

Contact: Christine Martindale

Public Information Officer

City of Port Orange

Telephone: 386-506-5522

Email: cmartindale@port-orange.org

Website: www.port-orange.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 2017

CITY OF PORT ORANGE PROCLAIMS APRIL AS

WATER CONSERVATION MONTH

PORT ORANGE, FL — The City of Port Orange approved its Water Conservation Month proclamation to help bring awareness to its residents and businesses about the importance of water conservation and the actions that Floridians can take to protect the state’s water resources.

This year marks the 19th anniversary proclaiming April as Water Conservation month. “By adding our proclamation to the statewide list, we are showing Florida’s elected officials the importance of water efficiency and water conservation programs,” said Lynn Stevens, Public Utilities Director for the City of Port Orange. “In addition, it provides an opportunity to further educate our Port Orange citizens on the importance of conserving potable drinking water and reclaimed water by taking simple steps to conserve water.”

The City of Port Orange distributed a daily average of 6 million gallons of drinking water in 2016 to its residents, which equates to approximately 90 gallons per person per day. In addition to drinking water, residents in Port Orange used an average of 5,580,000 gallons per day of reclaimed water for irrigation. The City reuses 100% of wastewater collected as reclaimed water. Last year, the City had approximately 29 inches of rainfall compared to the statewide annual average of 40 inches.

According to the St. Johns River Water Management District, there are some water-conservation tips that residents can use to help conserve water such as apply only 1/2- to 3/4-inch of water to grass only when it shows signs of distress and no more than two times per week; if rainfall is consistent, turn off the sprinkler system, as a heavy rainfall eliminates the need for watering; use a hose equipped with an automatic shutoff nozzle while washing cars or watering plants and operate dishwashers and washing machines only when fully loaded. Remember, reclaimed water is also a limited resource in dry weather.

For more tips on saving water, visit the district's water conservation web pages at <http://www.sjrwm.com/waterconservation/>

#