colors, experiences, and activities that enhance the beauty of this vibrant region. Understanding the seasonal highlights can help you maximize your visit and create unforgettable memories.

Spring (March to May): As the temperatures begin to rise, Gainesville bursts into life. The wildflowers bloom in a riot of colors, painting the landscapes with hues of purple, yellow, and pink. This is the perfect time for birdwatching, as migratory birds return to the area, filling the air with their melodious songs. The pleasant weather invites visitors to explore the lush trails of Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, where you can spot bison and alligators basking in the sun. Spring also marks the start of various outdoor festivals, celebrating the local flora and fauna, adding a festive atmosphere to your explorations.

Summer (June to August): While temperatures can soar, summer in Gainesville offers a vibrant tapestry of activities for the adventurous spirit. Early morning hikes or sunset strolls provide the best opportunities to enjoy the lush greenery without the sweltering heat. The summer rains rejuvenate the forests, creating a stunning backdrop for kayaking and canoeing in the area's serene waterways. Don't miss the chance to witness the breathtaking summer sunsets, where the sky transforms into a canvas of fiery oranges and deep purples, reflecting off the tranguil waters.

Autumn (September to November): As the humidity begins to wane, autumn brings a refreshing change to Gainesville's natural landscapes. The changing foliage creates a stunning display of reds, oranges, and yellows, particularly in the trails of the San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park. This is a fantastic time for hiking, with cooler temperatures making longer treks enjoyable. Additionally, autumn is the season for harvest festivals in the area, allowing visitors to indulge in local produce while enjoying the scenic beauty.

Winter (December to February): While Florida is known for its warm climate, winter in Gaines-ville offers a unique charm. The cool, crisp air is perfect for outdoor activities, and the parks are less crowded, allowing for a more serene experience. This time of year is ideal for wildlife enthusiasts, as many animals become more active in the cooler temperatures. Don't miss the chance to explore the

A Closer Look at continued

parks on quiet trails, where the tranquility of the winter landscape offers a refreshing escape from the hustle and bustle.

By understanding the seasonal highlights, you can choose the best time to immerse yourself in the natural beauty of Gainesville. Whether you're drawn by the vibrant blooms of spring, the lush greenery of summer, the stunning foliage of autumn, or the serene landscapes of winter, each season promises a unique adventure waiting to unfold.

Tips for Responsible Enjoyment of Natural Parks

When venturing into the breathtaking natural parks and forests of Gainesville, it's essential to embrace a mindset of responsibility and respect for the environment. These hidden gems are not only treasures for exploration but also sanctuaries for diverse wildlife and delicate ecosystems. To ensure that these natural wonders remain pristine for generations to come, consider the following tips for responsible enjoyment.

Leave No Trace: This principle is fundamental to enjoying the great outdoors. Always pack out what you pack in, including food waste, wrappers, and any other trash. Utilize designated trash and recycling bins if available, and if not, carry your waste back with you. By doing so, you help maintain the beauty of the parks and protect the habitats of the flora and fauna that call them home.

Stay on Marked Trails: Wanderlust might tempt you to create your own path through the underbrush, but stray too far from designated trails, and you risk damaging fragile ecosystems. Sticking to marked paths not only protects native vegetation but also enhances your safety by keeping you away from potentially hazardous terrains.

Respect Wildlife: Gainesville's parks are home to a rich variety of wildlife. Observing animals from a distance is crucial—avoid approaching or feeding them. This not only protects you but also ensures that animals remain wild and do not become reliant on human food sources, which can disrupt their natural foraging behaviors.

Mind the Fire Restrictions: If you're planning to enjoy a campfire, familiarize yourself with the park's regulations. In many areas, fires may be restricted or require permits, especially during dry seasons to prevent wildfires. Always use established fire rings and ensure your fire is fully extinguished before leaving.

Educate Yourself and Others: Before setting out, take the time to learn about the local ecosystems, wildlife, and plants. Understanding the environment enriches your visit and empowers you to share this knowledge with fellow hikers, fostering a community of environmentally conscious explorers.

By following these tips for responsible enjoyment, you can immerse yourself in the natural beauty of Gainesville's parks while preserving their splendor for others to enjoy. Your mindful approach to exploration contributes to the protection of these precious landscapes, allowing the next generation to experience the wonder of Florida's hidden natural treasures.

Health Benefits of the Outdoors

Spending time in nature offers numerous benefits for physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

Stress Reduction: Nature has a calming effect on the mind and body, helping to reduce stress levels. The peaceful surroundings,

fresh air, and natural beauty can lower cortisol levels, decrease heart rate, and promote relaxation.

Improved Mental Health: Being in nature is associated with improved mood and mental health. Studies have shown that spending time outdoors can reduce symptoms of anxiety, depression, and other mental health disorders. Nature provides a sense of tranquility and perspective, which can help alleviate negative thoughts and emotions.

Increased Physical Activity: Nature encourages physical activity, whether it's hiking, biking, walking, or simply exploring outdoor spaces. Engaging in outdoor activities promotes exercise, which is essential for maintaining physical health and fitness. Additionally, being in nature often involves exposure to sunlight, which helps the body produce vitamin D and supports overall well-being.

Enhanced Creativity & Cognitive Function: Nature stimulates creativity and cognitive function. Research suggests that spending time in natural environments can improve problem-solving skills, boost creativity, and enhance concentration and focus. Nature provides a rich sensory experience that activates different parts of the brain, fostering cognitive development and innovation.

Connection with the Environment: Spending time in nature fosters a deeper connection with the environment and promotes environmental stewardship. When people experience the beauty and wonder of nature firsthand, they are more likely to develop a sense of appreciation and respect for the natural world. This connection can lead to greater awareness of environmental issues and a desire to protect and preserve natural habitats for future generations.

Overall, being in nature offers a multitude of benefits for both physical and mental well-being, making it essential for maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle.

So, You have decided to get a pet... Now What??

Commitment and Time: Owning a pet is a long-term commitment. Before bringing a pet home, consider your lifestyle and ensure you have enough time to spend with your pet. Dogs, cats, and many other animals require attention, exercise, and mental stimulation.

Choose the Right Pet for Your Lifestyle: Different pets have varying needs, temperaments, and activity levels. Research and select a pet that fits well with your lifestyle, living situation, and family dynamics. Whether you choose a dog, cat, bird, fish, or any other animal, make sure you can provide for its specific needs.

Proper Nutrition: Feed your pet a balanced and nutritious diet suitable for their species and age. Consult with a veterinarian to determine the best food options for your pet's health and well-being.

Regular Exercise: Most pets need regular physical activity to stay healthy and happy. Engage in playtime and exercise with your pet daily, as it helps prevent obesity and provides mental stimulation.

Routine Veterinary Care: Schedule regular check-ups with a veterinarian to monitor your pet's health, get necessary vaccinations, and address any concerns. Early detection of health issues can often lead to better outcomes.

Spaying/Neutering: Consider spaying or neutering your pet if you don't plan on breeding. This helps control the pet population and can have health benefits for your pet.

Training and Socialization: Properly train your pet to follow basic commands and have good manners. Socialize them with other animals and people from a young age to prevent behavioral issues later on.

Provide a Safe Environment: Ensure that your home and yard are safe for your pet. Remove hazards, keep toxic substances out of reach, and provide appropriate shelter from extreme weather conditions.

Grooming: Regular grooming is essential for most pets. Brush their fur, trim nails, and clean their ears as needed to keep them comfortable and healthy.

Identification and Microchipping: Keep identification tags with your current contact information on your pet's collar. Consider microchipping your pet as an extra measure to ensure they can be identified if lost.

Love and Attention: Pets thrive on love and attention from their owners. Spend quality time with your pet, provide affection, and build a strong bond.



Respect and Understanding: Learn to understand your pet's body language and behavior. Respect their boundaries and feelings, and avoid forcing them into uncomfortable situations.

Patience and Forgiveness: Pets, especially young ones, can be mischievous or have accidents. Be patient with them during the training process and forgive any mistakes they make along the way.

Emergency Preparedness: Have a plan in place for emergencies, including natural disasters. Know how to evacuate with your pet safely if needed.

If you have just rescued / adopted a new fur baby, please it is important to remember the 3-3-3 RULE:

3 Days:

In the first 3 days being in its new home, they will be feeling overwhelmed, scared & unsure of what is going on. They may also be uncomfortable being "themselves", and may not want to eat or drink. They may want to "shut down" or hide under a bed or in a crate, and they will test boundaries.

3 Weeks:

At this point, they may be a lot more comfortable & settling in. Learning a new routine can be overwhelming, so please be patient. By now they may have figured out the new environment & accepted that this may be their FURever home. Their personality traits will start to show, as well as any behavior issue that may be present.

3 Months:

For most fur babies, 3 months is enough time to finally be comfortable and begin to build trust and a true bond. A sense of security may be present & a set routine will help this process.

Please know that this is not the rule with every rescued or adopted pet, as some may need 6 months to a year to adjust & adapt, depending on MANY factors. Age of animal, what type of an environment did they come from?

DOG PARKS



Area Attractions

A.Quinn Jones Museum & Cultural Center

1013 NW 7th Ave. | Gainesville | 352-334-2010

Across Town Repertory Theater

3501 SW 2nd Ave. Ste. 0 | Gainesville | 352-234-6278

Actors Warehouse

2512 NE 1st Blvd. | Gainesville | 352-376-8561

Alachua County Library District HQ

401 E University Ave. | Gainesville | 352-334-3900

Antique City Mall

17020 Co. Rd. 234 | Micanopy 352-389-4688

Archer Community Center

16671 SW 137th Ave. | Archer | 352-495-2880

Archer Railroad Museum

16994 SW 134th Ave. | Archer | 352-495-1044

Aunt Zelma's Blueberries

21209 US 301 | Island Grove | 352-317-6110

Baughman Center

982 Museum Rd. | Gainesville | 352-294-0049

Blackadder Brewing Co.

618 NW 60th St. Ste. A | Gainesville | 352-339-0324

Black C Art Gallery

201 SE 2nd Ave. Ste. 111 | Gainesville | 352-469-6278

Book Gallery West

4121 NW 16th Blvd. | Gainesville

Butterfly Rainforest

3215 Hull Rd. | Gainesville | 352-846-2000

Cade Museum for Creativity & Wisdom

811 S Main St. | Gainesville | 352-371-1800

Carson Springs Wildlife Conservation Foundation

8528 E Cr. 225 | Gainesville | 352-468-2827

Celebration Pointe

4949 Celebration Pointe | Gainesville | 352-204-9008

Constans Theater

1800 McCarty Dr. | Gainesville | 352-392-1653

Cotton Club Museum & Cultural Center

837 SE 7th Ave. | Gainesville | 352-226-8321

Curtis M Phillips Center for the Performing Arts

3201 Hull Rd. | Gainesville | 352-392-1900

Cypress & Grove Brewing Co

1001 NW 4th St. | Gainesville

Daft Cow Brewery

13800 Tech City Cir. | Alachua | 352-389-9787

Dance Alive National Ballet

1325 NW 2nd St. | Gainesville | 352-371-2986

ETC Boutique (16th Blvd)

4138 NW 16th Blvd. | Gainesville | 352-378-8222

Evergreen Cemetary

401 SE 21st Ave. | Gainesville | 352-393-8535

First Magnatude Brewing Co

1220 SE Veitch St. | Gainesville | 352-727-4677

Flip Factory

7400 W Newberry Rd. | Gainesville | 352-727-4730

Florida Museum of Natural History

3215 Hull Rd. | Gainesville | 352-846-2000

Gainesville Artisans Guild Gallery

224 NW 2nd Ave. | Gainesville | 352-378-1383

Gainesville Community Playhouse

4039 NW 16th Blvd. | Gainesville | 352-376-4949

Gainesville Hawthorne State Trail

3400 SE 15th St. | Gainesville | 352-466-3397

GFAA Gallery / Gainesville Fine Arts Association

1314 S Main St. | Gainesville | 352-328-5027

Grand Scheme Brewing

619 S Main St. | Gainesville

Haile Village

9116 SW 51st Rd. | Gainesville | 352-379-4641

Hal Brady Recreation Complex

14300 NW 146th Ter. | Alachua | 386-462-0145

Harn Museum of Art

3259 Hull Rd. | Gainesville | 352-392-9826

Hawthorne Historical Museum

7225 SE 221st St. | Hawthorne | 352-481-4491

Hear Again Music & Movies

201 SE 1st St. | Gainesville | 352-373-1800

High Springs Brewing Co

18562 NW 237th St. | High Springs

High Springs Farmers Market

115 NE Railroad Ave. | High Springs | 352-257-6346

High Springs Historical Society Museum

23760 NW 187th Ave. | High Springs | 352-514-3300

Hippodrome Theater

25 SE Pl. | Gainesville | 352-375-4477

Historic Haile Homestead

8500 SW Archer Rd. | Gainesville | 352-336-9096

Island Grove Wine Company

24703 SE 193rd Ave. | Hawthorne | 352-481-9463

Jems Originals

214 NE Choloka Blvd. | Micanopy | 352-318-3193

Kika Silva Pla Planetarium

3000 NW 83rd St. Bldg. X-129 | Gainesville | 352-395-5225

Lanza Gallery & Art Supplies

23645 W US Hwy. 27 | High Springs | 352-474-1049

Legacy Park Recreation Complex

15400 Peggy Rd. | Alachua | 386-462-1610

Little Red School House

25815 SW 2nd Ave. | Newberry | 352-472-5440

Lobiolly Woods

3315 NW 5th Ave. | Gainesville | 352-334-5067

Lubee Bat Conservancy

1309 NW 192nd Ave. | Gainesville 352-485-1250

Area Attractions

Micanopy Historical Society Museum

607 N Cholokka Blvd. | Micanopy | 352-466-3200

Millcreek Farm

20307 NW Cr. 235A | Alachua | 386-462-1001

Morningside Nature Center

3540 E University Ave. | Gainesville | 352-393-8240

O'Leno State Park

410 SE O'Leno Park Rd. | High Springs | 386-454—1853

Poe Springs Park

28800 182nd Ave. | High Springs | 352-264-6868

Santa Fe College Fine Arts Hall

3000 NW 83rd St. E 128 | Gainesville

Sante Fe College Teaching Zoo

3000 NW 83rd St. | Gainesville | 352-395-5601

Skate Station Funworks

1311 NW 76th Blvd. | Gainesville | 352-332-0555

Solar Walk

3349 NW 8th Ave. | Gainesville

Splitz Bowling Alley

1301 NW 76th Blvd. | Gainesville | 352-332-2695

Squitieri Studio Theater

3201 Hull Rd. | Gainesville | 352-392-2787

Sunshine Records

220 NW 8th Ave. #70 | Gainesville

Swamp Head Brewery

2650 SW 42nd Ave. | Gainesville | 352-505-3035

The Thomas Center

302 NE 6th Ave. | Gainesville | 352-393-8532

Thornebrook Village

2441 NW 43rd St. | Gainesville | 352-378-4947

Tioga Town Center

105 SW 128th St. | Newberry | 352-331-4000

Tu Vien A Nan Buddhist Temple & Statue Park

2120 SE 15th St. | Gainesville | 352-275-4038

University Auditorium

333 Newell Dr. | Gainesville | 352-392-2346

University of Florida Performing Arts

3201 Hull Rd. | Gainesville | 352-392-2787

University Gallries

400 SW 13th St. Fine Arts Bldg. B Gainesville 352-273-3000

Unique Notions...An Ecletic Market

23641 W US Hwy. 27 | High Springs | 352-363-7039

Uniquities Consignment Shop

526 N Main St. | Gainesville | 352-672-6001

Wacahota Farms

1223 SW 16th Pl. | Micanopy | 352-538-3290

Wilmot Botanical Gardens

2023 Mowry Rd. | GAinesville | 352-273-5832

Waldo Antique Village

17805 US Hwy. 301 | Waldo | 352-468-3111

Waldo Flea Market

17805 US Hwy. 301 | Waldo | 352-468-2255



- **1**. **Leashing**: Always keep pets on a leash, especially near water bodies, to prevent them from wandering too close to potential alligator habitats.
- **2**. **Supervision**: Supervise your pets when they're outside. This is crucial during dawn and dusk, as alligators are more active during these times.
- **3**. **Avoid Water**: Keep pets away from lakes, ponds, and marshy areas where alligators might be lurking. Even small bodies of water can pose risks.
- **4**. **Training**: Ensure your pets have good recall and respond well to commands. This can help you quickly call them back if they venture too close to danger.
- **5**. **Feeding and Food Storage**: Do not feed alligators or leave pet food outside, as this can attract wildlife and increase the likelihood of encounters with alligators.



Mosquitoes Prevention & Health Risks



A MOSQUITO FREE YARD

Create an environment in your yard that invites animals that like to eat mosquitoes. Some things that enjoy eating mosquitoes are: • Bats • Frogs • Fish • Turtles • Birds • Dragonflies

To help repel mosquitoes, plant some of the different vegetation listed: • Citronella • Geranium • Eucalyptus • Rosemary • Basil • Anise • Mint • Marigolds • Catnip • Wormwood • Tansy • Lavender • Cedar • Cloves

Don't have stagnant water sitting around in things like buckets or tires.

BE SAFE WHILE OUTDOORS

When a mosquito bites you it can leave saliva in your body. If the mosquito is infected it can transfer diseases to you. A few of the more common diseases transmitted to people are: • Dengue • Encephalitis • Malaria • Yellow Fever. Mosquitoes can also transmit diseases to animals. A couple of these diseases are: • Heartworm (mostly to dogs & cats) • Encephalitis. To reduce your chance of getting a disease from mosquitoes you can, apply mosquito repellent to your skin and clothing.

RANDOM MOSQUITO FACTS

- More than 3,000 different mosquito species can be found around the world.
- Female mosquitoes feed on blood. Male mosquitoes feed on plant nectar.
- Some mosquito species prefer to feed on animals or reptiles over humans.
- All mosquitoes need water to complete their life cycle.
- One female mosquito can lay over 200 eggs at one time.
- · Mosquito larvae only need a week in water to hatch.
- Mosquito eggs can survive for more than five years.
- · Mosquitoes can fly around 1 to 2 mph.
- Mosquitoes find food by sight, infrared radiation and chemicals in the air.
- Around 1,000 Americans get ill or die from mosquito bites each year.
- Mosquitoes are a huge food source for birds, bats and some reptiles.



shinyturtlepoolservice@gmail.com



Residential Pool Maintenance



Commercial Pool Maintenance



Green Pool Clean-Up



"Matthew and his team always go over & above to make sure things are taken care of right. My pool has never looked better. I highly recommend them." --- Matt B.



INTEGRITY FIRST SERVICE BEFORE SELF & EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO.





Veteran Owned Business Serving Gainesville Area