

Reclaimed Water is a Valuable Resource

Reuse water is a safe and effective resource of non-potable use. Properly managed recycled water has limited health risk. To aid in the proper management of reuse water, the state of Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division has developed guidelines for the safe use of reclaimed water. These regulatory guidelines are in place to ensure that the public is protected from any health risk that might be associated with the use of recycled water.

To learn more about Georgia reuse water regulations visit:

www.gadnr.org



Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources

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RECLAIMED WATER

www.gwinnettcountry.com

Gwinnett County Reclaimed Water

What is Reclaimed Water?



Reclaimed water refers to the use of reuse water as a substitute for other water sources for the beneficial irrigation of areas that may be accessible to the public. This includes

areas such as golf courses, residential and commercial landscaping, parks, athletic fields, roadway medians, and landscape impoundments. Reclaimed water is domestic wastewater or a combination of domestic and industrial wastewater or a combination of domestic and industrial wastewater that has been treated to stringent effluent limitations such that the reclaimed water is suitable for use in areas of unrestricted public access.

Reclaimed water is virtually colorless and odorless, and is allowable for full-body human contact but not for direct human consumption. Highly treated reclaimed water that meets the requirements of federal, state and local guidelines is a valuable water resource. Gwinnett County encourages the use of reuse water for purposes compliant with regulatory requirements.

What Are the Benefits of Reclaimed Water?

As population growth increases the demand for potable water and the reliability of imported water supply decreases, the future availability of potable water for irrigation is questionable. Also, the costs of potable water supplies continue to climb making reuse water more attractive as an alternative water supply.

The amount of reclaimed water available is generally not affected by drought, meaning customers don't risk losing expensive landscaping due to water shortages and potential mandatory rationing.

Reuse water may also contain an appreciable nutrient content, which may provide some level of fertilization during the irrigation process.

Irrigating with recycled water is making use of a valuable resource that would otherwise be disposed.

Are There Disadvantages to Reclaimed Water?

Recycled water must be used responsibly within established guidelines, regulations and permit requirements. Because of its origins and the levels of treatment provided, recycled water is not suitable for direct human consumption. Unlike potable water, recycled water can only be used for approved uses, at approved locations, under provisions of regulations, agreements or permits.



How Can I Obtain Reclaimed Water Service in Gwinnett County?

Gwinnett county has established procedures for obtaining reuse water service. There are three basic steps to initiate the process...

- Step 1** Contact Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources
- Step 2** Complete Reclaimed Water Application
- Step 3** Sign and Return Application/Agreement

How Can I Learn More About Reuse Water?

At Gwinnett County our mission is to enhance quality of life by providing excellent water, waste water and stormwater services at the best possible value to our customers while preserving natural water resources.

To learn more about Gwinnett County Reuse Water please contact us or visit our website.

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