



# Waterline News

Presented by Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities



January / February 2005

## Pine Tree Drive culvert replacement

The Stormwater Utility is nearing completion of another project on Pine Tree Drive, in the northeast section of the county. The project involves the replacement of old, deteriorated pipes with new, reinforced concrete pipe. This project is one of many planned replacements of aging stormwater infrastructure. Many of the stormwater piping systems -- which were built during the building boom of the 1970s and early 1980s-- are at or near the end of their service lives.

The Pine Tree Drive project will result in more efficient drainage, and provide an extended service life through the use of reinforced concrete, rather than the old corrugated metal pipes.



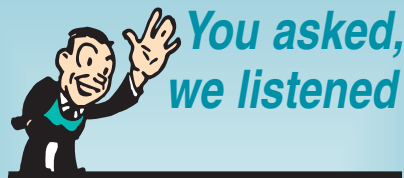
Effective March 1, office hours in our utility billing section will be Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Our telephone service will be Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. New hours will provide staff time to return calls, post payments and prepare work orders in a timelier manner.



Volusia County Water Resources employees

## Meeting your needs

The Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities Division of Volusia County Government continues to grow. Our utility staff is responsible for maintenance of 14-water treatment plants, 16 wastewater treatment plants, and 103 lift or pump stations. We meet the needs of 13,760 water customers and 9,573 wastewater customers. Each day we treat 3.5 million gallons of water, making it safe for your use. We collect more than 7,000 water and wastewater samples yearly for independent laboratory testing, not including tests performed by our operators. Our maintenance crew completed more than 7,200 work orders, installed 735 new meters, replaced 179 meters, installed 223 reclaimed meters and performed 4,313 utility location searches. We continue to work for you to improve our quality of service.



You asked, we listened

If you are moving, but will remain a Volusia County Utility customer in good standing with a good payment history, a deposit no longer will be required to open your new account.

New customers now can pay their deposits online and within a few months will be able to pay utility bills online. Volusia County Utilities is finalizing the details. Payments still can be made via your checking account, which debits your account monthly with no service charge. Call (386) 736-5971 to request an application or email your request to [ssnyder@co.volusia.fl.us](mailto:ssnyder@co.volusia.fl.us). In addition to these changes, the bill soon will have a new look. These changes are in part due to customers who wanted to see a more automated bill. Thank you!



## Correction to the Waterline News November/December 2004

A descendent of Walter C. Hardesty, builder of the Rio Vista Ruins, advised us that the Rio Vista Ruins were actually the entrance to the back of the Riviera Hotel which was built in 1924. The main entrance or riverfront entrance to the Riviera Hotel faces the Halifax River. The Riviera Hotel has been renovated and is now an assisted living facility.

# WATERWISE

## Plant of the Month

### Tropical snowbush *Breynia Disticha*

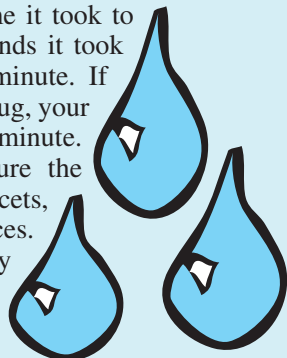
The snowbush is a rounded shrub used primarily for its outstanding ornamental features and attractive foliage. The plant reaches five to eight feet with white, green and red variegated coloration on the leaves. Small white flowers appear in summer and fall. It grows in part shade/part sun. If you prefer a dense shrub, then full sun is recommended. This shrub prefers slightly alkaline, acidic or sandy soil, but does not tolerate salt. The plant is moderately drought tolerant and is not native to this area.



### How much water do you use?

Make sure all water use is temporarily stopped. Read the meter. Now flush the toilet and take another reading. Subtract the smaller number from the larger that tells you how many gallons your toilet uses. You can check every fixture and appliance, such as your dishwasher or your washing machine, to see how much water they use after a "water-using event."

For faucets and showerheads, calculate flow rate as follows: take a plastic gallon milk or water jug and cut the top off so it fits over your showerhead. Place the container over the showerhead, turning the shower on as normal and record the time it took to fill the jug. Divide the seconds it took into 60 to get the gallons per minute. If it takes 10 seconds to fill the jug, your flow rate is six gallons per minute. Using this technique, measure the flow rate of your sink faucets, garden hoses or other devices. Seeing how much you use may inspire you to work on some conservation efforts.



## You May Ask...

- Q.** Is it okay to drink water that comes out of a dehumidifier?
- A.** NO. Don't drink this water because it has not been disinfected. Instead use this water for watering your plants or use it in your steam irons and car batteries.

## Kid's Korner

### Please Help Save Water

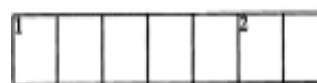
#### Across

1. Don't take long \_\_\_\_\_
4. Please remember to \_\_\_\_\_ water.
6. Ask someone to fix \_\_\_\_\_ faucets.



#### Down

2. Don't keep water \_\_\_\_\_ when not using it.
3. Plants and animals need \_\_\_\_\_ to survive.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ faucets tightly to prevent water waste.



**Activity:** This crossword puzzle uses different water words. Read the clues and write your answers in the boxes.

Answers: 1. showers 2. running 3. water 4. conserve 5. close 6. leaking