

WATER REUSE



Reclaimed water is highly treated wastewater that can be used for irrigation and other uses to extend our water supplies.

For close to 100 years, highly treated reclaimed water has safely been used in the United States. In Florida, more than 650 million gallons per day of reuse water is utilized by 280,000 residential irrigation customers, 525 golf courses, 875 parks, and 320 schools.

Benefits of water reuse

- Costs less than drinking water
- Reduces fertilizer use, as some nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus remain in the reclaimed water
- Reduces stress on drinking water supplies
- Reduces disposal into water bodies, which can help reduce nutrients in springs, rivers and lakes



Reclaimed water can be used for:

- Irrigation of lawns, landscapes and golf courses
- Street-sweeping operations
- Decorative fountains
- Power generation
- Aquifer recharge
- Cooling or water for a variety of industrial processes
- Natural systems restoration

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Reclaimed water *cannot* be used for:

- Body-contact recreation (including swimming pools and spas)
- Cooking or drinking (do not connect potable water piping to purple reuse water piping)
- Irrigating vegetable and herb gardens, unless a drip or bubbler system is used (remember to always wash produce, regardless of water source)



City's Water Reclamation Facility showing the new 1.5 million gallon reclaimed water storage tank.

The wastewater-to-reclaimed water process

1. Screening and other processes to remove sand and debris
2. Sedimentation for removing large solids
3. Aeration so that microorganisms can break down organic materials
4. Clarification to remove those microorganisms and any remaining solids
5. Filtration to make water crystal clear
6. Disinfection, with chlorine , for killing pathogens and bacteria

Up to 50 percent of a community's drinking water is used for irrigation. Much of this irrigation water could be replaced with **reclaimed water** that is provided by water reclamation facilities and delivered in **purple-colored** pipes.

Water reuse facilities are constantly monitored to ensure that only high-quality reclaimed water is distributed. This water is sparkling clear and essentially pathogen-free. Decades of experience have demonstrated that the use of reclaimed water in urban, commercial, and agricultural settings is both a safe and reliable source of water.



Southern Hills Plantation reuse storage pond 8AA, showing the delivery system piping from the City's Water Reclamation Facility.



Water conservation and preservation promotes happy, and healthy families.



SAVE THE WATER

For more information, contact:

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