

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Thomas D. Bussing

File No. 002321

Jan. 28, 2002

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, non-native invasive plant species pose a serious threat to Florida's Natural Communities; and

WHEREAS, more natural habitat is lost to invasive plant species than to development each year; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville Recreation and Parks Department has worked cooperatively with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council, the Florida Native Plant Society and GEAR volunteers, to increase awareness of non-native invasive plant issues; and

WHEREAS, the First and Second Annual Great Air Potato Roundup brought together over 1500 volunteers, collecting over 14 tons of air potato's from the City's Nature Parks and adjacent creek systems; and

WHEREAS, the Third Annual Great Air Potato Roundup will be held at Westside Park on February 2, 2001, to encourage volunteer participation in the continuing stewardship of the City's natural areas.

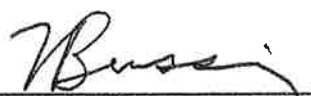
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas D. Bussing, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim the week of January 27 to February 2, 2002 as

NON-NATIVE INVASIVE PLANT AWARENESS WEEK

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in actively participating in removing non-native plant species and the planting of native plant species for the continual protection of our natural areas.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 31st day of October, A.D., 2001.




Thomas D. Bussing
Mayor