THE FUTURE FOR PINELLAS COUNTY RECLAIMED WATER

WE ARE ALL FACED WITH THE CHALLENGE OF MANAGING OUR RESOURCES IN A RESPONSIBLE MANNER.

It makes sense to utilize this available resource to further Pinellas County’s efforts to conserve its potable water supplies.

Some Florida communities must go significant distances to obtain their drinking water, or must utilize expensive desalination to provide it. In many areas, primarily within crowded coastal areas and around major cities, the movement of water between counties is becoming an important issue.

Although, Pinellas County has an adequate supply of drinking water to serve its residents for many years to come, prudent stewardship of our water resources makes good sense. With proper management, and wise use of all of our available water resources, an adequate supply of drinking water for future generations will be assured.

High quality reclaimed water, produced at Pinellas County’s regional water reclamation facilities, is a vital component in the County’s water conservation efforts. Reclaimed water can effectively replace the use of potable water for irrigation of residential and commercial landscape and save thousands of gallons of potable water each day.

The County is pursuing innovative ways to expand its current reclaimed water system. The County will augment its North County reclaimed system through the purchase of surplus reclaimed water from several local municipalities.

This use of discharged water will provide reclaimed water service to more Pinellas County Utilities customers and result in greater drinking water savings!

WHY USE PINELLAS COUNTY RECLAIMED WATER?

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We are all faced with the challenge of managing our resources in a responsible manner.

The future for Pinellas County reclaimed water

Pinellas County Utilities strives to set the standard for utilities operations in America by providing outstanding customer service and exceptional stewardship of our resources.

Worldwide uses of reclaimed water include:
- wetlands restoration,
- aesthetic fountains,
- dust control,
- saltwater barrier,
- cooling towers,
- manufacturing processes,
- agricultural operations,
- and landscape irrigation.

What Can You Do To Help Conserve Our Drinking Water Resources?

As a citizen of Pinellas County, you can do your part in preserving our precious drinking water supplies by utilizing reclaimed water, if it becomes available in your community.
RECLAIMED WATER USE:

- Reduces demands on groundwater utilized for drinking
- Reduces and eliminates discharge to surface water
- Postpones development of costly new sources and supplies of drinking water
- Will reduce the cost of landscape irrigation when it replaces potable water
- Can provide aesthetic value within the community

South Cross Bayou Water Reclamation Facility in South Pinellas County

RECYCLING WITH RECLAIMED

RECYCLING WATER IS NOT A NEW CONCEPT.

Today, wastewater can be treated and reused in beneficial ways. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has adopted rules governing the use of reclaimed water, consistent with national reuse guidelines published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), to ensure protection of the public’s health and environment. Pinellas County’s reclaimed water produced at the William E. Dunn and South Cross Bayou Facilities exceeds FDEP and USEPA standards. We are committed to providing a safe and beneficial product.

Pinellas County is confident that landscape irrigation with reclaimed water is environmentally sound and safe for public use. In all the years reclaimed water has been used, there have been no documented public health problems.

“A reuse facility designed, constructed and operated to meet the requirements of the states reuse rules poses no threat to public health.”

Dr. Richard G. Hunter, Assistant Health Officer for Environmental Health

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