

December 2010



## just the FACTs

This fact sheet is provided as a reference to encourage a greater understanding of the various issues related to managing water in South Florida.

### Water Savings Incentive Program (WaterSIP)

#### *Partnering with Local Communities to Conserve Water Resources*

*Public and organizational entities implementing innovative technology-based water conservation projects may apply to participate in a cost-sharing program with the South Florida Water Management District. The initiative is nicknamed WaterSIP, for Water Savings Incentive Program, and its focus is projects that help reduce water use. Regional water supply plans have concluded that historically used freshwater sources will not be sufficient to meet all future water needs of the region so we must work together to conserve water and develop alternative water supplies.*

#### **What is WaterSIP?**

- Water SIP is a funding assistance reimbursement program supporting local water conservation projects.
- Award recipients are reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the total project cost with a maximum reimbursement of \$50,000.
- Projects funded through the program are non-capital in nature, meaning not part of a public water provider's or user's capital improvement program.
- Types of projects that have received funding include automatic flushing devices for hydrants, indoor plumbing retrofits, large area "smart" irrigation controllers and soil moisture/rain sensor technology for irrigation systems.
- Potential applicants include cities, public utilities and water providers, homeowners' associations, hospitals, museums, schools and commercial facilities.
- The program is funded annually, with approval from the District's Governing Board.
- Approved projects must begin and end in the same funding year (Oct. 1-Sept. 30)

#### **FY 2011 WaterSIP Projects**

WaterSIP projects selected for implementation in Fiscal Year 2011 total \$298,000 and will result in a combined water savings estimated at 230 million gallons of water per year:

- City of Pompano Beach - Restaurant Spray Valves Replacement Program
- City of Margate - Pre-Rinse Spray Valve Replacement Program
- City of West Palm Beach - Community Water Conservation Program, Residential Indoor Retrofits and Commercial Pre-Rinse Spray Valves
- City of Sunrise - Automatic Line Flushing Devices
- Orange County Utilities - Commercial Showerhead Retrofits



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- Glades Utility Authority – Water Meter Change Out, automated meter reading
- City of LaBelle - Mobile Meter Reading II, automated meter reading
- Port LaBelle Utility Service - Bathroom Fixture Replacement
- Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority - High Efficiency Toilet Retrofit Rebate Program
- Ave Maria Utility, LLLP - Automatic Line Flushing Device
- Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department - Residential High Efficiency Toilet Rebate Project
- City of Naples - City Potable Water Reduction Project, Smart Irrigation Controllers and Low-Flow Urinal Retrofits
- City of Tamarac - Indoor Plumbing Retrofit Project

### **To Apply for Future Funding**

- Entities seeking funding must be able to match at least 50% of the total costs for the proposed project, unless the entity is a Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI). REDI communities are not required to provide matching funds.
- A selection committee consisting of Governing Board-appointed members and District staff rank eligible projects based on selection criteria that include:
  - Conservation efficiency (estimated number of gallons saved per year)
  - Cost effectiveness
  - Environmental and/or community benefits
  - Innovation
  - Quality and detail of project planning
  - Record, if any, of past WaterSIP project completion
- Program applications are typically available in the spring for the following year.

When released, the WaterSIP application and program updates are available on the District's website at [www.sfwmd.gov/watersip](http://www.sfwmd.gov/watersip) and through the District's [solicitations calendar](#).

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