

# waterline

N E W S



November/December 2009



Homeowners may water their lawns one day a week until daylight-saving time returns March 14, 2010.

## Watering days change with Eastern Standard Time

The time isn't the only thing that changed Nov. 1. With the return to Eastern Standard Time, watering days for Volusia County residents also changed.

Homes with odd-numbered or no addresses can water Saturday only before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m. Homes with even-numbered addresses can water Sunday only before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

Businesses can water Tuesday only before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

The watering hours are being enforced strictly. Fines are \$50 for the first violation, \$100 for the second violation in five years, \$250 for the third violation, and \$500 for the fourth and subsequent violations.

If you have any questions or would like to report a violation, please contact the Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities office at (386) 943-7027, ext. 3291; [wlindeberg@co.volusia.fl.us](mailto:wlindeberg@co.volusia.fl.us) or [dwise@co.volusia.fl.us](mailto:dwise@co.volusia.fl.us).

To learn more about Volusia County's efforts to conserve water or for more information about watering restrictions, please visit [www.volusia.org/water](http://www.volusia.org/water).

## Rain sensors can reduce monthly water bills

A rain sensor overrides the cycle of an automatic irrigation system when adequate rainfall has been recorded, saving consumers water and money.

The device is mounted outdoors, typically on the eave of a roof, and is wired to the irrigation system's controller.

Rain sensors not only reduce water bills, they can conserve precious water resources and prevent lawn diseases caused by overwatering.

For most Volusia County landscapes, the rain sensor should be set to override the irrigation cycle when a quarter-inch to a half-inch of rainfall has been received.

Florida statute 373.62 and Volusia County ordinance 50-315 require a rain sensor to be installed on all automatic irrigation systems.

Rain sensors can be purchased where irrigation supplies are sold.

Homeowners may install rain sensor devices, but it's recommended that an irrigation contractor handle the installation. The contractor should hold a certificate of competence for pump and irrigation installations from the Volusia County Health Department. To confirm an irrigation contractor's license, please call (386) 822-6250, ext. 5579.



**Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities wishes you and your family a joyous holiday season!**

## Rebates, credits available to county water customers

As part of an ongoing water conservation program, Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities is offering more opportunities for rebates.

### Ultra-low-volume toilets

Since the mid-1990s, all new toilets have been redesigned to conserve water, reducing the usage from 3 gallons per flush to 1.6 gallons per flush. Recent technology has further reduced the amount of water to 1.28 gallons. Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities customers can receive a \$50 credit on their water bill if they install a new high-efficiency toilet that uses 1.28 gallons or less.

### High-efficiency washers

The average American family washes almost 400 loads of laundry each year. Families can cut their energy costs by more than one-third and the water costs by more than half just by purchasing a new high-efficiency clothes washer. Volusia County is offering a \$100 credit to customers' water bills if they purchase a qualifying washer.

### High-efficiency dishwashers

Residents who are using a dishwasher made before 1994 are paying an extra \$40 each year on their utility bills. Switch to a new high-efficiency dishwasher to save money. Qualified models use 31 percent less energy and 33 percent less water than conventional machines while delivering superior cleaning performance. Rebates are available for Volusia County Utility customers.

For more information and rebate forms, please contact Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities at (386) 943-7027, ext. 3291; [wlindberg@co.volusia.fl.us](mailto:wlindberg@co.volusia.fl.us) or [dwise@co.volusia.fl.us](mailto:dwise@co.volusia.fl.us).

## Water Resources and Utilities

Customers can pay their water and/or sewer bills with automatic withdrawal from their checking accounts. There is no charge for this service. To apply for automatic withdrawal, please call (386) 736-5971.

Payment also can be made online at [www.link2gov.com](http://www.link2gov.com) or by calling (877) 729-9287. A convenience fee is charged for these services.

### WATERWISE PLANT –

*The Christmas berry is a deciduous shrub that grows up to 6 feet tall. It is sparingly branched with many of the curving branches ending in a sharp thorn.*



*The oval leaves are dull gray-green, thick, succulent, smooth and about a half-inch long. The small flower may be lavender to nearly white with the throat streaked with purple. Blooms appear in March through December. The berry, which ripens in late autumn or early winter, is a bright, lustrous red. Christmas berry grows in full sun with average moisture and an average pH. Many native plant nurseries in Volusia County carry the Christmas berry.*

## Ask water testers for ID

You may have been approached by a company claiming your water service provider wants to test your water. This may not be true.

Volusia County tests your water and sends you a Consumer Confidence Report each year. The report outlines where your water comes from and the quality of your drinking water. If you have questions about your water quality, please contact us.

If you are approached by someone who says he or she is from Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities, ask to see his or her identification badge. Volusia County employees drive vehicles with the county seal and wear uniforms with a county employee identifier.

## New e-bill service on the way

Beginning in December, Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities will offer a new online service that lets customers view and pay their bills online. For enrollment information, please contact Alicia Johnson at [ajohnson@co.volusia.fl.us](mailto:ajohnson@co.volusia.fl.us) or Wanda Lindberg at [wlindberg@co.volusia.fl.us](mailto:wlindberg@co.volusia.fl.us).

For more information, please visit [www.volusia.org/publicworks/water.htm](http://www.volusia.org/publicworks/water.htm) or call:

- (386) 943-7027 in West Volusia
- (386) 257-6000 in Daytona Beach
- (386) 423-3300 in New Smyrna Beach

