

Code of Good Practices for Water Reuse in Florida

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Water Reuse Committee, Florida Water Environment Association

Those who embrace the *Code of Good Practices for Water Reuse in Florida* commit to “do the right thing” by upholding the following 16 principles of conduct related to protection of public health and environmental quality, management of the reuse system, and public awareness:

Protection of Public Health and Environmental Quality

Public Health Significance – To recognize that distribution of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes offers potential for public contact and that such contact has significance related to the public health.

Compliance – To comply with all applicable state, federal, and local requirements for water reclamation, storage, transmission, distribution, and reuse of reclaimed water.

Product – To provide reclaimed water that meets state treatment and disinfection requirements and that is safe and acceptable for the intended uses when delivered to the end users.

Quality Monitoring and Process Control – To continuously monitor the reclaimed water being produced and rigorously enforce the approved operating protocol such that only high-quality reclaimed water is delivered to the end users.

Effective Filtration – To optimize performance of the filtration process in order to maximize the effectiveness of the disinfection process in the inactivation of viruses and to effectively remove protozoan pathogens.

Cross-Connection Control – To ensure that effective cross-connection control programs are rigorously enforced in areas served with reclaimed water.

Inspections – To provide thorough, routine inspections of reclaimed water facilities, including facilities located on the property of end users, to ensure that reclaimed water is used in accordance with state and local requirements and that cross-connections do not occur.

Reuse System Management

Water Supply Philosophy – To adopt a “water supply” philosophy oriented towards reliable delivery of a high-quality reclaimed water product to the end users.

Conservation – To recognize that reclaimed water is a valuable water resource, which should be used efficiently and effectively to promote conservation of the resource.

Partnerships – To enter into partnerships with the Department of Environmental Protection, the end users, the public, the drinking water utility, other local and regional agencies, the water management district, and the county health department to follow and promote these practices.

Communications – To provide effective and open communication with the public, end users, the drinking water utility, other local and regional agencies, the Department of Environmental Protection, the water management district, and the county health department.

Contingency Plans – To develop response plans for unanticipated events, such as inclement weather, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, drought, supply shortfalls, equipment failure, and power disruptions.

Preventative Maintenance – To prepare and implement a plan for preventative maintenance for equipment and facilities to treat wastewater and to store, convey, and distribute reclaimed water.

Continual Improvement – To continually improve all aspects of water reclamation and reuse.

Public Awareness

Public Notification – To provide effective signage advising the public about the use of reclaimed water and to provide effective written notification to end users of reclaimed water about the origin of, the nature of, and proper use of reclaimed water.

Education – To educate the public, children, and other agencies about the need for water conservation and reuse, reuse activities in the state and local area, and environmentally sound wastewater management and water reuse practices.