

Benefits of Using Reclaimed Water

- Provides safe, environmentally responsible nutrient management
- Reduces the need to acquire water from other sources
- Moves Loudoun Water towards our goal of using 30% of treated effluent for our customer's nonpotable water needs by 2015
- Saves fresh drinkable water for use in our homes and businesses
- Reduces the need to construct new drinking water facilities
- Offsets the costs of wastewater treatment
- Reduces use of drinking water for irrigation, cooling and manufacturing

The use of reclaimed water is one of the most important ways we can manage our water resources in an environmentally responsible manner. It also provides a great opportunity to save both Loudoun Water, and our customers, money.

Visit www.loudounwater.org for more information.

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44865 LOUDOUN WATER WAY | PO BOX 4000 | ASHBURN, VIRGINIA 20146
WWW.LOUDOUNWATER.ORG

LOUDOUN WATER



Reclaimed Water

LOUDOUN WATER

an opportunity to conserve a valuable natural resource and save money



What is Reclaimed Water?

Reclaimed water is wastewater that has been thoroughly treated to remove harmful organisms and substances, such as bacteria, viruses, and heavy metals, so that it can be reused. Once treated, it has a clear appearance, is non-staining and odorless, and is bacteriologically safe. Reclaimed water is always carefully monitored so that it meets Virginia Department of Environmental Quality regulations and is safe for our customers. To distinguish drinking water and wastewater piping from this new reuse water piping, Virginia uses the color “purple” for all pipes, hydrants, and signs wherever reuse water is used.

Being Environmentally Responsible

With an increasing demand for water, it is wasteful to water lawns with drinking-quality water. Each person in the Loudoun Water service area who waters their lawn twice a week and washes their vehicle once a week can use more than 12,000 gallons of drinking water each year.



Reclaimed water can replace quality drinking-quality water for lawn watering and many other activities, which in turn, helps to conserve a valuable resource.

Reclaimed water contains low levels of nutrients (primarily nitrogen and phosphorous), can be beneficial to plant and turf growth, and may reduce the need for fertilizers that are normally applied.

Using reclaimed water is an important way to manage Loudoun Water’s resources in an environmentally responsible manner

“Water reclamation and reuse helps conserve potable water for the highest quality uses.” – Rick Weeks, Chief Deputy, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

Cost Savings

Water used to supply Loudoun Water’s growing population and economy has increased significantly over the last decade. Increasing water use has made naturally occurring high quality water more and more costly to treat. Using reclaimed water for irrigation reduces drinking water demands, in turn reducing the cost of building more drinking water facilities. When watering a lawn, using reclaimed water can substantially reduce a customer’s water bill because it costs less to use treated water than drinking water.

By using reclaimed water, we can reduce future costs of creating new drinking-quality water sources and treatment plants. These cost savings eventually can be passed on to our customers.

“By providing this resource, Loudoun Water gives our county another tool to attract more of the hi-tech businesses that will form the backbone of our economy throughout the 21st Century.”

– Loudoun County Supervisor Lori Waters (Broad Run)



Water Reuse Area



Learn more about how you can benefit. Visit www.loudounwater.org and click on “Reuse Opportunities”.

Sustainable Irrigation Supply

Loudoun Water’s reclaimed water supply saves drinking water resources during drought conditions. It provides our customers with a sustainable irrigation supply that reduces the likelihood of outdoor watering restrictions.

Uses of Reclaimed Water

- Irrigation of grassed and landscaped areas, common areas, road right-of-ways, and medians
- Washing of vehicles and the outside of buildings
- Control of dust at construction sites
- Filling of fountains, ponds, and lagoons used for aesthetic and cooling purposes
- Chilling/cooling water
- Toilet flushing for non-residential buildings

“There are a lot of benefits to using reclaimed water... availability, the amount of available nutrients in there, and it’s less expensive than potable water.”

– Steve Schwab, Water Conserv II, citrus irrigation supplier, Florida