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South Walton

Utility Company

Mission Statement

our mission is to provide

reliable service in

a responsive and

equitable manner."

our members quality and

Application System

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▲ A Colorful Yard?

Have you ever come home to find paint they own. Water and sewer markings in your yard or flags plotted along your drive way? Your beautiful yard now has every color of the rainbow! So what happened? We receive questions about these yard "accessories" each week. Fortunately, the answer is simple.

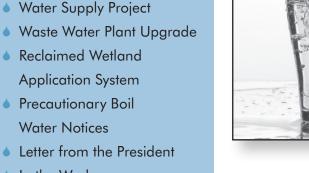
Utility companies typically locate only those underground facilities that to contact us.

We Are Moving

The administrative portion of South Walton Utility Company, Inc., will be re-locating to a 6,300 square foot addition to the Field Maintenance Facility at 369 Miramar Beach Drive. Construction is on schedule to be complete in August 2008.

The new facility will provide additional office space as well as more storage room. The move will allow us to have the majority of our operation under one roof. Additionally, we will be able to take advantage of the many existing amenities at the Field Maintenance Facility such as the 400kW generator, which provides backup should there be a disruption in our electrical service.

Our current building on Scenic Gulf Drive is for sale.





A Newsletter of South Walton Utility Company, Inc.

Raise your glasses, again!



The American Water Works Association held the 2008 Best Tasting Water contest for Region IX on March 18, 2008. Five utilities from Escambia to Walton counties met at South Walton Utility's Field Maintenance Facility on Miramar Beach Drive to compete for this year's title. The water selection criteria used by the three judges included color, clarity, taste and odor.

We're proud to announce that for the second year in a row, SWUCI won the regional contest for Best Tasting Water!

A colorful yard?

actually part of a well organized plan to protect your utilities before a digging project begins. When contractors begin for potable water or digging, they want to be smart about it. Smart digging means knowing where utility lines are buried and marking them ahead of time. Even small projects like planting trees and installing a mailbox can disrupt utility services to an entire neighborhood, not to mention cause serious injury to you or those nearby.

companies locate main water lines in easements and rightsof-ways and also the lines to a water meter. However, they may not locate the water line from the meter to the The flags and lines of paint spots are home. Each different color flag or paint represents a different utility, such as blue yellow for gas lines.

> So the next time you come home to new lawn accessories, rest assured that they are there for your protection. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate

IN THE WORKS

A Letter from the President

PHASE III WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

Construction is nearing completion on the two new wells north of Freeport at the General Bill V. Brown Wellfield. Once complete, the wells will be able to pump 1,500 gallons of water per minute. The two new wells will bring us to a total of five wells at the Wellfield, plus seven coastal wells. The additional wells will provide a continued source of water for the customers of South Walton Utility Company, Inc.

In addition to the wells, a two million gallon, above-ground storage tank is also nearing completion at the Wellfield. This new storage tank is in addition to the existing two million gallon storage tank already in place at the General Bill V. Brown Wellfield.

An additional 2.3 million gallon, above-ground storage tank is being built on Goldsby Road as a part of our Phase III Water Supply Project. It is scheduled for completion by the end of May.

WASTEWATER PLANT UPGRADE

The contractor has been selected for the upgrade at the Wastewater Plant.

J & P Construction of Tuscaloosa Alabama was the low bidder. With the help of the Regional Utility Authority, this project will be financed with a state revolving loan through the Department of Environmental Protection.

Construction for the 18 month project is set to begin in May.

RECLAIMED WETLAND APPLICATION SYSTEM

The SWUCI reclaimed water wetland application system is in the works. For those of you living in Emerald Bay, Regatta Bay and Turnberry Harbour, please visit our Web site at www. swuci.org for more details

Precautionary Boil Water Notices

Recent changes in regulatory rules may increase the number of precautionary Boil Water Notices issued on water intended for drinking and cooking. Some emergency conditions now require the issuance of a precautionary boil water notice. The most probable emergency condition that we might face is a water line break where we cannot demonstrate that the integrity of our water system has been maintained.

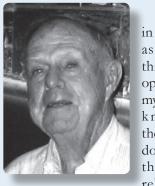
Do these notices mean the quality and safety of our water has declined? Absolutely not! They are called precautionary for a reason. In order to be certain of the water's safety, precautionary Boil Water Notices are placed in effect while routine bacteriological sampling is conducted to ensure there are no contaminants in the water. The sampling involves two 24-hour tests of two water samples. When both sets of samples come back "clean" the precautionary Boil Water Notice is lifted.

In the event a precautionary Boil Water Notice is issued you need to disinfect water for drinking or cooking, simply bring water to a rolling boil for several minutes, or use 8 drops of regular household bleach per gallon of water. After shaking, let the water stand for 30 minutes in an open container before using.

South Walton Utility Company, Inc., will notify an area of precautionary Boil Water Notices and the lifting of the notices by distributing door hangers. Wide spread areas will be notified through media coverage.

If you have any questions about precautionary Boil Water Notices, please contact our office.





Greetings. I am in my second year as President and this is my second opportunity to let my fellow members know some of the things we are doing to provide the "quality and reliable service"

our mission statement mandates and our customers deserve.

Our water quality continues to be excellent as our Annual Consumer Confidence Report indicates. We are in the final stages of construction of two additional potable water wells and two more storage tanks. Our 12 wells are equipped with backup generators so that your water supply is reliable. We have four elevated water tanks and four ground storage tanks that can hold more than 10 million gallons of potable water. In fact, this summer we expect to pump a little more than 5 million gallons of water per day. We are also happy to announce that our water

tastes good too - it was recently judged the best tasting water in the Florida Panhandle.

percent more than our existing wells. When needed, we can upgrade our three existing wells at Rock Hill. That, in addition to another well at a site that we already own, can supply our



Nancy Mullen has been a part of the team at South Walton Utility Company, Inc., (SWUCI) for more than 10 years! She began with SWUCI in January of 1998 as a receptionist and quickly moved into the Customer Service department.

Nancy adds vibrant energy to the atmosphere at SWUCI. A true "people person," members and employees alike love her. Congratulations Nancy, keep up the great work!

In addition to making sure we have the best quality water, we also need to ensure that we have enough water. To that end, we recently completed a study of the Desalination of Brackish Water to see if it is a feasible alternative future water source. Our conclusion is that while it is feasible, it is also more expensive than upgrading our existing wellfield at Rock Hill. In fact, our two new wells will be capable of pumping 1,500 gallons per minute...50

water needs long into the future.

The quality of the water that leaves our wastewater treatment plant is very good, but is going to get even better over the next couple of years. We have just issued the Notice to Proceed to the contractor for our plant upgrade project. This \$14.8 million project will almost double the capacity of our treatment plant while increasing the quality of our reclaimed water effluent almost four fold. When complete, our treatment plant will be one of the few Advanced Wastewater Treatment plants in the Panhandle. It will also be classified

> "Class I Reliable" according to EPA standards, meaning that the failure of any single piece of equipment will not affect the operation of the plant nor the quality of the reclaimed water produced by the plant.

It is important to note that our ability to serve you well is dependent upon our

employees. In this issue we are proud to recognize Nancy Mullen for 10 years of outstanding service. If you have been into our office to sign up for new service, you met Nancy. Thank you, Nancy, for your dedication, your hard work, and your cheery smile.

One last thing...thanks to all of you for giving me, and my fellow Directors, the opportunity to serve our community in this manner. We are honored by your trust.

Jack M. Sill

Jack McGill, President