



WATERLINE NEWS

January/February 2006



Reclaimed water facts

Reclaimed water is highly treated wastewater effluent. The water has been subjected to strict water quality standards established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). There are requirements for connection to the system and for uses of reclaimed water specified under State of Florida Administrative Code No. 62-610. The treatment process produces water ideal for plant irrigation, but is not suitable for human or pet consumption.

Guidelines for use:

- Do not drink reclaimed water.
- Do not allow pets to drink reclaimed water.
- Do not water so abundantly that the reclaimed water puddles on the ground.
- Avoid spraying reclaimed water on streets, sidewalks, or other neighbors' properties.
- Do not spray directly on fruits and vegetables unless it will be peeled, skinned cooked or thermally processed.
- Do not fill swimming pools, wading pools, spas or hot tubes with reclaimed water.
- Do not connect reclaimed water to a potable water line.
- Do not connect reclaimed water to above ground hose spigots.
- Reclaimed water hoses are to be disconnected when not in use.

Fun water facts

- 3,400 cubic miles of water are locked within the bodies of living things.
- 75 percent of a chicken, 80 percent of a pineapple and 95 percent of a tomato is water.
- A dairy cow must drink four gallons of water to produce a gallon of milk.
- The kangaroo rat is so good at conserving water that it does not have to drink.
- Frogs don't drink. They absorb water through their skin.

reclaimed water

SAXON WOODS has reclaimed water now

Those of you located within the Glen Abbey area may have noticed surveyors, flags, construction vehicles, and black pipe along the road side in the area of North Pine Meadow Court and Pine Valley Court in DeBary. Volusia County Utilities has contracted with Wiring Technologies to install reclaimed water lines throughout this area.

Reclaimed lines have been completed to serve lower Pine Valley Court, all of Saxon Woods, and the Grandville on Saxon apartments. Construction continues along North Pine Meadow Court south to the Spring Glen subdivision. This work should be completed by the end of February.

Planning and design for the extension of reclaimed lines throughout Glen Abbey is under way, with the construction planned for late next summer.

Please excuse the temporary inconvenience during construction. In the long run the Glen Abbey community will benefit from this work.

Irrigation contractor visit offered

If you use county water or metered reclaimed water for irrigation, the offer of a visit by a trained irrigation auditor continues. The cost is \$25 for this one hour visit, in which the auditor will do minor adjustments, assess your system, and work with you on timer settings.

The remainder of the charge is being paid by the Water Authority of Volusia through a grant from Volusia County Environmental Management.

Please call Water Conservation Coordinator Deborah Green to be put on the list and for auditor referral. The number is (386) 322-5160 ext. 33.

First come first-served!

New Year's resolutions you can keep

- Check and repair your toilets and faucets for leaks.
- Eliminate the fat and grease you put down your household pipes. It's bad for your arteries and your waistline and it's bad for sewers too.
- Check the timer on your irrigation system. Remember you only are allowed to water two days a week.
- If you don't have a rain sensor, please get one. And if you have one, make sure it is working properly
- Research landscaping techniques this winter before you tackle your next big yard project this spring. Plant native and save on the watering.
- Try to replace at least one water guzzling appliance this year. Replace a 10 year old or older toilet with a new 1.6-gallons-per-flush version or perhaps new water saving dishwasher or washing machine.

Stormwater repair projects

The hurricanes of 2004 caused extensive damage to many of the county drainage canals, ditches, and culverts. The high water flows caused erosion and embankment damage to important drainage floodways.

To address these impacts, the county has enlisted the support of a little known federal agency called the NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) to address many of the storm damages. The NRCS provided approximately \$1.5 million to the county to fund the engineering design and stabilization of critical drainage systems.

The county mobilized multiple departments, including Stormwater Utility, Mosquito Control, and Road and Bridge to support the repair effort. Examples of repairs include the B-19 canal (Port Orange area) and the B-21 canal (a tributary of Spruce Creek). Much of the repair included heavy duty armoring of the side banks using large rock material called rip-rap and special filter cloth to prevent erosion. The project was completed in December.



Waterwise plant of the month



Darrow evergreen blueberry

Vaccinium darrowi

Darrow evergreen blueberry is found in dry sandy or moist areas near streams in Florida. Its single lower stems split above into many delicate twigs topped with very small, thick, leathery and waxy leaves.

The plant can be used as a small shrub or groundcover, and prefers acidic soil and partial sun to shade.

It blooms pink to red flowers in the spring and later produces small blue berries. It grows to 18 inches tall, with a possible five-foot spreading width.

Water trivia

What is the largest use of water indoors?

- Toilets use the most, with an average of 27 gallons per person per day. Laundry averages 17 gallons per person per day and showers 14 gallons

If you have a faucet leak that drips one drop every second, how much water are you wasting a year?

- The dripping faucet will add up to approximately 2,700 gallons of water over a year. This is another example of how small amounts over a long period can add up.

For watering restrictions please call

(386) 736-5998,

(386) 423-3359

or

(386) 239-7890