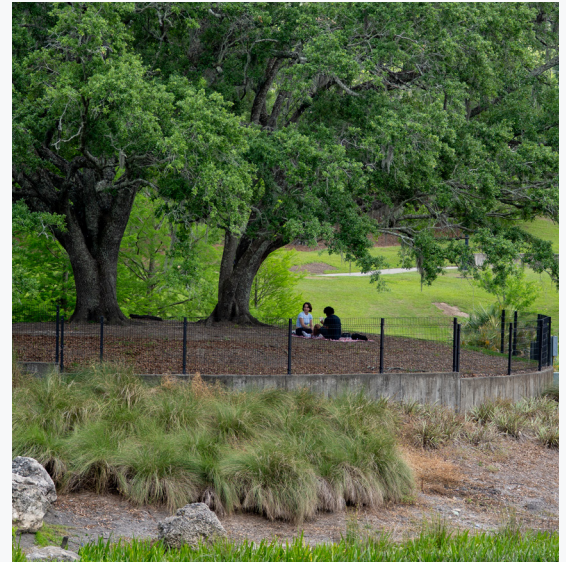


## Earth Month, Every Month

The City has long been a pioneer among municipal governments in adopting environmentally sustainable practices. For Tallahassee, sustainability is our community's ability to meet our present and future needs through the proper stewardship of environmental, economic and social resources. Our efforts span across every department and include many community partners. From broad initiatives like the Clean Energy Plan with 85 action items to individually tailored efforts like energy audits, the City works to care for the people, places and economy that make Tallahassee such a great place to live, work and play. Learn more at [Talgov.com/Sustainability](https://Talgov.com/Sustainability) and follow [@CityofTLH](https://twitter.com/CityofTLH) on social media for sustainability tips you can use to reduce your impact on our environment and conserve natural resources.



## Rain Gardens: A Beautiful Solution to Pollution



Rain gardens are beautiful, fun, easy and beneficial, and now, you can get financial assistance for planting one! Through the Rain Garden Grant program, the City of Tallahassee's Think About Personal Pollution (TAPP) program offers financial assistance to residential property owners within the City limits to help with the placement of rain gardens on their property. Grants of up to \$175 help cover the cost of plants, mulch and compost used to establish the rain garden.

A rain garden is a slightly depressed area landscaped with flowers and other moisture-tolerant plants, shrubs and trees (usually natives) to replace areas of lawn or bare ground. Rainwater collected from a roof, driveway or lawn flows to this low spot and is drained naturally. Plants absorb the water, or it filters into the soil, where over time, natural processes break down pollutants. Slowing the flow of water with a rain garden helps prevent soil

erosion and reduces runoff. Easy to maintain, rain gardens enhance the beauty of yards and attract birds, butterflies and other wildlife. Start planning your rain garden by visiting [TAPPwater.org](https://TAPPwater.org).

## Recognizing Fair Housing Month

The City of Tallahassee supports fair housing and recognizes April as National Fair Housing Month. Congress passed the Fair Housing Act in April 1968 immediately following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Amended in 1988, the Act guarantees equal housing opportunities for all people and makes it illegal to discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender, religion, family status or disability. For more information, visit [Talgov.com/Housing](https://Talgov.com/Housing).



# Tallahassee Linemen Climb to the Top



Last month, the best of the best of Florida's public power companies came to Tallahassee to showcase their skills at the Florida Municipal Electric Association 2026 Florida Lineman Competition.

For 25 years, the competition has brought together electric utility lineworkers and apprentices from municipal utilities across the state to demonstrate technical skills, safety practices and teamwork through timed, real-world challenges. Events simulate on-the-job scenarios such as pole climbs, equipment repair and system troubleshooting, all performed under strict safety standards.

"We were thrilled to welcome municipal utilities from around the state to Tallahassee! This competition provides

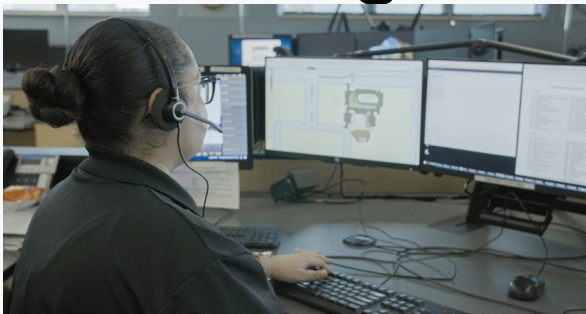
excellent training opportunities to reinforce the skills our lineworkers use every day while serving our community," said Tony Guillen, general manager of the City of Tallahassee Electric and Gas Utility. "It also strengthens relationships with partner utilities, which is critical when providing or receiving mutual aid."

There were two categories of competitors. Journeyman teams, which included at least one lineworker who has been in the industry for five years or more, were made up of three lineworkers. Apprentices competed individually. Proudly, the 2026 Overall Journeyman Team Winners' Cup was presented to our very own Lance Rivenbark, Jordan Reddick and Jason Smith. Winning the Overall Apprentice Award was our very own Dalton Gowdy. Congrats to all!

As a municipal electric utility, the City of Tallahassee's electric system is community-owned. Hosting the statewide competition reflects the City's continued investment in workforce development and its role as a leader within Florida's public power network.



## Answering the Call



The second full week of April is celebrated as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Locally, these professionals provide the steady, reassuring voice on the other end of the line when we dial 911. The Consolidated Dispatch Agency (CDA) provides a lifeline, connecting the public and first responders and ensuring the right help quickly gets to residents during their time of need. Each interaction is an opportunity to make a difference and perhaps to save a life. Take a moment, April 12-18, to say "thank you" to these dedicated public servants. Learn more about the CDA at [tlccda.org](http://tlccda.org).

For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquiries, please call 850-891-4968 or visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

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Visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops. Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).