

Marion County Tax Collector Newsletter



George Albright, Marion County Tax Collector

Volume: 2015-2

Concealed Weapons License Applications & Renewals

Tax Collector George Albright is pleased to announce that the Marion County Tax Collector's Office has begun accepting applications for new concealed weapons licenses and concealed weapons license renewals by appointment only.

Florida Commissioner of Agriculture, Adam H. Putnam partnered with Mr. Albright to support legislation that extends this opportunity to all residents of Florida. This office is one of the first tax collector offices statewide to offer this program to Florida constituents.

Florida concealed weapon licenses are processed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Due to rising demand, tax collector offices have been given authority to take applications, fingerprint the applicants and send the information securely to the department for final determination. The actual issuance of the license will be from Department of Agriculture in Tallahassee. There are currently more than 1.3 million concealed weapon permits in Florida, and the department processed more than 177,000 new licenses last fiscal year.

Don't waste time mailing your application in. Contact our office today to set up your appointment to submit your application in person at the Marion County Tax Collector's Office in the McPherson Government Complex, located at 503 SE 25th Ave, Ocala, FL 34471.

For more information or to schedule your appointment, please contact our office at 352-368-8200. You may also visit our website at **www.mariontax.com** to schedule an appointment online and to view application requirements.

If you have any questions concerning acceptable documentation that is not specifically listed, application disqualification reasons, convictions or felonies, you must contact the Department of Agriculture Public Inquiry Section at 850-245-5691 or you may visit **www.freshfromflorida.com**.

How will you leave your mark on the world?

Save lives. Say "Yes". Register today.

Www.DonateLifeFlorida.org

CDL Learner's Permit Changes

Due to recent requirement changes to Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR), effective July 8, 2015 the following changes have been made regarding Commercial Driver License permits issued by the Department:

- Commercial Learner's Permits must be held at least 14 days prior to taking the CDL skills test.
- In order to obtain a Commercial Learner's Permit, the customer must self-certify and present a valid DOT medical card at the time of issuance.
- Commercial Driver Licenses and Commercial Learner's Permits can only be issued in the state of domicile. The customer will be required to present proof of a valid Florida mailing and residential address.
- Once a skills test is scheduled, the customer will have to wait 2 full business days prior to taking the skills test with their provider. Providers may not schedule same day appointments.

For any further questions or assistance relating to the issuance of Commercial Driver Licenses, please contact the Marion County Tax Collector at 352-368-8200.

New Specialty License Plates

Recently we have received the following new specialty license plates for issuance. Keep these plates in mind when renewing your license plates!



Benefits Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida, Inc. For more information, visit www.bbbsflorida.org.



Benefits American Legion Department of Florida. For more information, visit www.floridalegion.org.

Special-Use Bear Permit

On June 24, 2015, FWC Commissioners approved the reinstatement of bear hunting. This is one component of FWC's overall strategic approach to bear management in Florida.

The Special-Use Bear Permit is required in order to harvest bear during the bear hunting season. There is no limit to the number of permits that can be sold, but there is a Harvest Quota, which will limit the number of bears that can be harvested during the season.

The permit is available from August 3, 2015 to October 23, 2015. It costs \$100 for Florida residents and \$300 for non-residents. You will be required to have a valid hunting license, unless you are exempt from having one. If you are hunting on a WMA, you also need a management area permit, unless you are exempt.

Depending on which WMA you plan to hunt on, other seasons may overlap with bear season. In this case you may also need additional permits.

Drivers Handbooks

Please visit <u>www.floridadmvbooklet.com</u> to download or view the latest version of the Florida Drivers License handbooks as well as the CDL and motorcycle handbooks. They are available in English and Spanish.

Below you will find a QR code that will allow you to access the Drivers License handbooks using your Smartphone.





Sign up for the no-cost Gulf Reef Fish Survey today at License.MyFWC.com or 888-FISHFLOrida (347-4356)

Who is a Gulf Reef Fish Angler?

Anglers who recreationally fish (including those 65 and older) from a private boat in Gulf of Mexico waters off Florida (excluding Monroe County) and intend to harvest:

- red snapper
- gag
- greater amberjack
- lesser amberjack
- banded rudderfish
- almaco jack
- red grouper
- black grouper
- vermilion snapper
- gray triggerfish

Participation mandatory starting April 1, 2015

Learn more at MyFWC.com/Fishing by clicking on "Saltwater," "Recreational Regulations" and "Gulf Reef Fish Survey."



MyFWC.com

You Belong at the Appleton Museum

During the month of September, save 20% on all Appleton museum memberships—including upper level Director's Circle! This discount offer is valid on new and renewal memberships. The Appleton offers many membership levels so you can choose which benefits are right for you. Memberships also make great gifts for family, friends and business associates. To join, or learn more about our memberships, visit AppletonMuseum.org or contact Colleen Harper at <code>harperc@cf.edu</code> or call her at 352-291-4455.

Joining the Appleton for the first time? You will be entered in a drawing to win one of eight art-related prizes including a cultural arts ticket package with gift certificates from Ocala Symphony Orchestra and the Ocala Civic Theatre, handcrafted jewelry, ceramics and much more!

