

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## **Palmetto Bay Celebrates Arbor Day**

***School poster contest and “Shade Palmetto Bay” tree give-away program highlight Village’s two-day celebration, Jan. 21-22***

**PALMETTO BAY, Fla., (Jan. 18, 2011)** – Palmetto Bay remains committed to being a green community, and as part of the Village’s effort to maintain its proud standing as a Tree City USA, a two-day Arbor Day celebration is on tap for this weekend.

In celebration of Florida’s Arbor Day on Jan. 21, fifth-grade students from Alexander Montessori School, Christ Fellowship, and Westminster Christian School will submit posters with art and information pertaining to trees and their importance to the environment. The posters will then be judged by members of the Village’s Tree Board. Submissions are due by 10 a.m. Jan. 20, and the winning school will be visited by Palmetto Bay Mayor Shelley Stanczyk and members of the Village Council. Additionally, at the February Regular Council Meeting, the winning team will be publicly honored with an official Village Proclamation. Donated trees will be planted at the three participating schools. A commemorative planting ceremony will take place at the winning school, Jan. 21.

“I anxiously await the outcome of the poster contest to see what the great young minds of our Village have come up with,” said Mayor Stanczyk. “This is another example of how green-minded we are in Palmetto Bay.”

On Saturday, Jan. 22, residents will have the opportunity to take home a free tree to be planted on their property. Ludovici Park will play host to the “Shade Palmetto Bay” program. The event begins at 10 a.m., and trees will be given away on a first-come, first-serve basis. Residents must bring a photo ID with a Palmetto Bay address to receive a tree. Trees must be planted on private property, in the ground and within the Village. Information specific to each tree type and how to care for them will be provided at the give-away. As an added bonus, the first 50 children to arrive at the event will receive complimentary kiddy shades.

Groundkeepers, Inc.; Santa Barbara Nursery; and Ramada Nursery together have donated a total of 300 trees for the event.

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