

## Reclaimed Water Flowing Through New Pipeline in South Hillsborough County

A new reclaimed water pipeline along Lithia-Pinecrest Road will allow Water Resource Services to add another 3,000 customers who live in FishHawk Ranch and surrounding communities.

Reclaimed water is flowing through 12,500 feet of new, 24-inch pipeline installed along Lithia-Pinecrest Road, between Bloomingdale Avenue and a connection just before the Alafia River. The pipeline is part of a three-phase project funded in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Alafia River Basin Board. In addition to expanding the system, the new pipeline will alleviate pressure problems and intermittent service interruptions that occurred in this area during our dry spring season.



Reclaimed water is highly treated wastewater primarily used for irrigating lawns and landscaping. WRS currently provides about 16.5 million gallons of reclaimed water a day to more than 13,000 customers.

Because of the number of other utilities and pipelines located in the construction path, about half of the new pipeline had to



be installed beneath - rather than alongside - Lithia-Pinecrest Road. To make it easier on motorists and to avoid tearing up the road, these sections of pipeline were installed in a process called horizontal directional drilling - where the ground is hollowed out, the segments of pipeline joined together, then pulled through the earthen tube. This is the first time the county has installed this amount and size of pipeline through such a process.

## Visit HEAT to Find Out Evacuation Levels, Shelter Locations, More

We're still in the midst of hurricane season, and it's not too late to be preparing or updating your hurricane preparedness plans. Finding out an evacuation level, surrounding emergency shelters, nearby fire stations and more is just a few keystrokes away. Residents can count on Hillsborough County's Hurricane Evacuation Assessment Tool (HEAT) to obtain the information they need to better tailor their hurricane preparation plans according to where they live.

With the additional use of the Evacuation Routing program, residents are able to quickly print

maps, with driving instructions, to one of these facilities:

- Check an evacuation level and surrounding shelters
- Check for nearby fire stations
- Check for nearby hospitals
- Interactive evacuation level map

To access HEAT, residents should visit [www.hillsboroughcounty.org](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org), and find the HEAT button located on the right-hand side.

## Fun Facts About Water

It takes 2 gallons of water to brush your teeth, 2 to 7 gallons to flush a toilet, and 25 to 50 gallons to take a shower.



People need about 2.5 quarts of water a day, consumed through drinking and food, to maintain good health.

Water serves as nature's thermometer, helping to regulate the earth's temperature.

It takes 12 to 20 gallons of water to run a dishwasher for one cycle.



About 1,400 gallons of water are used to produce a meal of a quarter-pound hamburger, an order of fries and a soft drink.

## Hillsborough County Installs Emergency Fuel Tanks



A severe hurricane or disaster can greatly impact one of Hillsborough County's most basic and needed resources - fuel. That's why

Hillsborough County has installed an additional four above-ground fuel storage tanks, each holding 10,000 gallons of fuel. If the Port of Tampa - the area's supplier - shuts down due to hurricane damage, these tanks will be able to supply critical Hillsborough County government vehicles, such as firetrucks, with about 10 additional days worth of fuel for its disaster recovery operations. They are located at the Hillsborough County Fleet Management site in Gibsonton - an area not affected by storm surge.

The \$570,000 project also allows direct fueling into a tanker truck.

## Computer Help Is Just A Click Away

The John F. Germany Public Library in downtown Tampa is offering computer classes on Mondays from 10 - 11 a.m. and on Tuesdays from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Classes include training on many Microsoft Office products such as Excel, Publisher, PowerPoint and Access.



All programs are free. Sign-up is on a first-come, first-serve basis, seating is limited to eight people. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please visit [hcplc.org](http://hcplc.org); select Happenings and Events; Program Category/Technology or call 301-7197.

## NEWS BRIEFS... Free Online Business Development Classes

The Hillsborough County Small Business Information Center has partnered with SmallBizU to offer a variety of free, online classes. Each course is complete with animated slides, voice-over narration, PowerPoint presentations, worksheets, toolsets and access to a comprehensive knowledgebase. These classes may be used toward Disadvantaged Minority/Disadvantaged Business Enterprise & Small Business Enterprise re-certification hours.

SmallBiz U is an online university with branded content that is delivered through chambers of commerce, economic development organizations, and other business development organizations throughout the United States. For a listing of these courses, visit [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/sbic/](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/sbic/).

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## Hillsborough County Communicator

Published every month by the Communications Department to inform residents about the programs, services and activities of their County government.

For more information, call the Hillsborough Information Line at 272-5900, or visit the county's website at: [www.hillsboroughcounty.org](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org)

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# COMMUNICATOR

Keeping You Informed About County Government  
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## Brushing Up On the Benefits Of Fluoride

From time to time, customers call Water Resource Services to ask if their drinking water contains fluoride. The answer is yes - Hillsborough County began adding fluoride to its water supply in 1994.

Clinical data shows fluoride has substantial benefits in preventing tooth decay. The recommended optimum range of fluoride concentration for drinking water is 0.7-1.2 mg/liter or parts per million (ppm). WRS supplies 0.8 ppm of fluoride in its drinking water, which is adequate for healthy teeth and gums.

More than 65 major health organizations have endorsed water fluoridation, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Dental Association, the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the National Cancer Institute, and the World Health Organization.

Sources of water that may not contain adequate amounts of fluoride are private wells, bottled water and some filtered water. If you have a filtration system for your water, check with the manufacturer that it does not filter out the fluoride in your water. In addition, some infant formulas do not contain adequate fluoride concentrations.



### In This Issue...

- Lithia Reclaimed Pipeline Finished
- Emergency Fuel Tanks Up and Pumping
- Free Online Business Classes