



Welcome Wednesday

November 19, 2014 – 8:00am

• **District Holiday Closures**

- The District Customer Service Center and all District Administrative offices will be closed on Thursday, November 27, 2014 and Friday, November 28, 2014 for Thanksgiving. In addition, all recreation centers, recreation offices and fitness clubs will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27, 2014.
- The outdoor facilities, swimming pools and the Silver Lake and Saddlebrook Billiards will remain open for your enjoyment.
- Guest ID Card and Executive Trail Fee services will be available Friday, November 28th, Saturday, November 29th and Sunday, November 30th from 8:00am – 12:00pm at La Hacienda, Lake Miona and Eisenhower Regional Recreation Centers. Guest ID Card and Executive Trail Fee services will not be available on Thursday, November 27, 2014.

• **District Holiday Cancellations:** Several reoccurring District programs will be cancelled during November and December due to the holidays:

Welcome Wednesday will be cancelled on the following dates:

- November 26, 2014
- December 24, 2014
- December 31, 2014

CDD Orientation will be cancelled on the following dates:

- November 27, 2014
- December 25, 2014
- January 1, 2014

With the exceptions above, Welcome Wednesday is held each Wednesday at 8:00am and CDD Orientation is held each Thursday at 10:00am. Both programs are held in the District office located at 984 Old Mill Run. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Customer Service Center at 753-4508. We wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season!

- **Finance** - The Finance Department is happy to announce the addition of Carleen Gressel as Billing and Customer Service Manager. Ms. Gressel has many years of experience in customer service and billing in the cable television industry, her most recent experience with Comcast in Miami.



- **Holiday Trash Collection – There will be no residential trash collection on Thursday, November 27, 2014 – Thanksgiving Day**
 - If you live in the Sumter or Marion county portion of The Villages and your scheduled recycling day is on November 27th, it will be collected on Saturday, November 29th
 - If you live in the Lady Lake portion of The Villages, please contact Waste Management at 787-4416 for your collection information
 - If you live in the Lake County portion of The Villages, please contact Lake County Solid Waste at 343-3776 for your collection information
 - For additional information, please visit www.DistrictGov.org

- **Public Safety - New Hires in Fire School** – The three new hires, attending fire school currently, will be graduating from Lake Tech on Friday, November 21, 2014. Once these 3 people graduate they will be taking their state exam on December 1 & 2, 2014. They should have their results sometime in early December. All three employees have done a great job and are graduating in the upper 5% of their class. GREAT JOB to all three.

- **Recreation - Bicycle Friendly Community** - The League of American Bicyclists has designated The Villages, Florida a Bicycle Friendly Community at the Silver Level in recognition of outstanding efforts to encourage bicycling in The Villages. The award is presented only to communities with remarkable commitments to bicycling. The award is current for four years 2014-2018.

- **Executive Golf** – Work is continuing on the cart path improvements on the Executive Golf Courses, during which time we also use a proactive approach to identify future needs and improvements.
 - El Diablo #1 will begin having this work performed this week
 - Briarwood holes #4-8 will have this work completed this weekend

- **Property Management** – Update to Pool Deck Lighting
 - This work was approved by the VCCDD Board on November 12, 2014 and a contract has been executed. We are working with the Contractor (Electric Services, Inc.) to establish a definitive start date. Once the date is established a “Notice to Proceed” will be issued to the contractor. Please stay tuned to www.DistrictGov.org for additional updates.

- **Tierra Del Sol Renovation Update - Please excuse our dust!**
 - A brand new facility similar to the current Village Recreation Centers is being constructed at Tierra Del Sol for all residents to enjoy. The project is in the structural stage of construction and progressing nicely. Work on the facility will continue until Spring 2015. Closures apply to all Tierra Del Sol facilities: Recreation center, swimming pool, bocce courts, horseshoe pits, shuffleboard courts and tennis courts. The Tierra Del Sol Country Club and Restaurant are open for business as usual. Please refer to the Recreation News for alternative locations for desired activities.



- **Transition of District Boards** - The Oath of Office will be given to those Supervisors who were elected or re-elected in the November 4, 2014 elections at the following board meetings this week – Districts 5-10, Sumter Landing Community Development District, Brownwood Community Development District, and North Sumter County Utility Dependent District. All actions relating to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman nomination and selection will also occur during the meetings this week. For meeting times and locations, please visit www.DistrictGov.org
- **Florida Sunshine, Public Records & Ethics Law Training** – A training class on the Florida Sunshine, Public Records and Ethics laws was given this week by District Counsel to new and existing Board Supervisors and District staff. This class is designed to give Supervisors and Staff an overview of both the law and how it applies to their position and responsibilities. Staff is currently working to schedule an additional session. If you are interested in attending one of these training courses in the future, please stay tuned to future Welcome Wednesdays.
- **Tips on Saving Water**
 - In an attempt to encourage water conservation, the following information was compiled on how to save water both inside and outside your home

TIPS ON HOW TO SAVE WATER

Outdoors

It is important to remember not to irrigate just because it is your scheduled day. Irrigation systems should only be operated when the lawn begins to show signs of stress, some examples are listed below

- Lingering footprints or mower tracks
- Grass blades or leaf blades begin to close lengthwise
- The top few inches of soil feel dry

The amount of irrigation varies depending on the time of year, rainfall and soil conditions. Please refer to the Water Wise Irrigation Guide on the back page for guidelines to follow.

- Turn your irrigation timer off after rainfall events and let your lawn "tell" you when you need to turn the timer back on.
- If a particular zone begins to show signs of stress, only set the irrigation system to irrigate the stressed zone, don't run the entire system.
- Use a hose with an automatic shut off nozzle to water flower beds and dry spots.
- Learn to operate your irrigation system properly and check your settings monthly to be sure that it is operating on the proper day and time. Also verify that no "extra" start times are accidentally turned on.
- Check rain sensors monthly to ensure that they are not clogged with debris.
- Follow Florida Friendly Landscaping Principles.
- Cut your grass at the highest recommended height (4" for St. Augustine or Bahia, 2" for Empire Zoysia).
- Mow regularly, cutting no more than 1/3 of the grass length
- Keep mower blades sharp. Dull blades tear grass, opening it to disease, and cause grass to appear tan and ragged.

New Grass Installation Schedule

- Mow approximately 10 days after installation of new grass and bag clippings for the first few mowing's
- Avoid "scalping" the grass. Scalping is cutting more than the top 1/3 of the grass blade.
- Use a starter fertilizer that is low in nitrogen and higher in phosphorus and potassium.
(For example, 15-1-15 or 16-4-8)
- Immediately after installation, EMPIRE Zoysia will need to be "grown in". This will frequently be completed prior to the purchase of your new home.
- Typical grow-in irrigation schedule:
 - ❖ Once a day for 2 weeks
 - ❖ 4 times a week for 2 weeks
 - ❖ 3 times a week for 2 weeks
 - ❖ Twice a week for 2 weeks
 - ❖ Normal irrigation frequency at once per week

Indoors

- Insects, tissue and other similar waste should be disposed of in the trash, instead of the toilet.
- Close the drain first when running a bath (the initial burst of cold water will be warmed by the hot water as the tub fills).
- Turn the water off while brushing, shaving, etc.
- Operate the dishwasher only when you have a full load.
- Try to use the garbage disposal sparingly.
- When hand washing dishes, fill the rinsing sink to 1/3 - 1/2 full and the other with soapy water-that will eliminate the need to continuously run the water while rinsing.
- When washing clothes, use the minimum setting required per load for machines with variable settings. Also, use the shortest wash cycle for lightly soiled clothes. You can also pre-treat stains to avoid rewashing

Water Wise Irrigation Guide RECOMMENDED ZONE RUN TIMES

(Recommended Zone Run Times are based on normal rainfall conditions)

Irrigation Zone Type	Winter <u>Dec – Feb</u>		Spring & Summer <u>Mar – Sept</u>		Fall <u>Oct – Nov</u>	
	Run Time	Frequency	Run Time	Frequency	Run Time	Frequency
Plants	OFF	OFF	15 min	1/week	10 min	1/week
Turf by Rotors	30 min	1/week	40 min	1/week	30 min	1/week
Turf by Sprays	15 min	1/week	25 min	1/week	15 min	1/week

- During times of drought, you may need to supplement your irrigation system by hand watering using a hose with an automatic shut off nozzle.
- During times of rainfall, you may be able to turn your irrigation system off for an extended period of time.

The Southwest Florida Water Management District may impose additional watering restrictions as part of a water shortage order that must be complied with.

USEFUL INFORMATION

The Villages Water Wisdom Information

www.thevillageswaterwisdom.com

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Tel: (800) 423-1476

www.watermatters.org

St. John's River Water Management District

Tel: (800) 451-7106

www.floridaswater.com

Irrigation System

www.hunterindustries.com

Empire Zoysia Information

www.sodsolutions.com

Florida Yards & Neighborhoods-The Villages Extension Office

Tel: (352) 753-0124

<http://sumter.ifas.ufl.edu>

Florida Friendly Landscaping Principles

<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>

Florida Friendly Landscaping

www.floridayards.org

How much is enough?

Always wondered if your water bill and water consumption could be less, but not sure what it should drop to? Based on guidelines from SWFWMD and the University of Florida, a local engineering firm produced guidelines for average monthly consumption based on the type of home you have. However, with active management, your water usage and bill could be significantly less.



If you live north of C.R. 466 with a single water meter

Your home is:	Your water usage should average this per month:
Patio style	6,500 gallons
Courtyard style	7,000 gallons
Ranch style	10,800 gallons
Designer style	10,700 gallons
Premier style	21,200 gallons



If you live south of C.R. 466 with an outdoor-use meter and indoor-use meter

Your home is:	Your water usage should average this per month:	
	Outdoor	Indoor
Patio style	3,000 gallons	+ 3,700 gallons*
Courtyard style	3,500 gallons	+ 3,700 gallons*
Ranch style	7,300 gallons	+ 3,700 gallons*
Designer style	7,200 gallons	+ 3,700 gallons*
Premier style	17,700 gallons	+ 3,700 gallons*

* 3,700 gallons monthly average represents indoor usage for a household with two occupants, regardless of home size.



Graphic by Mike Orton / Daily Sun

Method for determining how much is enough for your home

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{People in Home} \times 60 \text{ gpd} \times 30 \text{ days} & = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{SF Irrigated Area} \times 28.3 \text{ in/year} \times .05194 \text{ (conversion factor)} & = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ & \text{Monthly Total} & = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \end{array}$$

Example

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \underline{4} & \text{People in Home} \times 60 \text{ gpd} \times 30 \text{ days} & = \underline{7,200} \\ \underline{5000} & \text{SF Irrigated Area} \times 28.3 \text{ in/year} \times .05194 \text{ (conversion factor)} & = \underline{7,400} \\ & \text{Monthly Total} & = \underline{14,600} \end{array}$$