



Awards & Recognition

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Awards and Special Recognition

Environmental Awards

The Tree City USA Growth Award is provided by The Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service, to recognize environmental improvement and encourage higher levels of tree care throughout America. This award is designed not only to recognize achievement, but also to communicate new ideas and help the leaders of all Tree City USAs plan for improving community tree care. Palm Coast has earned the Growth Award every year since 2006.

The National Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, annually recognizes communities that effectively manage their public tree resources. Palm Coast has earned the Tree City USA recognition each year since 2005.



Utility Department Awards

The Palm Coast Top-Ops Team took first place at the State competition and went on to the National contest at the American Water Works Association Conference and Exposition where they placed second in the nation.

Operators at the Wastewater Treatment Plant were honored with the Earl B Phelps award from the Florida Water Environment Association for quality effluent discharge as well as a second place Plant Safety Award from the same organization.

The Water Treatment Plant #2 ZLD project was awarded the David W. York Water Reuse Award for the "Project of the Year" and the 2014 Regional Award for Excellence in Environmental Stewardship from the Northeast Florida Regional Council.

The Regional Award for Excellence in Environmental Stewardship The City of Palm Coast is an example of how municipalities are approaching water conservation in a globally innovative way through the Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) project. This project is a multifaceted approach to improving water quality, conserving water and reducing impacts on water supply. According to Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff, they are not aware of another project just like the ZLD project in the State of Florida. The ZLD process will allow the City to recover and treat nearly 100 percent of the concentrate produced by the water treatment plan, which is currently being discharge to a surface water body.



Communications & Marketing Awards

- ✓ Third place and an honorable mention in the 2014 Government Programming Awards given by NATOA, the National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors, for “The Starlight Tornado” video, in the Public Safety and Event Coverage-Documentary categories.
- ✓ The Northeast Florida Regional Council’s Excellence in Public Safety Award for the “Change Your Batteries” smoke detector fire prevention PSA video.
- ✓ Two Communicator Awards – an Award of Excellence for the “Walk Through Life” Parks & Recreation video, in the Public Relations category; and an Award of Distinction for “Change Your Batteries,” a Fire PSA, in the Public Safety category.
- ✓ A Bronze Telly Award of Excellence for the “Are You In?” economic development video, in the category of Government Relations.
- ✓ First place in the 2015 Government Programming Awards given by NATOA, for the “Walk through Life” Parks & Recreation video, in the Profile of a City/County government category. Also, honorable mention for “Walk through Life” for Innovative Use of Video.

Finance Awards

- GFOA Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting (14 consecutive years)
- GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award (12 consecutive years)
- GFOA Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting (2 consecutive years)



The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) is pleased to announce that Palm Coast, Florida, is being recognized for its performance management efforts with a Certificate of Distinction from the ICMA Center for Performance Analytics™.

“The certificate program recognizes the principles of performance management,” said Randall H. Reid, ICMA Director of Performance Initiatives. “Jurisdictions meeting the qualifications have demonstrated leadership in continuous improvement and community engagement, and they serve as examples for other governments to follow.”



The City of Palm Coast placed seventh in the United States in the National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation, among cities with populations of 30,000 to 99,999. This is Palm Coast's first time participating in the annual program in which residents pledge to conserve water and cut pollution.

Trip Advisor named the top 20 vacation rental destinations in the U.S. in April 2015, and Palm Coast scored the highest out of the 6 Florida destinations on the list! Read "6 Praiseworthy Florida Vacation Spots" at: <http://www.tripadvisor.com/VacationRentalsBlog/2015/04/09/6-praiseworthy-florida-vacation-spots-to-add-to-your-bucket-list/>

The City of Palm Coast was honored as a 2015 Healthy Weight Community Champion by the Florida Surgeon General - in recognition of the Parks & Recreation Department's annual Palm Coast Running Series. The Surgeon General of the Florida Department of Health's "Healthiest Weight Florida" campaign is a public-private collaboration to help Florida's children and adults make informed, consistent choices about healthy eating and active living.

Palm Coast City Manager Jim Landon received the Credentialed Manager designation from ICMA, the International City/County Management Association. Landon is one of more than 1,300 local government management professionals currently credentialed through the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program.

Where To Retire magazine selected Palm Coast among its Top Eight Low-Cost Cities in the U.S. for retirement. The story showcasing Palm Coast was featured in the magazine's September/October 2014 edition.

In August 2014, Forbes magazine named Palm Coast as the nation's No. 7 City for the Best Small Places for Business and Careers. One of the criteria for placing Palm Coast over areas such as Dubuque, Iowa, and Auburn, Alabama, was the community's efforts to grow tourism and technology industries.

See the story at: www.forbes.com/pictures/mli45ekgej/7-palm-coast-fla

Beyond.com named Palm Coast the 10th easiest place in the nation to make a hire in 2014.



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