



Water Management Districts Provide Cost-Share Funding to Support Water Conservation Projects

Water conservation plays a key role in reducing water use and meeting future demands, which is why Florida places an extra emphasis on conservation during Water Conservation Month each April. To help make water conservation projects possible, the St. Johns and Southwest Florida water management districts offer cost-share funding opportunities for a variety of water users in the Central Florida Water Initiative planning area and beyond.

The **St. Johns River Water Management District** provides funding through the water conservation rebate program. The District encourages local governments, utilities and homeowners associations (HOAs) within their 18-county region to pursue this opportunity to receive reimbursements of up to \$10,000 for water conservation projects for non-agricultural use. Approved projects are eligible for cost-share rebates covering up to 50% of actual costs, subject to a maximum limit per item or service. Reimbursement is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Unlike traditional programs that may take up to 18 months to process payments, this program offers monthly reimbursements, as long as funds remain available.

Eligible outdoor water-saving items and services, which have been proven to significantly impact water conservation, include:

- Florida Water StarSM certification for new residential construction
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) WaterSense[®]-labeled smart irrigation controllers
- Irrigation conversions (high-volume spray to a high-efficiency rotary nozzle or micro-irrigation in landscape beds)
- Irrigation evaluations and timer modification
- Landscape soil amendments (for new residential construction)
- H2OSAV subscription

For more details, including program guidelines, application instructions and current fund availability, visit the [water conservation rebate program webpage](#).

The **Southwest Florida Water Management District** provides funding through the Water Incentives Supporting Efficiency (WISE) program. WISE is a cost-share program aimed to financially incentivize water conservation projects with



nonagricultural water users within the District's 16-county region. This includes utilities, HOAs, golf courses, schools, hotels, apartment complexes, manufacturers and other commercial users. At a cost share of up to 50%, applicants are eligible to receive up to \$20,000 per project. Applications are normally reviewed in three months and are accepted year-round on a first-come, first-served basis.

Possible WISE project components include, but are not limited to:

- Toilet, showerhead and plumbing fixture replacements
- WaterSense® labeled irrigation controllers
- Irrigation system modifications
- Weather stations for irrigation control
- Cooling tower modifications and pretreatment systems
- High-efficiency commercial/industrial processing equipment
- Rebates for utility led efforts

Additional projects not listed may be eligible for funding. Applicants are encouraged to contact District staff to discuss project ideas. For more information, visit WaterMatters.org/WISE or contact Josh Madden at (352) 269-5568 or Josh.Madden@WaterMatters.org.