

Planet Pinellas

a conservation update

volume 2, issue 1

Who Says, "Ain't Nothin' Free?"

Get rid of hazardous waste at Pinellas County's Household Electronics & Chemical Collection Center and pick up reusable household chemicals **ABSOLUTELY FREE!**



For more information, contact Pinellas County Utilities at (727) 464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/utilities

Time is Running Out, Get Your Castle A New Throne



Rebates for up to \$100 on New Ultra Low Flow Toilets end September 30

For more information call (727) 725-2604

This program is cooperatively funded by Pinellas County and the Pinellas-Anclote River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

Easy Drain Cleaner

Pour 1/2 cup baking soda down the drain, add 1/2 cup white vinegar and cover the drain. The resulting chemical reaction can break down fatty acids, allowing the clog to wash down the drain.

Do **NOT** use this method after trying a commercial drain opener – the vinegar can react with the drain opener to create dangerous fumes.



GREASE: Your Sink's **WORST** Nightmare!

If your body is a temple, could your home be thought of as a human body? You want to keep it strong and safe, make sure it has a long life. Pipes are pipes, no matter if a plumber or a heart surgeon fixes them.

Unfortunately, convenience and goodness don't often go hand-in-hand. It takes effort to put food and grease in the trash instead of down the drain, but healthy living takes work. Wholesome meals don't spring from the microwave in 30 seconds, chocolate donuts and French fries don't promote

weight loss, and plumbing is not kept clean with bacon grease and old deep-fryer oil. Your home's plumbing is only meant to handle water, and even the garbage disposal isn't capable of managing fat and grease.

FOG stands for "fat, oil, and grease." It is the liquid and solid by-products of cooking. FOG from food clings to the inside of your

home's plumbing and the pipes in the sewer system. Over time, it builds up like plaque in an artery, decreasing the pipe's diameter, and allowing less and less wastewater to pass through. As in your body, it is a gradual process. It's hard to notice until circulation stops functioning

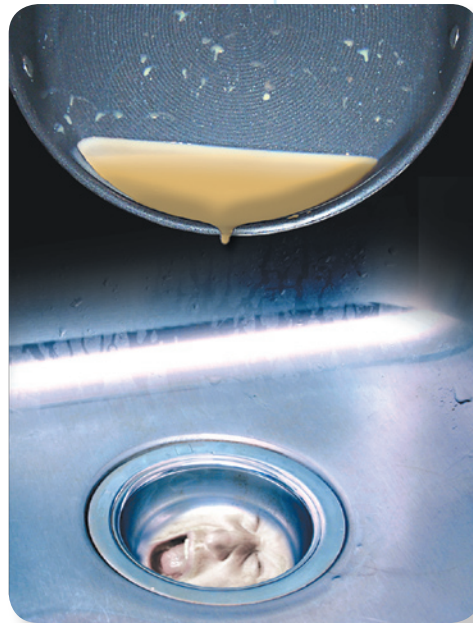
like it used to, first slowing down then completely clogging. The consequence can be an overflow of wastewater in your home or neighborhood. Besides being unpleasant, it is dangerous and may contain disease-causing organisms.

A simple regimen can keep your plumbing healthy. Start by separating fat and oil from cooking scraps or other solid food

waste with a strainer and scraping the solids into the trash. After allowing the fat and oil to cool, pour them into a disposable container, wrap the container in a plastic bag to reduce odor, and put it in the trash. It's that simple.

Clean arteries and clean pipes; you can make the difference.

E-mail pcuwebteam@pinellascounty.org to receive a free grease brochure.



For more information on building a sustainable Pinellas, call Conservation Resources at (727) 464-3896 or visit us on the Web at www.pinellascounty.org/utilities

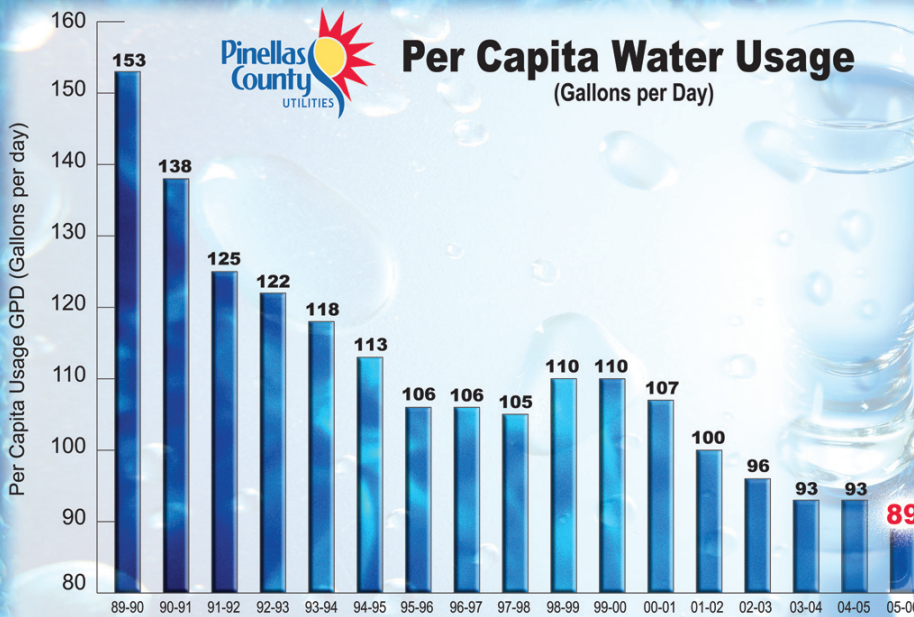
Your Lawn May Have A Drinking Problem!

It takes brain, not brawn, to persuade the best performance from your yard. By working with Mother Nature, and having the right information and planning, your yard will be a prized source of enjoyment for your eyes and toes.

Water is essential to life, but allowing your lawn to develop a drinking problem can lead it into a downward spiral. Thankfully, by irrigating smart, you can protect your lawn and landscape investment. For more information, call (727) 464-4000 and tell the representative, "I want a Healthy Lawn."



Thank You Pinellas County!



A. Annual usage is calculated by using six consecutive bi-monthly billing periods (1 year of billing).
 B. Population is calculated by taking the total number of Single Family accounts multiplied by 2.31 persons per household, plus Multi-family accounts multiplied by 1.31 persons per household for those accounts that had six consecutive billing periods.

Learn what's going on around you at your County Connection Center

If you would like to know more about the services, programs, and initiatives sponsored by Pinellas County, contact your local County Connection Center. Whether you're looking for answers or seeking solutions to a concern, your neighborhood County Connection Center is your best first call for results.



North Pinellas (727) 453-3600 Southeast Pinellas (727) 453-7394 Southwest Pinellas (727) 453-3500

Just for KIDS

Attention Kids! This is just for YOU. Check out games, music and contests at www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/kids

Send an e-mail to pcuwebteam@pinellascounty.org (with your parents permission) to get a copy of your favorite coloring or activity book. We will even throw in a free prize!

Green For Your Lawn And For Your Pocket

To encourage less use of potable and reclaimed water for irrigation purposes, Pinellas County offers rebates for alternate water sources.



To see if you qualify call (727) 464-3688 or e-mail awsrebate@pinellascounty.org



Quick Reference Information

Utilities Customer Service:
(727) 464-4000

Solid Waste:
(727) 464-7500

Reclaimed Water Hotline:
(727) 464-4273

Keep Pinellas Beautiful:
(727) 533-0402

On the Web
www.pinellascounty.org/utilities



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