



RECLAIMED IS A RESOURCE TOO: DON'T WASTE IT

Lots of sunshine and lack of rain have contributed to recent peak demands on the city's reclaimed water system. Reclaimed water customers are watering and watering and watering. Reclaimed water use has many benefits, but OVER USE has drawbacks. Over watering will

lead to an unhealthy lawn. In addition, excessive demand on the system results in low water pressure.

Make the most out of the reclaimed water system by incorporating the following irrigation tips into your lawn care routine:

City of Altamonte Springs
PROJECT APRICOT ADVISOR

A Few Irrigation Tips

When is Watering Needed? When the lawn begins to show the following signs of stress:

- spots in the lawn that have turned a bluish gray color
- footprints remain in the grass long after being made
- leaf blades folded in half or curled

How Much Water is Enough? Efficient watering wets only the turfgrass rootzone, does not saturate the soil, and does not run off.

A simple watering schedule would be to apply 1/2 to 3/4 inch of water 2 to 3 times a week in the summer, and every 10 to 14 days in the winter. If rainfall occurs, irrigation should be suspended according to rainfall amount.

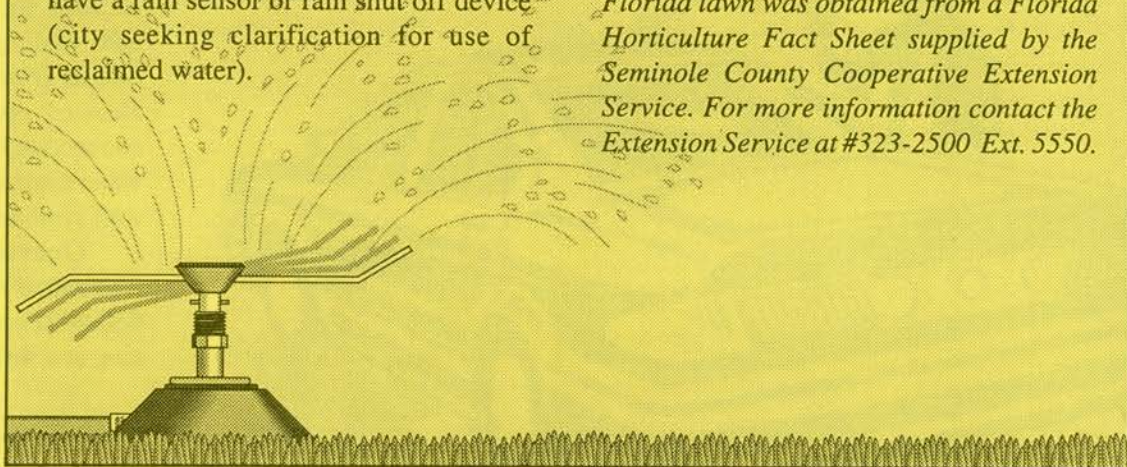
Special Note: Recent Florida legislation requires that all automatic irrigation systems installed after May 9, 1991 must have a rain sensor or rain shut off device (city seeking clarification for use of reclaimed water).

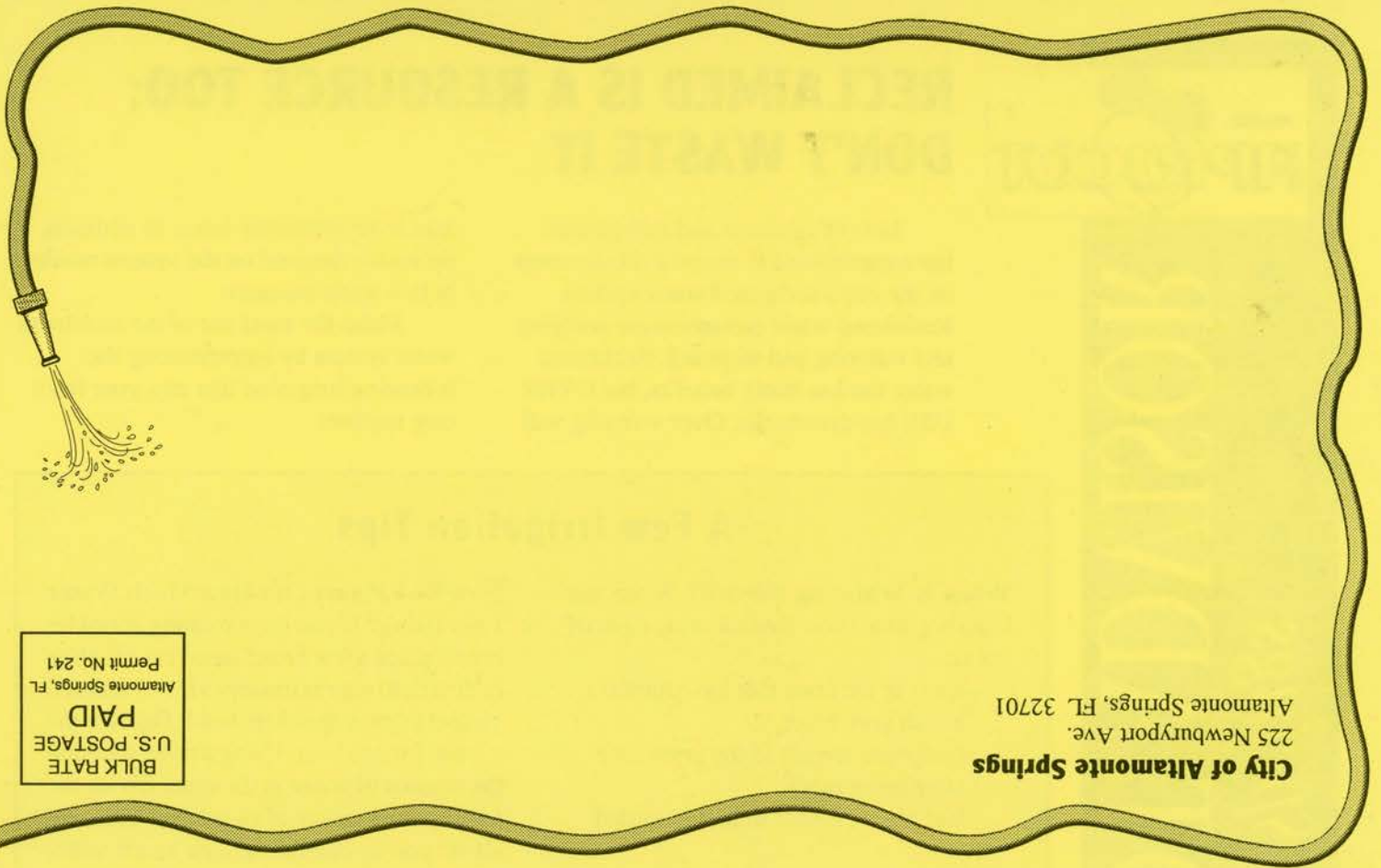
How Do I Figure Out How Much Water I am Using? If you have rotating sprinkler heads, place a few broad based cans (coffee or tuna fish) approximately 3 feet, 7 feet and 10 feet from a sprinkler head. Operate the system for one hour. Using a ruler, measure the amount of water in the cans. Divide the sum by the number of cans used. This will allow you to determine how much water you use each time you irrigate your lawn. Irrigation should not exceed 2" per week.

What is the Best Time to Water? The ideal time for lawn irrigation is in the early morning hours. However, in order to evenly distribute the available supply of reclaimed water and maximize pressure, the following sprinkling hours are suggested:

Odd Address Residential	6 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Even Address Residential	11 p.m. - 4 a.m.
Multi-Family/Commercial	4 a.m. - 8 a.m.

Information regarding watering your Florida lawn was obtained from a Florida Horticulture Fact Sheet supplied by the Seminole County Cooperative Extension Service. For more information contact the Extension Service at #323-2500 Ext. 5550.





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RECLAIMED WATER USES

A brief but important reminder: reclaimed water is highly treated wastewater effluent. State and federal regulations govern the acceptable uses of reclaimed water.

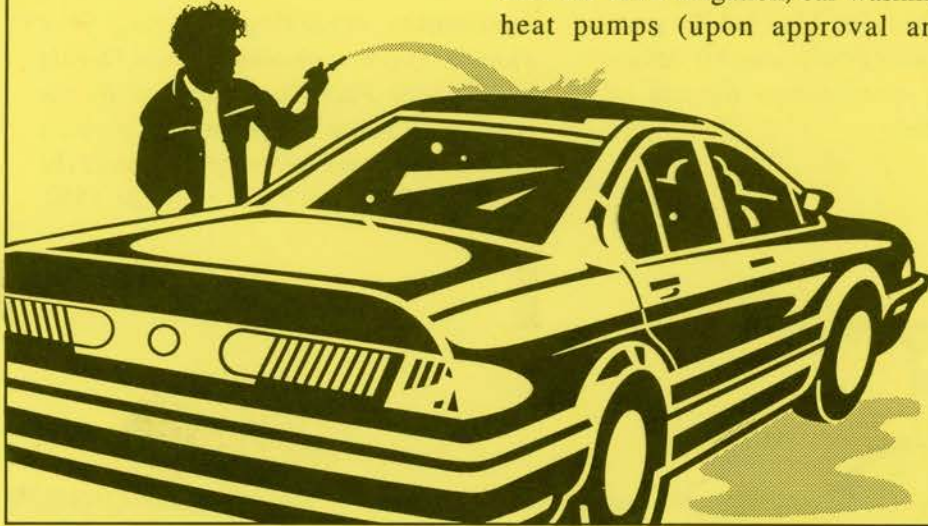
Please help educate everyone who comes into contact with the system (especially children) by explaining the origin and uses of reclaimed water:

Reclaimed water should only be used for lawn irrigation, car washing, heat pumps (upon approval and

agreement with the city) and irrigation of vegetable gardens if the food will be peeled, cooked or thermally processed before being consumed, or if a driptype irrigation system is used.

Reclaimed water should not be used for drinking, swimming and wading pools or hot tubs. Above ground hose bibbs are not allowed on the system. Cross-connections between the reclaimed water system and potable water or well systems are prohibited.

Questions? Call the Reclaimed Water Division at (407) 660-4422 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.



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