



# 2018 Reuse Report & Customer Information

## OASIS

Our Alternative Supply Irrigation System

### USES

OASIS water can be used safely on plants you eat. But, as with all fruits and vegetables, including those purchased at stores and markets, always wash them before eating.

More information can be found at [www.ICanWater.com](http://www.ICanWater.com) under Useful Links. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) explains in more details the uses of reuse water.

You should not use reuse water for:

- Anything that requires body contact, like pools, hot tubs, wading pools
- Connection onto a building for any purpose, including water-cooled air conditioning
- Any indoor use at all, especially for drinking and cooking

*If you do come into contact with reuse water, simply wash with soap and water.*

### POMPANO BEACH REUSE WATER USE IS PUSHING BACK SALTWATER INTRUSION

Florida's coastal communities are facing real challenges with saltwater intrusion into freshwater wells. Drought conditions have magnified the situation. As freshwater is pulled out of the ground near the coast, the saltwater fills in the vacant spaces in the ground where the freshwater was. Once saltwater pushes inland, it is nearly impossible to remove it.

In Pompano Beach, irrigation with reuse has actually helped push back the saltwater intrusion line. This has only happened in Pompano Beach.



GRAPHIC DESIGN BY THE PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE



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**CONTACTS**  
Utilities Department • 1205 NE 5th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL 33060  
OASIS Hotline 954-324-8434 • Customer Service 954-786-4637  
Cross Connections 954-786-4637 • Reuse Water Quality 954-545-7018  
Web [www.icanwater.com](http://www.icanwater.com) • Building Inspections Division 954-786-4670



## INTRODUCTION



### Dear OASIS Customer:

We are pleased to provide you with the 2018 update on the reuse system. Our reuse water system, known as OASIS, is providing irrigation water for properties like yours. OASIS provides about 2.6 million gallons per day of irrigation water to our area and has

been in use for 29 years. We congratulate you on seeing the benefits of reuse, both for our environment as well as for the beauty of your property. OASIS is beneficial, especially as watering restrictions limit irrigation using all sources except reuse water. Reuse may be used every day of the week. We look forward to serving you throughout the year. By watering with reuse water we save drinking water for the future of our community.

The City of Pompano Beach launched its I Can Water campaign in August 2011 and to date we have added 936 customers with more every day. This innovative program connects single family residential customers to the reuse system with no out of pocket expense. Go to [www.icanwater.com](http://www.icanwater.com) or call the hotline at 954-324-8434 for more information or to sign up for the program.

## ABOUT INSPECTIONS

The City of Pompano Beach conducts an inspection of the customer's reuse system before the start of a new reuse service and every 10 years, or when a new reuse account is requested at an existing reuse location. City inspectors will need to access your property and both water and reuse lines. These inspections are required by state regulations and protect you and your neighbors from possible cross-connections of the two separate water systems.



## Over 29 Years of Use



Since 1989, the City of Pompano Beach has been using reuse water for golf courses, parks, playing fields and road medians. We also provide reuse water to Lighthouse Point for use in their medians. Over 930 single family homes have connected to OASIS in 7 years through our I Can Water program. The City is expanding the reuse system into

Lighthouse Point and has secured a contract that guarantees 100% connection over 5 phases. The first phase of residential connections has been completed and construction has started in the second phase, resulting in an additional 490 customers once all 5 phases are completed.

## Benefits of Reuse for Irrigation.

### Some of the benefits of using reuse water for irrigation include:

- Reuse water costs less than drinking water
- Decreases the need for fertilizers
- Reduced drinking water use
- You can water any day of the week (except between 10am & 4pm)
- No sewer costs for reuse water
- Prevents/reduces saltwater intrusion into the drinking water wells
- Reduces the amount of treated wastewater discharged into the ocean from the Broward County North Regional Wastewater Facility
- Delays additional drinking water facility upgrades
- Helps meet future drinking water demands

## OASIS WATER QUALITY

Even though it is not intended for drinking, the reuse water leaving the plant is tested continuously for specific parameters and annual for drinking water parameters. In 2018, OASIS passed 95 out of 98 annual drinking water tests. OASIS reuse water MET DRINKING WATER standards for all tests except those shown in the table below. Reuse water also contains higher levels of nitrogen and phosphorus compounds than drinking water, which makes less fertilizer use possible.



Analyte	Level	Drinking Water Standard
TDS	650 mg/L	500 mg/L
NITRITE	2.0 mg/L	1 mg/L
Di(2-ethylhexyl)-phthalate	0.0093 mg/L	0.006 mg/L

*\*Test results are in parts per million*

## BACKFLOW PREVENTERS

After the City's Building Inspections Division issues the permit, an approved backflow preventer must be installed on the existing drinking water meter to prevent cross-contamination of the drinking water supply. The backflow preventer must be installed prior to installation of the reuse water meter and is tested annually (commercial and multifamily properties only) as required by state law. The City installs, maintains and replaces the backflow prevention devices for single family reuse customers in the I Can Water program.

Reuse water is carefully tested to meet safety standards. Federal, State and local regulations govern contaminant levels in reuse water to ensure its safety for irrigation. Reuse water has been used in Florida for more than 40 years with no reported incidence of human illness.

## THERMAL EXPANSION

Installation of a backflow preventer assembly creates a closed plumbing system. It is necessary to install a means of controlling thermal expansion in the water supply system. The existing pressure and temperature relief valve attached to the water heater is not permitted to be used for thermal expansion control. One method of achieving this is to install an additional pressure relief valve designed for thermal expansion control. A second method of controlling thermal expansion is by the use of a thermal expansion tank. These tanks must be installed on the drinking water side and must be properly sized and installed. The City's contractor installs the thermal expansion valve for I Can Water single family residential customers. Contact the City Building Inspections Division at 954-786-4670 with any questions about thermal expansion.

Reuse water must be used responsibly within established guidelines. Reuse water is meant for irrigation and not for human consumption.



Learn about our I Can Water program!

