Destin Water Users Reclaimed Water Customer Annual Report 2017

Per F.D.E.P. rule 62-610.468 We offer the annual report.

Origins of Reclaimed Water

Time to clear up the mystery. What is Reclaimed water? It is not well water, or ground water or storm water or water that comes out of a big hole in the ground that never runs dry. Reclaimed water is treated wastewater. So how do we do it? Let's find out. Reclaimed water starts as wastewater. It comes to the treatment plant located at 14 Industrial Park Lane through pipes that lead to our Equalization Basin pictured below.



Next phase is the actual treatment of the water via a biological system. The waste goes to a large aerated tank where bacteria break down to waste to simpler, more stable compounds.



Then off to clarification where the solid portion of the now stabilized wastes are allowed to settle on the bottom and the clear water flows over weirs around the top of the structure called a clarifier.



After clarification the water travels to a "Contact Chamber" where we add chlorine to dis-infect the water before it moves on to. . .



Our sand filter. This structure is filled with sand and anthracite coal which acts and a final filter removing smaller particulates and polishing the water.



Almost there, after filtering the water moves to a second contact chamber where it is chlorinated once more for a final disinfection.



Finally, after the trip through the contact chamber the now finished reuse water spills out to a trough which conveys the water to our pumping system and out to our reuse customers or to storage.



Nature and Characteristics of Reclaimed Water

Reclaimed water does have some nutrients in it but not much. Our latest testing shown the following numbers for our reclaimed water.

Nitrates = 5.0

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Phosphorus = 2.2
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Potassium = 12.9
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So if you saw our water on the shelf as fertilizer the numbers would read: 5.0 -2.2-12.9 Low grade fertilizer? Maybe, the trouble is that these numbers will move around almost daily so reclaimed water is basically that, water. Continue fertilizing and if your not sure check out you friendly garden center for advise.

Uses and non-Uses of Reclaimed Water

Reclaimed water has additional uses depending on their application. Industrial and commercial uses include fire suppression while construction sites can us it for soil compaction and dust control. Concrete mixing, car washing and certain decorative features are also possible uses.

Each use has to be done in accordance with DEP rules and will be judged on a case by case basis.

Other Considerations

Over watering is our biggest issue. Once grasses are established they need only about 2 inches per week to stay healthy. Instead of adding more water in hopes of a solution. Walk across your lawn and look for the following signs on the next page. Walk across your lawn and look back where you just stepped. Do you see footprints like in the picture below? Look close at the leaf blades as in the picture at the bottom of this page. Are they turning in on themselves? If yes than your lawn needs water but if not, then it doesn't.





The grass in the previous pictures needs to be irrigated but only an inch is necessary. This will brings back to life and cost little.

Over-watering however, is a bit different. It can cause root rot and fungus that require additional work and possibly a fungicide treatment.

So keep and eye on your lawn and remember more isn't always better when it comes to irrigating. Again, your friendly garden center will be your best

friend should problems pop up. Snap a picture and bring it in.

Points of Interest

DWU continues to refine it ASR system, (Aquifer Storage and Recovery".) This system allows for additional storage of reclaimed water to help us maintain supplies during more lean times of the year such as during the spring and fall.

If you have questions or comments please feel free to contact the reuse coordinator at any of the following:

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