St. Lucie West Services District

IRRIGATION

The District has three irrigation pump stations within St. Lucie West and a fourth pump station will be online in 2012. The current three irrigation pump stations along with the new station are more than adequate to accommodate all of the District’s needs for optimum pressure.

The District is permitted through South Florida Water Management for the use of three main sources of water for irrigation:

- Reuse water from the wastewater treatment plant, which equates to 30% of the total amount needed.
- Storm water retention ponds, which is 60% of the total amount needed.
- Surficial Wells, which is 10% of the total amount needed.
- The Floridian Aquifer is included as an emergency irrigation source in the District’s water use permit but due to water quality issues and production costs, the District does not intend to utilize this source on a normal basis.

As reflected above, the largest supplier for irrigation water is the storm water retention ponds. When the District enters into the dry season or experiences a prolonged period without rain, the amount of days customers receive irrigation water can be cut from two days per week down to one day a week as a conservation measure.

The District’s responsibilities for the irrigation system stop at the point of entry into each of the Subdivisions or Commercial Association. After that, it becomes the responsibility of your H.O.A. Some H.O.A.’s have elected to take on the responsibility of the entire irrigation system within their community including individual Homeowner’s systems. (Be sure to check with your H.O.A. to understand your responsibilities.)

Per the District tariff that governs the warnings and penalties set forth in Section # 35 a-g Specific Authority: 120.54.,190.011(5), F.S Law Implemented 120.54, F.S., 190.011(5), F.S., account holders have the final responsibility for all warnings and penalties associated with their specific address. Penalty charges assessed in accordance with this section shall be billed and collected in the same manner as other utility fees and charges provided for in the operating policies.

Below are some of the most common examples why the customer may have low pressure or no pressure at all:

- District may be experiencing problems with pump stations; H.O.A.’s notified when this occurs.
- District has received more than one inch of rain in which pump stations are shut off; H.O.A.’s notified when this occurs.
- Subdivision or an individual street is shut down due to a line break; H.O.A.’s notified when this occurs.
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- Homeowner’s time clock is not working properly; customer responsibility.
- Electric solenoid valve is not working correctly; customer responsibility.
- Filter is partially or completely clogged; customer responsibility.
- Closed hand valve or non working hand valve in system; customer responsibility.
- Obstruction in customer’s irrigation line or clogged irrigation heads; customer responsibility.
- Broken customer irrigation lines or irrigation heads; customer responsibility.