

# District Notes & News



Established 1923

June/July 2008

## SUPERVISORS

Thomas H. Powell

*President*

Tom Rice

*Vice-President*

David Beane

Robert Berman

Michael Danchuk

## STAFF

Gale English

*General Manager*

Michael Dillon

*Operations Superintendent*

Greta Rayman

*Office Administrator*

## DISTRICT OFFICE

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### Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday

*The Board of Supervisors meets  
the third Thursday of each  
month at the Jupiter High  
School Media Center  
at 7:30 p.m.*

*Contact the District Office  
for an agenda.*



## 17TH ANNUAL LANDOWNERS FAMILY DAY ENJOYED BY OVER 650 RESIDENTS

South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD) celebrated their 17th annual Landowners Family Day at the District Work Center on Saturday, March 15. Over 650 residents from Jupiter Farms, Palm Beach Country Estates, and Egret Landing enjoyed a barbecue lunch, live music, and displays by local and state community and service organizations.

District Supervisors Tom Powell, Tom Rice, Dave Beane, and Bob Berman, as well as District General Manager Gale English and his staff, were on hand to welcome landowners to the event.

Residents feasted on tasty barbecue chicken, pulled pork, hot dogs, baked beans, and potato salad prepared and served by Park Avenue BBQ & Grille, which now has a restaurant in Jupiter Farms. Entertainment was provided by a bluegrass band, The Untold Riches.

This year's event drew a large number of families. For the children, Cock-A-Doodle-Do featured their popular petting zoo and a clown who provided face painting for the kids. They also had guided pony rides for the children.

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# FAMILY DAY FUN

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A number of exhibitors offered visitors information on local and state organizations, governmental agencies, local services, and fire safety and prevention, with free give-a-ways that included plants, pens and pencils, hats, pins, coloring books, and more.

Exhibitors this year included Jupiter Farms Residents and the Jupiter Farmer, Florida Blood Centers, Community Con-

nection, Inc., Florida Division of Forestry, the Drowning Prevention Coalition of Palm Beach County, Jupiter Farms Citizens on Patrol, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections, the Safety Council of Palm Beach County, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County, Jupiter Farms Environmental Council, and Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resource Management.

Displays included forest fire-fighting equipment, fire and rescue equipment, and the Sheriff's Office all-terrain vehicle for off-road policing.

If you haven't been to a Landowners Family Day yet, you're missing out on all the family fun. The event is free and open to all landowners in the District. It is a great way to meet your neighbors, discuss concerns with your Supervisors, and meet the District staff! See you next year!



# PALM BEACH COUNTRY ESTATES POTABLE WATER UPDATE

Phases 1 and 2 of the Palm Beach Country Estates potable water project have been released by the Palm Beach County Health Department (PBCHD) to be placed into service. Hookup and financing information has been sent out to residents in these areas and residents are hooking up.

Phase 3A also has recently been certified and placed into service. However, a new requirement issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), had delayed the hookup and financing information mailing until South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD) could investigate the issue.

The Board of Supervisors was concerned that a recent change by FDEP regarding backflow prevention for residential properties would be an economic burden for the residents of Palm Beach Country Estates and is unnecessary. The FDEP and the PBCHD were requiring that all homes serviced by a water utility that also have an auxiliary water source present on the property, such as a well for irrigation (which applies to the properties in Palm Beach Country Estates) have an approved backflow prevention device installed.

At an emergency meeting held on June 16, the Board discussed the issue with District staff and David Brown and Dave Rotar of the Town of Jupiter, which is supplying the water. In addition, a representative from Palm Beach County Utilities was present to discuss the county's response to the FDEP's new requirement. (Note: On June 17, the County Commissioners asked their lobbyists to help fight the proposed rule.)

District staff has been investigating the regulation and whether it may be reversed or revised in the near future. The FDEP is planning workshops regarding the issue, and there is the possibility that this requirement might change.

At this time, it appears that the FDEP has directed the PBCHD to accept utility systems for certification without a uniform requirement for installing backflow prevention devices at residential hookups, provided the system is in compliance with the utility's rules and policies. The Town of Jupiter currently does not require a backflow prevention device for a residential hookup if the well is disconnected from the residence and the well is only used to supply an irrigation system (which would be the case in Palm Beach Country Estates).

SIRWCD expects confirmation of the status of this issue shortly and the project should proceed as planned. Residential owners intending to hook up to the new system should check the District's website for updated information.

It is possible that residents may be required to install this device in the future, unless the rule is changed, and the District will continue to work on this issue.

Meanwhile, completion of the potable water project continues with the contractor now flushing the lines and conducting bacteriological sampling for Phase 3B. When testing is complete, the certification package will go to the Town of Jupiter and then to the Palm Beach County Health Department in July. Upon certification, the final phase will be released into service.

Please check [www.sirwcd.org](http://www.sirwcd.org) for further updates on this issue.

## New Yard Waste Collection Guidelines

New guidelines for solid waste and recycling will take effect beginning Oct. 1, 2008 for unincorporated Palm Beach County. The transition period for the change is from June 1 through Sept. 30.

Yard waste will be collected once per week and is limited to 6 cubic yards (equal to the size of three standard refrigerators).

It must be separated from all other household waste. Yard waste includes grass clippings, shrub trimmings, palm fronds and tree limbs. Tree limbs must be cut to six feet or less in length and stacked neatly at the curb, with no single limb weighing more than 50 pounds. Loose yard waste such as grass and leaves must be bagged or placed in standard 32-50 gallon cans, with each container weighing no more than 50 pounds. Land clearing debris will not be picked up curbside.

Visit [www.swa.org](http://www.swa.org) for more information on residential waste collection.

### Culvert Replacement Under Jupiter Farms Road Scheduled for July

SIRWCD has received additional funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service for replacing existing culverts under Jupiter Farms Road and Canal 2. Design and construction plans are under review with Palm Beach County Road and Bridge and Palm Beach County Engineering. It is estimated that construction will begin sometime in July and there will be road closures associated with the project. Notices about the closures and detours will be posted for Jupiter Farms residents.

## 2008 Landowner-Initiated Roadway Improvements

The District has received petitions for the application of open-graded emulsified mix (OGEM) to 10 roadways in Jupiter Farms, comprising approximately 3.8 miles. The following petitions have been verified as meeting the 25% minimum requirement:

- 182nd Road N between 120th Terrace N and 125th Avenue N
- 155th Place N between 133rd Terrace N and East Perimeter Canal (Canal 13)
- 187th Place N between 126th Terrace N and 129th Terrace N
- 129th Terrace N between 186th Court N and 187th Place N
- 164th Court N between Alexander Run and Mellen Lane
- 179th Court N between Alexander Run and Mellen Lane
- 175th Road N between Alexander Run and Mellen Lane
- 169th Court N between Alexander Run and Mellen Lane
- 128th Trail N between 169th Court N and 165th Road N
- 158th Stree N between 133rd Terrace N and East Perimeter Canal (Canal 13)

The Board of Supervisors has set a cut-off date of July 31 for any additional petitions to be included in this capital improvement project.



Application of OGEM to voter-approved roadways in Jupiter Farms in 2007



15600 Jupiter Farms Road  
Jupiter, FL 33478

PSRST STD  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
WEST PALM BCH FL  
PERMIT # 611

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- *The 2008 Roadway Improvement Project*
- *And more...*

Visit [www.sirwcd.org](http://www.sirwcd.org)  
for news updates!

## Hurricane Season is Here!

District personnel have been trained in hurricane response procedures. Our staff was quick to assist the landowners and county after the 2004-2005 storms.

Get prepared now! Remove dead tree branches as soon as possible, though this should not be done just prior to a storm warning, as they won't be picked up. Toys, tools, and garden decorations should be brought inside or stored in a sturdy shed that has been secured against high winds. Patio furniture should be brought inside.

Stock up on non-perishable food and water, batteries, flashlights and lanterns, first aid kits, prescription medications, gas for generators, propane for grills, tarps, bug repellent, and cash. Secure your windows and doors with some type of protection if a hurricane warning is issued.

After a hurricane, there will be downed trees and power lines, high water levels and possible flooding. Avoid walking in high water due to bacteria and pollutants that may be present or downed power lines that may become active. Stay put until the all clear is given that it is safe to move about.

## Florida Stormwater Education Corner Protecting Florida's Water

As of April 18, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has modified emergency water restrictions across most of the agency's 16-county region, transitioning from one-day-week landscape irrigation restrictions to two-day-a-week watering.

While the water situation has improved in some areas, the SFWMD is currently researching mandatory year-round landscape irrigation restrictions for the future and is looking for long-term solutions.

As a result, the management of stormwater has increased in importance. States, cities, and other governing agencies are required to limit stormwater runoff impacts under the regulations of the EPA's National Pollutant Discharge System (NPDES) program. While this is particularly important in areas with storm sewers, management of stormwater runoff also is a major component of initiatives such as Low Impact Development (LID) and Smart Growth by the EPA, where the infiltration of stormwater runoff back into the earth is a major focus.

LID advocates doing away with the "curb and gutter" development approach in favor of swales, vegetated areas and reduced impervious cover.

With impervious surfaces covering large areas of the country, many billions of gallons of rainwater are simply wasted, running off into lakes, rivers and the ocean without being treated for pollutants, which is harmful to the environment.

Being "green" is becoming a popular thing to do and you can do your part to conserve water. Instead of large areas of turfgrass, use native, drought-tolerant trees and plants that require less water and can withstand dry spells. They also are better at infiltrating water back into the earth to recharge groundwater. Rain gardens, for example, can infiltrate about 30% more water into the ground than turfgrass.

Cisterns and rain barrels also can be used to capture rainwater for reuse in your landscape. And a wide variety of attractive options now exist for creating permeable driveways or walkways that will infiltrate water instead of creating runoff.