

Reuse Water End User Application

Hall County's Reclaimed Water System is currently available in select areas of the County. This packet details the various benefits of reclaimed water and the proper requirements for installation and connection to the system. Hall County intends to make this resource available to as many residents as supply, demand and financial resources will allow.

FACTS ABOUT RECLAIMED WATER SERVICE

What is reuse water?

Reuse water, sometimes called reclaimed water, recycled water, or non-potable water, is wastewater effluent that has been highly treated and filtered so that it can be re-used to offset potable water demands.

What are the benefits to using reuse water?

Reuse water plays an important role in the stewardship of Georgia's water resources. Rapid growth and development in Hall County has put extreme demands on our sources of high quality water. In an effort to conserve our water, Hall County has developed a state-of-the-art reuse water system where treated waste water can be "re-used" for beneficial purposes.

Why should you use reuse water?

- Reuse water usage is not restricted during drought periods.
- Reuse water costs less to use than potable water
- Reuse water usage reduces the demand on potable and groundwater sources.
- Reuse water usage delays the need to develop new raw water supply sources
- Reuse water usage delays the need for new water and wastewater treatment facilities
- Reuse water eliminates the expense of wells (i.e. no need for drilling or pump costs).
- Reuse water has a low iron content which will not stain walkways and buildings. Also, unlike wells, it does not have an odor.

Is reuse water safe?

Yes. Reuse water cannot be distributed for public use unless it meets strict treatment requirements which entail continuous monitoring, sampling and analysis. For this reason the supply of reuse water may be interrupted for short periods, without warning, if the quality of the water drops below these standards.

What uses of reuse water are prohibited?

Even though reclaimed water has been treated, disinfected and is safe for incidental human contact, it is not "drinking water" and has not been approved for human consumption or

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recreational human contact. The use of reclaimed water to fill swimming pools, hot tubs, spas, wading pools as well as to irrigate edible crops that will not be peeled or skinned, prior to consumption is therefore prohibited. Hydraulic systems may not be connected to the reclaimed water system. **Any end user whose reclaimed water service connection violates the intended use described on their End User Application shall be subject to immediate discontinuance of reclaimed water service.**

Where are reuse water systems in operation?

- Gwinnett County currently provides reuse water for irrigation at the Mall of Georgia, Pinckneyville Park, Bunten Park and Bear's Best Golf Course in Suwanee.
- Fulton County currently utilizes reuse water to irrigate surrounding golf courses, churches, residential developments, and area businesses.
- Forsyth County currently provides reuse water for irrigation to four schools, two county parks, a golf course, and The Avenues shopping center. Several local developments within Forsyth County currently use reuse water to irrigate golf courses and community landscaping.
- Many cities throughout Florida, Arizona, Nevada and California have used reuse water for irrigation for decades.

RULES FOR REUSE WATER DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICE CONNECTIONS

The use of reclaimed water is made available and is distributed to select areas in compliance with the “Guidelines for Water Reclamation and Urban Water Reuse” issued by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Dated February 20, 2002. The following rules for distribution were derived from those guidelines.

1. Connections to the reuse water main may occur only after the end user has completed and signed the Reuse Water End User Application and had their participation in the public information program documented by the County.
2. Operation and maintenance of the reclaimed water system including valves, outlets, couplers, and sprinkler heads shall be performed by personnel whose participation in the Reuse Water Public Information Program has been documented.
3. The end users of reuse water shall operate and maintain their privately owned reuse water systems and other reclaimed water piping systems in accordance with the intended use as described in the end user agreement. Failure to comply could result in the discontinuation of reclaimed water service, a fine or other penalties.
4. There shall be no physical connection between the reclaimed water system and any other water supply. An isolation valve does NOT constitute a separation.
5. Reclaimed water, used for irrigation, may only be connected to “in the ground” sprinkler systems or to a non-standard hose bib located within a lockable meter box only where specifically approved by the County in the End User Agreement. No above ground system will be approved on residential sites.
6. All piping and pipelines shall be color-coded Pantone Purple 522 using sunlight stable pigment.
7. All valves, hose bibs where allowed, and outlets shall be tagged and color-coded purple to differentiate reclaimed water from potable water. All reclaimed water valves and outlets shall be appropriately tagged or labeled “Do Not Drink” together with the equivalent standard international symbol to warn the public and employees that the water is not intended for drinking.
8. Hose bibs on non-residential sites may be allowed on a case by case basis in writing from Hall County Public Works and Utilities. Where hose bibs are present, non-standard hose connections shall be used to preclude the interchange of hoses with the potable water system. Hose bibs are prohibited from residential end user sites.
9. Hose bibs must be installed underground within a lockable meter box. Cam Lock connection assemblies in small sizes (1/2 to 3/4 - inch) with lockable meter boxes will be required on all hose connections designated for reuse water.

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10. Reclaimed water irrigation systems shall be designed, constructed and operated so as to minimize over spray onto impervious surfaces.
11. Runoff of reclaimed water into ditches or streams should be avoided.
12. Low trajectory nozzles, or other means to minimize aerosol formation shall be used within 100 feet of outdoor public eating, drinking and bathing facilities. Irrigation systems should be designed so that spray does not go outside of the established boundaries.
13. The end user shall not allow reclaimed water to be used to fill swimming pools, hot tubs, spas, wading pools or other recreational contact systems.
14. The end user shall not allow reclaimed water to be used for the consumption (human or animal), interconnecting with another water source, or sprinkling of edible crops (gardens).
15. The use of reclaimed water for agricultural irrigation of crops not intended for direct human consumption shall require the specific authorization by the Director of Hall County Public Works and Utilities and the Georgia EPD.
16. Reclaimed water shall not be used for any purpose other than irrigation unless specifically authorized by Hall County Public Works and Utilities within the user agreement.
17. The end user shall not allow reclaimed water to enter the dwelling unit(s).
18. Although of suitable quality, Hall County's reclaimed water system is not specifically designed to provide the level of reliability necessary for fire protection. The use of reclaimed water for this purpose shall require the specific authorization by Hall County Public Works and Utilities.
19. Tank trucks and other portable equipment that is used to distribute reclaimed water shall be clearly identified with reclaimed or non-potable water signs. The truck used to transport and distribute reclaimed water may not be used to transport potable water that is used for drinking water purposes.
20. Malfunctioning irrigation systems and line breaks shall be repaired immediately. Improper operation allowing runoff during irrigation may be grounds to shut off service to the end user.
21. Sites utilizing reuse water for irrigation such as golf courses, residential developments, parks and other public areas are required to post visible signs at all entrance locations as detailed on page 6.
22. Reclaimed water is a commodity offered for sale by Hall County Public Works and Utilities. Charges for reclaimed water service are normally collected as part of the water/sewer bill. Reclaimed water rates are set by the Hall County Board of Commissioners. The use of reclaimed water is not subject to water restrictions however following the Hall County water restrictions is desirable. Following

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those recommendations should help to prevent excessive irrigation, and ensure a sufficient supply for all reuse water end users.

HOW IS RECLAIMED WATER SERVICE OBTAINED?

Reclaimed water service is a new infrastructure system being developed by the County and is not yet available in most areas. In areas where there are reclaimed water distribution mains installed, 6 steps are required to obtain service:

1. Complete the Reuse Water End User Application for service and email or deliver to

Hall County Public Works and Utilities
300 Henry Ward Way
Suite 300
Gainesville, GA 30501
2. After completing the application the applicant must participate in the public information program about the Do's and Don't associated with being a reuse end user.
3. Connection fees may then be paid to the Hall County Public Works and Utilities office in cash or check made out to Hall County Public Works and Utilities.
4. Upon payment of the connection fees, the County will install a reuse water meter separate from the potable water meter.
5. Complete the connection of your existing private system to the County's point of connection.
6. When your connection is completed, call the Public Works and Utilities office at (770) 531-6800 to arrange for an inspection. Until this time, the County's valve at the point of connection will be locked "off".
7. You may obtain reuse water upon correction of any deficiencies found during the initial inspection, and upon passing a final inspection.

Entrance Sign

- Sites utilizing reuse water for irrigation such as golf courses, residential and commercial developments, parks and other public areas are required to post visible signs at all entrances and common areas to notify that they are irrigated by reuse water.
- At a minimum, signs shall display "Irrigated by Reuse Water" in 3" letters.
- Signs shall be minimum 12" X 24" and permanently installed with 4 X 4 wooden posts.

Sample Signs



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Reuse Water End User Application

Date _____

Type of Service Connection (Check all that apply):

Public Green Space: _____ Sports Fields: _____ Golf Course: _____ Residential: _____

Commercial: _____ Industrial: _____ Agricultural _____ Other (Specify): _____

Intended Use:

Irrigation: _____ Other (Specify): _____

Number of Units (if Residential): _____ Number of Acres: _____

NAME: _____

PROPERTY NAME (if applicable): _____

SERVICE ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: Home _____ Work _____

Have you read and do you understand the Reclaimed Water Information Packet? Yes _____ No _____

Do you currently have a permanent in-ground irrigation system? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, is this system supplied by POTABLE (County) or NONPOTABLE (Well) water?

Potable _____ Non-potable _____

If yes, does any part of the system enter the residence?

Yes _____ No _____

Are there any spigots/hose bibs on your current irrigation system? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have a well on your property? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, for what purpose is it used?

Potable _____ Irrigation _____

If yes, do you intend to maintain well for future use? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have a separate irrigation water meter? Yes _____ No _____

I, the property owner, have been given information and understand Hall County's policies and procedures for Reclaimed Water service and agree to restrict use of Reclaimed Water for the purpose(s) described. It is further agreed that Hall County shall have the right to enter the above premises to inspect the reclaimed water piping, fittings and appurtenances to include any device for cross-connection with another service or water source or any other reason that may be detrimental to the County's system. It is further agreed

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that each end user of Reclaimed Water shall not have any recourse against the County for the loss of Reclaimed Water supply due to main distribution system down times, or for damage to vegetation or any other damages occasioned by the use of the Reclaimed Water.

I hereby acknowledge and agree to the above.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

DEPARTMENT USE ONLY:

Connection Fee Paid: Cash _____ or Check No. _____ Amount: _____

Applicant's Participation in Public Information Session Documented Yes _____ No _____

Accepted: _____ Rejected: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____