

# RECLAIMED WATER

## A Quick Guide To Using A Straining Device

Some Pinellas County Utilities customers use reclaimed water for irrigation. Reclaimed water is not drinking water, so it is normal to get minor debris in the lines from broken sprinkler heads, line breaks and other causes. In an effort to help customers properly strain reclaimed water, Pinellas County Utilities offers the below examples of the right and wrong types of filters. Using the right straining device can help optimize reclaimed water systems.

### DO USE

**The recommended straining device is a wye strainer** with a mesh basket inside of the strainer body. Normally a number 12 mesh strainer will be adequate, but if a tighter mesh is desired, a number 20 mesh strainer can be installed. Wye strainers have removable caps that allow for flushing (*cleaning*), **be sure to turn off the water before you begin flushing** and always follow the manufacturer's instructions and safety procedures.

These strainers are available from major suppliers of irrigation or plumbing parts and via the internet. Generally they are not available at home improvement stores. Customers will need to determine their supply line pipe size to purchase the correct size strainer. Most residential reclaimed water systems use 1-inch pipes at the supply box.



*Pinellas County's reclaimed water ordinance requires strainers on all reclaimed water systems in the **north county** area.*

**South county** reclaimed water customers may also install a strainer if they choose to.

### DON'T USE

**Do not install micro filters** because the mesh is too fine. These filters will reduce water pressure and require cleaning multiple times each week. Individuals who have a micro irrigation system, a laser cut in-ground pipe system or a drip irrigation system should consult with the manufacturer concerning the proper straining device.

Please help everyone by watering only on the approved days and times. Also, remember that over watering can damage your lawn and harm your investment.



For more information visit us online at [www.pinellascounty.org/utilities](http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities) or call Pinellas County Utilities Customer Service at (727) 464-4000.

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