



Educating the next generation

Seventy-five children and Youth Director Becky Scaramellino from the Orange City YMCA toured the Deltona Water and Wastewater Plants in observation of YMCA's Environmental Awareness Week.

Our plant operators and environmental specialist instructed the guests on water and wastewater treatment, water production, the need for water conservation and information on the Floridan aquifer. A tour of the testing labs and on-site facilities also proved to be interesting for the children. At the conclusion of the tour, everyone received water conservation coloring books. The Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities Division encourages and welcomes tours for school children, whether it is through schools or scouting functions. Tours can be set up by calling (386) 822-6465.

Water testing

You may have been approached by a company claiming your water service provider wants to test your water. Please be aware this may not be true. Volusia County Utilities already tests your water and provides you with a Consumer Confidence Report annually. The report outlines where your water comes from and the quality of your drinking water. If you have questions regarding your water quality, please contact us. If at any time you are approached by someone stating they are from Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities, ask to see their identification badge. Volusia County employees drive vehicles with the county seal and wear uniforms with a County employee identifier.



Where can you purchase Florida native plants?

Our local area home improvement stores carry a variety of Florida native and Florida-friendly plants. Some local nurseries also carry a selection of native plants. If you can't find what you are looking for, just ask for help. Some nurseries will special order for you.

Our current watering restrictions are:

The restrictions allow **yard watering and private car washing for homes with even addresses** on Thursdays and Sundays from 4 - 8 a.m. (automatic and manual systems) or 5 - 9 p.m. (manual only).

Homes with odd addresses may water at the same times on Wednesdays and Saturdays. **No watering or car washing is permitted on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.**

The above applies to ALL water sources including private wells, city water and lakes.

Watering of new vegetation plantings (sod, seed, landscape plants, etc.) is permitted on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2 - 8 a.m. for automatic systems. People with manual systems may irrigate from 2 - 8 a.m. and from 5 - 9 p.m. This new planting irrigation schedule applies only during the first 30 days of planting.

Hand watering is permitted anytime, but avoidance of hours of high evaporation is encouraged.

Waterwise plant of the month

American beautyberry

Callicarpa (cally-CAR-pah): Greek for "beautiful fruit"



This fast-growing Florida native is very drought tolerant. It is a leggy shrub but is used as an accent plant in mass plantings, wildlife gardens and natural areas. When being used as a specimen plant, it should be pruned yearly to promote more dense growth. Typically, they can reach seven feet. Birds love the red / purple berries that grow in clusters around the stems. This deciduous plant loves full to partial sun.

Consumer confidence report

By now you should have received your annual consumer confidence report in the mail. This report is required by law and advises the consumers on the quality of their drinking water. Reports also can be viewed at <http://Volusia.org/publicworks/water.htm>. If you have questions regarding your report, contact our office at 386-822-6465. Our staff would be happy to answer your questions.

Florida law requires installation of rain sensor devices on all automatic irrigation systems

State statute

Florida Water Law Statute requiring rain sensors on all new systems Title XXVIII Natural Resources; Conservation, Reclamation, And Use Chapter 373 Water Resources 373.62 Water conservation; automatic sprinkler systems.--Any person who purchases and installs an automatic lawn sprinkler system after May 1, 1991, shall install, and must maintain and operate, a rain sensor device or switch that will override the irrigation cycle of the sprinkler system when adequate rainfall has occurred.

History.--s. 7, ch. 91-41; s. 7, ch. 91-68; s. 6, ch. 2001-252

Volusia County code requiring rain sensors on older sprinkler systems Ordinance 2000-34 now in Chapter 50 of the Volusia County Code. Section 50-316 (c) All automatic landscape irrigation systems shall be equipped with rain sensor devices, within eighteen months from the effective date of this ordinance. dated Oct 5, 2000.

Stormwater project amid the ruins

The Stormwater Utility recently completed a stormwater project on Calle Grande Street, just west of U.S. Highway 1 in Ormond Beach. The Calle Grande Canal crossing needed a replacement concrete drainage structure, which is near the historic Calle Grande ruins. Special care had to be taken to ensure that the excavation and placement of the new structure did not harm the coquina rock columns and decorative scrollwork.

County work crews exercised great care during the week-long construction process, which went without a hitch. The stormwater benefits will be improved flow efficiency and less erosion within the canal, just in time for the upcoming storm season!

