

District Notes & News



South Indian River
Water Control District™

Established 1923

May 2016

SUPERVISORS

Stephen Hinkle
President

Michael Ryan
Vice-President

Michael Danchuk

John Meyer

Tom Powell

STAFF

Michael A. Dillon
Manager of Operations

Holly Rigsby
Office Administrator

DISTRICT OFFICE

15600 Jupiter Farms Road
Jupiter, FL 33478
(561) 747-0550

www.sirwcd.org
sirwcd@sirwcd.org

Office Hours:

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

*The Board of Supervisors
meets the third Thursday
of each month at
Jupiter High School
at 7:00 p.m.
Contact the District Office
for an agenda.*

18th Plan of Improvements Prepayment Extended to May 31

The 18th Plan of Improvements was approved by the Board of Supervisors at their October 15, 2015 Board Meeting. It is comprised of the following roadways in Palm Beach Country Estates that voted in favor of the application of asphalt:

- 64th Way N between 146th Road N and 149th Place N
- 67th Trail N between 146th Road N and 149th Place N
- 68th Drive N between 146th Road N and 149th Place N
- 74th Avenue N between 155th Place N and 159th Court N
- 75th Way N between 150th Court N and 154th Court N
- 77th Trail N between 150th Court N and 154th Court N
- 78th Drive N between 155th Place N and 159th Court North
- 81st Terrace N between 150th Court N and 154th Court N
- 149th Place between 69th Drive N and 64th Way N
- 163rd Court N between 75th Avenue N and 79th Terrace N
- 163rd Court N between 75th Avenue N and East End

District Engineer Amy Eason determined the estimated cost for the project to be \$1.4 million or approximately \$385,000 per mile. The Board of Supervisors approved the loan financing secured by District Treasurer Charles Haas for the 18th Plan of Improvements at their March meeting. The cost to landowners within the benefitted areas is estimated to be \$1,150 for 10 years, which is two years less than previously estimated, due to favorable financing terms. **Landowners who would prefer to pay a one-time, up-front cost of \$8,813 in lieu of financing must contact the District office by May 31, 2016.** The project is in the final design stages and is estimated to go out to bid shortly, with awarding of the contract in June and an estimated construction start in July. This information is subject to change. Please check the website for the latest information.

Palm Beach Country Estates Potable Water Update

The District recently sent out a letter to the landowners in Palm Beach Country Estates who have not connected to the potable water system in regards to a revision in the number of remaining available reservations. An amendment to the District's agreement with the Town of Jupiter approved by the Board of Supervisors in October 2015 revised the number of remaining reservations as follows: June 21, 2015-June 20, 2016 - 300 reservations; June 21, 2016-June 20, 2017 - 160 reservations; and June 21, 2017-June 20, 2018 - 80 reservations.

As the number of available reservations will decrease each year, any landowners who are planning to hook up to the potable water system should do so in a timely manner to ensure receiving the District's discounted connection rates. After June of 2018, the rates for hooking up to the system will be the Town of Jupiter's prevailing rates, which are substantially higher than the District's negotiated rates.

As of April 29, 2016, there have been 1,103 connections to the potable water system and the number of remaining available connections is currently 265. For more information, contact the District office or visit the District's website at www.sirwcd.org for the latest update on the number of remaining available connections.

25th Annual Landowners Family Day



Fun for the Family at the Annual Landowners Day! Saturday, March 12, 2016

Nearly 800 guests enjoyed McCrays famous BBQ, visiting our community and government organization booths, and entertainment by the Tom Jackson Band and Jupiter Farms Community Band!
Kids of all ages loved the face painting, bounce house, pony rides and petting zoo provided by Cock-A-Doodle-Do.
If you haven't been to a Landowner's Day yet, please put us on your calendar for next year!

Manager of Operations Michael Dillon Presented with Award for 20 Years Service to the District



The South Indian River Water Control District Board of Supervisors President, Stephen Hinkle, presented Manager of Operations Michael Dillon with a crystal award for 20 years service to the District at the 25th Annual Landowners Family Day held on March 12 at the District's Work Center.

Mr. Dillon was hired as a level-two equipment operator on April 8, 1996. He was trained by Richard (Skip) Stuart to be the mechanic/shop supervisor and took over the position full time in 2000, when Mr. Stuart left the District. At the same time, Mr. Dillon began management courses with the Florida Institute of Government through Palm Beach Community College, which he completed in 2003. Three years later, Mr. Dillon advanced to Operations Superintendent and worked closely with former District Manager Gale English on the day-to-day operations of the District. He was instrumental in establishing the District's Safety Program and headed the program from 1998-2011.

Mr. Dillon also played a key role in organizing information needed to secure grants from FEMA and the National Resources Conservation Service for repair work done throughout the District due to damage from the 2004-2005 hurricanes. The state and federal grants received for restoration work associated with the three hurricanes that impacted the District totaled approximately \$3.6 million.

In March of 2011, after Mr. English's passing, Mr. Dillon was named Manager of Operations for the District, a position he has held for the last five years.

"We are most fortunate to have had the high level of expertise and dedication demonstrated by Mr. Dillon during his 20-year tenure with the District," said Mr. Hinkle. "With his responsiveness to the concerns and issues of the landowners, as well as his extensive knowledge of operations and maintenance of roads and water control, he has proven to be a great asset to the Board of Supervisors and the District."

District Receives Insurance Reimbursement Check



Office Administrator Holly Rigsby and Superintendent Greg Gell accept a reimbursement check from Christopher Kittleson of Public Risk Underwriters of Florida, representing Preferred Governmental Insurance

The South Indian River Water Control District was awarded a reimbursement check for \$403.84 on April 26 by Christopher Kittleson of Public Risk Underwriters of Florida, representing the District's insurer, Preferred Governmental Insurance Trust, for training and safety initiatives undertaken from October 2015 to March 2016. Mr. Kittleson congratulated the District for continuing to utilize the Preferred Training Incentive Program for Safety, which provides an economic benefit to its members and assists them in protecting personnel and property with financial incentives for safety training and safety equipment procurement. The program provides matching incentives of up to \$5000.00 per year for safety-related signage, driver training, continuing education classes, and more.

District personnel continue to further their education and certifications with advanced training and programs to better serve the landowners and ensure compliance with mandated safety requirements. They recently attended a number of seminars offered by the Safety Council of Palm Beach County: CJ Wilbur, George McGarry and Arie Raz attended the "Back Talk" seminar on prevention of back injuries in the workplace; Michael Dillon and Holly Rigsby attended the "Identity Theft and Fraud" seminar to help recognize and prevent identity theft and fraud; and all employees participated in the "Monitoring Prescription Drug Use in the Workplace" seminar, which educates employees on the risks of prescription drug abuse and how to implement work policies that address the issue.

For the 19th consecutive year, SIRWCD has received awards from the Safety Council of Palm Beach County. The awards of excellence for vehicle and worker safety were presented to SIRWCD staff at the annual awards luncheon held on March 10 at the Embassy Suites in West Palm Beach. Manager of Operations Michael Dillon was also called upon to emcee the event and hand out the awards when the original host was unable to attend. "Our personnel here at the District are among some of the finest in the state and we are proud of their accomplishments and excellent safety record," said Mr. Dillon.





South Indian River Water Control District™

15600 Jupiter Farms Road
Jupiter, FL 33478

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Visit www.sirwcd.org
for news updates!

Florida Stormwater Education Corner Protecting Florida's Water

After a very rainy "dry season" courtesy of El Nino, we are now entering our "rainy season," as well as our "hurricane season," when rainfall totals are expected to increase. The 2016 hurricane season begins on May 1 and ends on November 30. This means more stormwater is to be expected in the District's roadside swales and landowner yards. The District's swale system is designed to store stormwater and allow it to infiltrate into the existing soils below. This process filters out stormwater pollutants and helps recharge groundwater.

The time to prepare for this summer's storms is now, well in advance of any watches or warnings. Please make sure your trees and landscaping are trimmed and you abide by the guidelines set by the Solid Waste Authority for disposing of this material. Do not put out yard waste if a storm watch or warning has been issued. Once a watch or warning is issued for a hurricane, please pick up and store any unsecured items around your property such as lawn furniture, maintenance equipment, toys, potted plants, and so forth. These can become missiles in high winds and cause damage to surrounding property. These items could also end up in the District's canal system, thereby

impeding drainage and exacerbating flooding. In addition, please inspect your swale and driveway culvert to ensure they are unobstructed by plants or debris to help manage stormwater runoff. Notify the District office if you see anything that may impact our drainage system in our swales and canals. For more hurricane preparation tips and guidance, please visit our website at www.sirwcd.org.

South Indian River Water Control District continues to respond to landowners concerns regarding drainage issues, replace drainage culverts, clear drainage outfalls, recontour drainage swales, and inspect and service flood control structures throughout our service area to help ensure our stormwater management system is functioning properly.

ILLICIT DISCHARGE

If landowners witness anyone dumping materials into the District swales, canal system, or Palm Beach County catch basins, please call the District Office at 747-0550.