

SpringLake BREEZE

Florida... the way it should be!



Board Update



Left to right are: Secretary, Tim McKenna; Chairman, Brian Acker; Arlene Klingbiel; Past Chairman, Bill Lawens; and Gary Behrendt, Vice-Chairman

The Board continues to work on the budget and other projects during the summer months. The Storm Water Treatment Area Project is the largest financial project the District has ever had, and our Engineering firm, Craig A. Smith & Associates is monitoring the project. Work is being conducted by Eden's Corporation from South Bay, Florida. The Fiscal Year 2016 budget is being developed for the General Fund, Water, Wastewater, Lot Mowing, Parks, and Mosquito.

The District has incorporated an e-mail blast program into its communications with residents. If you would like to receive periodic e-mails on District projects and activities, as well as any emergency notices such as hurricanes, water leaks, or boil orders, you have two options. First, go to our web site at www.springlakefl.com and register as a new user in the space provided. You can also simply send us your e-mail address and request inclusion. This is also important because The Breeze will be going electronic within the next several months. We will still have two hard copies of The Breeze that will be mailed in February when the majority of residents are here, and in June, when we have to publish the Annual Water Report. The world is getting more technical each and every month it seems; going electronic saves taxpayers' money, and also allows the District to communicate more often and keep you up to date on everything.

The inside pages of this issue is the State mandated report to residents on our water supply system. It is an annual report that is published every June, and we are fortunate to have the quality water system that we do.

The Board continues to work on the

Fire Hydrant Protection

There are 221 fully operational fire hydrants throughout Spring Lake that offer protection to the community. It is imperative that maintenance and flow testing is conducted in a timely manner. Mueller Services periodically conducts a maintenance program to ensure effective performance. The work involves the following segments:

- Locate and GPS each hydrant
- Locate and test the hydrant isolation valve
- Check hydrant nozzle height for proper clearance
- Identify make, model, and year of each hydrant
- Identify hydrant main valve, hose, and pumper size
- Lubricate all nozzle outlets with F.D.A. approved lubricant
- Open hydrant with nozzle caps in place to check for seal leakage
- Verify that hydrant main valve completely closes
- Open hydrant, record working pressure and calculate hydrant flow
- Record static pressure
- Note any operational deficiencies

All this information has been forwarded to the Highlands County Emergency Operations Center. The County will now put the GPS information on their system for location and flow data to assist the fire departments when water for fire protection is needed in our community.



Meter Tampering

District Water Department personnel regularly conduct inspections on customer water meters and boxes and make repairs to those that have been damaged, especially by lawn mowers. IT IS ILLEGAL for residents to tamper with meter boxes or the utility shut-off valve.

By Resolution, the Board of Supervisors made tampering subject to a \$100 penalty. This includes: operating a tagged or locked meter valve; removing a meter; hooking up a meter illegally; or any action performed to change a meter's reading. There are additional costs for repairs if the meter valve or piping is damaged. The homeowner is responsible for payment prior to the restoration of water service.

The District Utility Dept. will turn your water service on or off during normal business hours (8-4:30 M-F) free of charge. After hours, weekends, or holidays, the service charge is \$40.

Homeowners or plumbers are NOT ALLOWED to turn off/on water valves.

Credit Card Payments Online

Residents may now pay their water bills with credit cards.

This is another convenience to ensure that your bill is paid on time and avoids late fees or possible water shut off. While the District still accepts cash and checks, our preference is for you to be on the ACH program. Go to www.springlakefl.com



2014 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Spring Lake Improvement District

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is three wells that draw water from the Floridan aquifer. Before delivery to you, the water is disinfected with chlorine and a blend of phosphate is added to inactivate or sequester mineral ions naturally found in water.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Clay R. Shrum Assistant District Manager at (863) 655-1715. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. This report will be mailed to customers in the Spring Lake Breeze and is also available at the District Office, located at 115 Spring Lake Boulevard. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. at the Spring Lake District Office.

Spring Lake Improvement District routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules and regulations. *Except where indicated* otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2014. Also included are test results in earlier years for contaminants sampled less often than annually. For contaminants not required to be tested for in 2014, test results are for the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations authorized by the state and approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or on-line at their web site www.epa.gov/safewater/.

As water travels over the land or underground it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a risk.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring, or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

To remain in compliance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act we are required to test for over 80 contaminants. Reported below are only those that were detected through laboratory analysis. The remaining approximately 70 contaminants were undetected. In the data table you will find many terms you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following key to these terms' abbreviations and definitions:

TERM Appearing in TABLE		DEFINITION
Action Level	AL	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow
Not Applicable	n/a	Does not apply
Parts per million	ppm	or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part by weight of contaminant to one million parts by weight of the water sample.
Parts per billion	ppb	or Micrograms per liter (µg/l) – one part by weight of contaminant to one billion parts by weight of the water sample.
Picocuries per liter	pCi/L	- picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water
Maximum Contaminant Level	MCL	The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	MCLG	The "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	MRDL	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	MRDLG	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

In 2013 the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. These assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. A search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp

2014 Compliance Monitoring							
** Results in the Level Detected column for Radioactive and Inorganic contaminants are the highest detected level at any sampling point.							
Radioactive Contaminants							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	MCL Violation Yes/No	Level Detected **	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Monitoring Period Month/Year	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l)	No	5.3	N/A	0	15	04/14	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 and Radium 228 or combined Radium (pCi/l)	No	3.0	N/A	0	5	04/14	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	No	0.106	N/A	2	2	04/14	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	No	0.319	N/A	4	4	04/14	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	No	17.7	N/A	n/a	160	04/14	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
TTHMs and Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Products (D/DBP)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	1/14 - 12/14	NO	1.58	1.13 to 2.10	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	08/14	NO	33.4	20.5 to 33.4	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	08/14	NO	59.7	41.9 to 59.7	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Action Level Violation Yes/No	90th Percentile Result	Number of Sampling Sites Exceeding the Action Level	MCLG	Action Level	Dates of sampling Month/Year	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	No	0.0155	0	1.3	AL=1.3	06/14	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

We are required to issue the following information, even though you have no Lead detected in your water: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Spring Lake Improvement District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

We at the Spring Lake Improvement District would like for you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.

Esta es informacion muy importante sobre su agua de beber . Si no lo comprende completamente en ingles, es posible de tenerlo traducido a espanol. Para mas informacion, llame a (863) 655-1715

The Spring Lake Improvement District received the 2014 Water Plant Operations Excellence Award from the Department of Environmental Protection in recognition of outstanding treatment plant operations, maintenance and compliance.



SPRING LAKE

IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

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Bits and Pieces

- Staff continues to work on the newly acquired Waste Water Treatment plant and the repairs and upgrades have improved operations substantially. By the end of June the District will be applying for a State Revolving Fund Loan to construct a new plant for users of the system
- The Storm Water Treatment Area Project is in full operation and Eden's Construction from South Bay is the contractor. While it is illegal to go on site during construction, you can visit the project and view the work from behind the fenced area. The project is located on back side of Duane Palmer Blvd. just east of the Bobcat Golf Course entrance.
- When the Legislature returns to session the District should learn whether or not they have been approved for a \$750,000 appropriation to upgrade the 40 year old pump station.
- FEMA has written the District another letter affirming that Spring Lake is NOT in a flood zone and flood insurance rates for all homeowners will remain low. If the District did not work diligently to certify the levee rates for our community would have been over \$4,000 per home!
- Highlands County is resurfacing a number of streets in Spring Lake; refer to our web-site for a complete listing.
- Thank you to the residents that responded to our article about being a "Water Angel." If you would like to make an anonymous donation to help people in need pay their water bill, simply mail it to the District Office or stop by.
- The Fiscal Year '16 budget starts on October 1st, and the Board of Supervisors received their first draft at the June 17th Board meeting. The second draft will be presented on July 8th, and a public hearing will be held on August 12th at the District Office. Plan to attend any or all meetings.



SLID staff cleaned WWTP Perk Ponds



*STEP system Repair
SLID has taken over operation
and repair of Waste Water STEP
system*



Water Plant Tank Inspection

