



Collier County Government



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLLIER COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

(Naples, FL) - Collier County Parks and Recreation Department has won the prestigious 2010 Florida Recreation and Park Association Agency Excellence Award – Category 1. Only one award is presented to the Parks and Recreation Department that meets, and surpasses, the criteria in each population category throughout the State. Collier County won in Category 1 serving populations over 200,000.

The award recognizes and honors the state's most outstanding parks and recreation agencies for excellence in Parks and Recreation management. For agencies to be considered the Agency must demonstrate competency and growth in 13 areas. Areas include: administration/management, aquatics programming, athletic programming, citizen involvement, cultural diversity, environmental education, fitness and wellness activities, leisure and cultural arts programs, parks development and acquisition, long-and-short-term planning, recreation programming, staff development, and promotion of programs.

“We are thrilled. We strive every day to meet, and exceed, the needs of our residents and the community by developing new programs, incorporating the suggestions of our residents, and with the expertise of an incredible staff,” stated Collier County Parks and Recreation Director, Barry Williams. “With the economy slowdown, we are innovating and doing more with fewer resources.”

The Tallahassee-based Florida Recreation and Parks Association (FRPA), established in 1942, provides advocacy for parks and recreation interests. FRPA is among the state's most highly recognized associations, as well as a national leader for the parks and recreation profession.

The award will be presented at the annual FRPA conference banquet Thursday, September 2, at 6 p.m. in Orlando, FL.

For more information, the media should contact John Torre at (239) 252-8848. The public may contact Parks and Recreation Administration by calling (239) 252-4000 or visit www.collierparks.com.