

The year-long wait is over Saturday! *Pinellas County Market in the Park* kicks off its second year Saturday from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Pinellas County Extension parking lot in Largo. Free shopping bags will be given to the first 100 attendees filling out a "Check Your Green Commitment" form. Hourly drawings are planned for Market dollars. Free ice cream will be given to children younger than 16. Special family entertainment includes clowns, mimes, face painters and musicians. Musician Bob Dudley will add his own brand of golden oldies entertainment.

More than 30 booths offer farm-fresh produce, natural products, and much more. New this year, horticultural-friendly craft products are for sale. Free admission, on-site restrooms and plenty of room to roam make this Market convenient and accessible.

Also Saturday, a children's trail opening celebration at Florida Botanical Gardens is planned with fun activities to delight the younger set. The annual 4-H Open House and 4-H Apple Cook Off introduces visitors to the wonders of participating in 4-H and a chance to talk with children and adults involved in the countywide program.

Pinellas County Market in the Park is located off 125th Street between Walsingham and Ulmerton roads, next to Heritage Village.

With the temperatures taking a grand dip, take some time this weekend to explore local, outdoors destinations. Take a stroll at Heritage Village, Weedon Island Preserve, Brooker Creek Preserve, Florida Botanical Gardens to the more than two dozen parks that offer many ways to enjoy Pinellas County. To learn more, visit www.pinellascounty.org.

This Weekend - Saturday, Nov. 1, and Sunday, Nov. 2

- ➤ On Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Brooker Creek Preserve, citizens can make a recycled basket with Julie Kornblum, fiber artist, at a *Rags to Riches: Basket Making from Recyclables Workshop*. Cost is \$40 per person, which includes materials. Call (727) 453-6800 to register.
- ➤ On Sunday, from 1 to 4 p.m., citizens can meet Julie Kornblum, fiber artist, who will also give a 1 p.m. presentation about the connection between art and the preservation of natural resources. She offers a refreshing look at old traditions by using post-modern, recycled materials to weave early American household textile patterns. The exhibit runs through Sunday, Dec. 28, at Brooker Creek Preserve.
- ➤ On Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Ken Straight will demonstrate and teach the basics of blacksmithing at Heritage Village. Program fee, including materials, is \$110 for Pinellas County Historical Society members and \$130 for non-members. To

- register, call (727) 582-2426, visit www.pinellascounty.org/heritage or email heritagevillage@pinellascounty.org.
- ➤ On Saturday or Sunday at 10 a.m., come and enjoy the beauty of Ft. De Soto Park with a free one-hour nature walk great for the entire family. A *Beach Nature Walk* is planned. Call the park for tour information and meeting locations. Registration required by calling (727) 582-2267.
- ➤ On Saturday, at 11:30 a .m. at Sunken Gardens, discover how to set up a recycled plastic barrel to collect rain water from the roof with the experts from Pinellas County Extension. *Rain Barrel Workshop* provides set-up instructions and a reference booklet. To learn more about costs and to register, call (727) 551-3100.
- ➤ On Sunday, at 8 a.m., join in the search for that perfect shot as Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center experts highlight seasonal features as well as specific wildlife behaviors during a free *Photography Hike*. To register, call (727) 453-6500.

Next Weekend - Saturday, Nov. 8, and Sunday, Nov. 9

- Take a free, two-hour nature walk with the experts at Brooker Creek Preserve and Weedon Island Preserve.
- ➤ The fun at *Pinellas County Market in the Park* continues. Don't forget to stop by for fresh produce, nature-themed crafts, fun and education. The Market is located off 125th Street between Walsingham and Ulmerton roads, next to Heritage Village.
- ➤ Join in a fun-filled educational day of lectures, workshops and field activities at the *Tampa Bay Estuary Academy 2008 Wildlife in the Watershed* event. The \$10 registration fee includes lunch, goody bags, fabulous speakers and hands-on workshops at Weedon Island Preserve.
- Pay a call to the Lowe farm to gain knowledge of ranching and early Florida at a *Mini-Camp for Grown-ups* at Heritage Village.
- Meet award-winning writer Jeff Klinkenberg as he talks about alligators, their history and our fascination with them at Brooker Creek Preserve.

Looking Ahead in Pinellas County

- > Starting Saturday, Nov. 29, Florida Botanical Gardens will offer its annual *Holiday Garden Lights* event. From 6 to 10 p.m., more than 425,000 colorful lights will brighten the ways to the holiday season. Start a family tradition of wandering through the lighted wonderland and enjoy this new, festive way to visit Florida Botanical Gardens.
- ➤ Starting Saturday, Nov. 29, and running through the holiday season, Heritage Village spiffs up the campus with holiday decorations adorning the homes and galleries. The Village's gift shop offers something unusual and memorable for those wanting to avoid holiday shopping crowds.