

Becky Jordi and Master Gardeners Recognized by County Commissioners



Submitted

Rebecca L. Jordi, UF/IFAS Nassau County Environmental Horticulture Extension Agent and Nassau County Master Gardeners were recognized by the Nassau County Commissioners for their receipt of the grand prize in the annual IMAGE (Institute Marketing Awards for Gaining Excellence) awards competition for the Nassau County Demonstration Garden and their effort to create, install and use the Demonstration Garden for educational programs.

Concerning Nassau County's entry, a judge's evaluation stated, "What an excellent project. I love the collaboration that went into this project from the very beginning. You involved the community in every facet of development and the community as a whole continues to benefit from it every day. I also appreciate that you designed this project to encourage sustainable landscaping practices for future generations. It's clear that you've made a major impact on your community."

The award comes with a \$500 check that will be used to further the purpose of the Nassau County Demonstration Garden.

The Nassau County Demonstration Garden is located at the Nassau County Governmental Complex, 96135 Nassau Place Road in Yulee and provides an opportunity for Nassau County residents, children and businesses to see the care and maintenance of landscape plants best suited for our

area. These principles include: micro-irrigation; 'Right Plant/Right Place'; mulching; recycling; attracting wildlife; and Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The garden features a variety of recommended trees, shrubs, groundcovers, grasses, perennials and hardy sub-tropicals.

Visitors are welcome to visit the Demonstration Garden anytime. The garden is self-touring with helpful plant signage and information sheets in a special Nassau County Demonstration Garden mailbox. More information about the garden is available through the Yulee extension satellite office. Master Gardener volunteers are available to answer questions at the office. For more information call the Extension office at 548-1116 or contact Rebecca Jordi at rljordi@ufl.edu. Detailed plantings descriptions of the Demonstration Garden can be seen at <http://nassau.ifas.ufl.edu/horticulture/demogarden/demogarden.html>.

The garden was made possible through the generous contributions of the following sponsors: Nassau County Board of Commissioners; Nassau County Master Gardener Volunteers; Bridgeview Nursery & Garden Center; Fernandina Beach Mulch & Stone, Inc.; Glen St. Mary Nursery, Home Depot, Lowe's Home Improvement, Page's Landscape Nursery; Reflections of Nature Nursery; Taylor's Nursery; The Sign Shoppe; White Oak Plantation; 4-H Youth; and community volunteers.