



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of Ocala has joined together with state and local governments to honor community volunteers during National Volunteer Week. We celebrate and pay tribute to the amazing efforts that volunteers put forth tirelessly and selflessly to the service of others; and

WHEREAS, volunteerism strengthens communities, improves social problems, and enhances the overall quality of life for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, volunteering changes the lives of volunteers in a positive way, increasing self-confidence, self-esteem and physical wellbeing, offering the chance to meet new friends and associates and providing opportunities to learn new skills and abilities; and

WHEREAS, last year (April of 2023 – March 2024) the City of Ocala had a total of 13,046 volunteer hours donated to the City of Ocala. This includes volunteers who have assisted the Recreation and Parks Department with coaching, tutoring, cleaning trails and removing invasive plants, manning our visitor center at the Fort King National Historic Landmark, maintaining our Heritage Garden, helping at the Discovery Center, and assisting at the Cultural Arts Division with the installation of artwork, as well as working many of the events the City of Ocala hosts for the community; and

WHEREAS, the Ocala Police Department has many volunteers who serve as Reserve officers, cold case researchers, City Watch program, Chaplains, Explorers, in the Records Division and more. Our volunteers devote their time, skills and energy making a positive impact in our community an incredible contribution to the City of Ocala; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben Marciano, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2024 as:

VOLUNTEER MONTH

in Ocala and I call upon the people of Ocala to promote the spirit of volunteerism, and to observe the month with appropriate activities, programs, and ceremonies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 2nd day of April 2024.



Ben Marciano

Ben Marciano, Mayor
City of Ocala