

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

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 reuse facilities and delivered in purple-colored pipes.

Benefits of Water Reuse

- ⇒ Costs less than drinking water
- ⇒ Reduces fertilizer use, as some nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus remain in the reclaimed water
- ⇒ Reduces stress on drinking water supplies
- ⇒ Reduces disposal into waterways, which can help reduce nutrient loads in bays and rivers

Water efficiently, reduce fertilizer usage, and never let reclaimed water run needlessly into the street.



Reclaimed water *can* be used for:



- ✓ Irrigation of lawns, landscapes, and golf courses
- ✓ Street-sweeping operations
- ✓ Car and bus washing
- ✓ Power generation
- ✓ Decorative fountains
- ✓ Fire protection (purple fire hydrants)
- ✓ Dust control
- ✓ Groundwater recharge
- ✓ Cooling or makeup water for a variety of industrial processes
- ✓ Natural system restoration

Reclaimed water *can't* be used for:

- ⊗ Body-contact recreation (including swimming pools and spas)
- ⊗ Cooking or drinking (do not connect house pipes to the purple pipe)
- ⊗ Irrigating vegetable and herb gardens (unless a drip or bubbler system is used—always wash your produce)

“Do Not Drink”
“No Beber”



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; and
6. Disinfection, with chlorine or UV radiation, for killing pathogens and bacteria

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 has demonstrated that the use of reclaimed water in urban and commercial settings is both a safe and a reliable source of water.



Make **PURPLE** the New **GREEN** and
Join us in the Move to...

Use it Again, Florida!