fgua FLORIDA GOVERNMENTAL UTILITY AUTHORITY

# NEWS

Spring 2026

A Florida Governmental Utility Authority Publication

## 5th Annual Lehigh Acres Rain Barrel Painting Contest

FGUA, Lehigh Community Services, and the Lehigh Acres Senior Center hosted the 5th Annual Lehigh Acres Rain Barrel Painting Contest in April – a meaningful initiative where creativity, conservation, and compassion come together. This year brought together over 20 artists and 15 barrels to be auctioned.

All auction proceeds go to Lehigh Community Services to assist households in need of utility bill assistance. This unique program empowers local seniors to support one another while promoting water conservation. The winning bidders not only get a beautifully painted barrel but also a water collecting conversion kit to remake their barrel into a rain barrel. Thank you to all the Lehigh Acres artists who gave these barrels a second life while also creating a little hope for their fellow neighbors.

The auction is open until May 18th. To learn more about this program and bid on a barrel of your own visit: https://www.fgua.com/lehigh-acres-rain-barrel-painting-contest/

## 17th Annual Water Awareness Poster Contest

Since 2010, the FGUA alongside Pasco County has hosted a Water Awareness Poster Contest for elementary school-age children. Each year students all over Pasco County have the opportunity to submit their very own illustrated posters detailing water conservation. Schools also have the option of having their local FGUA Community Services Representative come and speak to students about the importance of water. Local businesses come together to sponsor these students, donating prizes for every student who submits a poster.

Once all posters are collected the FGUA and Pasco County come together to judge posters from each grade level, kindergarten – 5th grade, giving away 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards. A list of this year's winners can be found at watercontest.org.

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## Flush Smart, Florida! Only Flush the 3Ps: Pee, Poop, and (toilet) Paper.

The FGUA has launched a new campaign! "Flush Smart, Florida" Only Flush the 3Ps: Pee, Poop, and (toilet) Paper. This campaign is currently being pilot tested in Pasco County and is aimed at educating the community on the importance of flushing smart.

Our sewer systems are designed to handle only specific things, but too often non-flushable items end up in the pipes. Dental floss, wipes (yes, even the ones labeled "flushable"), rubber gloves, and many other items are disposed of by being flushed down toilets. These items belong in the trash and can cause major infrastructure issues when improperly disposed of.

To learn more about this campaign, find downloadable materials, or request a presentation visit https://www.fgua.com/community/community-outreach/

## Community Events

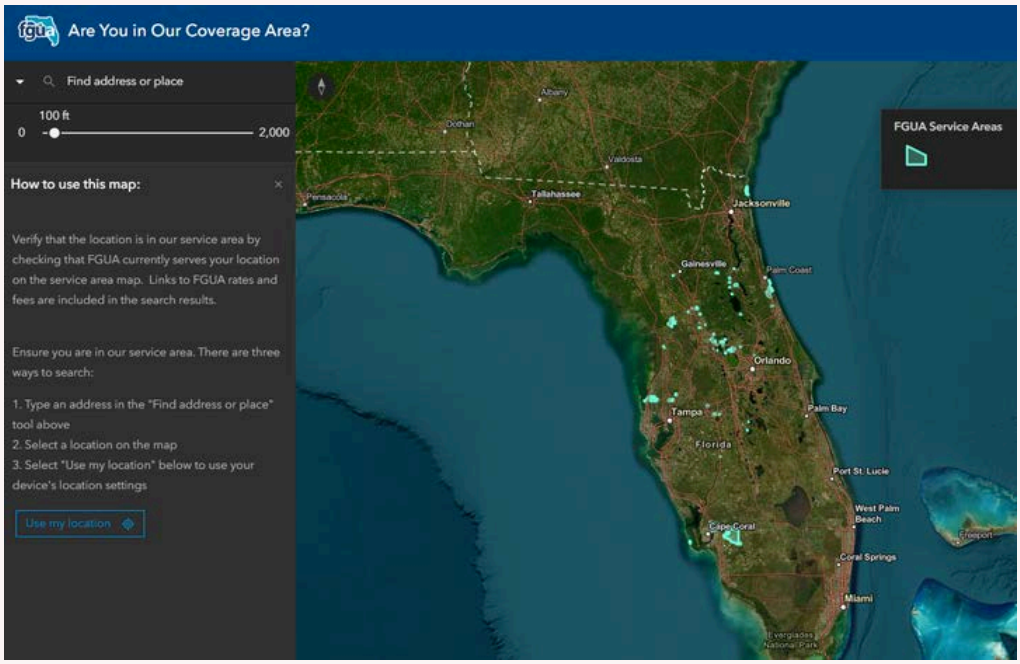
FGUA professionals had the opportunity to attend Marion County Day, Fruitland Park Day and Keep Pasco Beautiful Earth Day! Thank you to all event and county staff that made these incredible events possible. Our FGUA's Community Services Representatives are here to attend events and highlight educational information for county residents. If your county has an event coming up, we would appreciate the opportunity to be a part of it. Please contact us at communityoutreach@fgua.com.

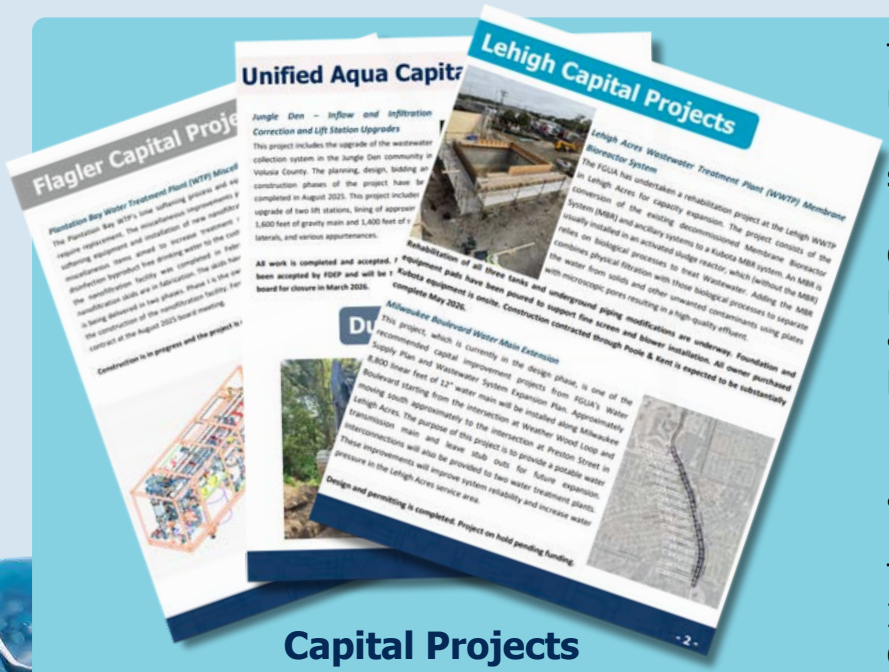
## It's Never Been Easier to Find out if FGUA is Your Water Service Provider!

Moving to a new home brings with it numerous questions about who provides what services – from cable to phone to water. FGUA has created an online tool that makes it simple to find out if FGUA is your water utility service provider.

This easy-to-use application allows you to insert your address into an online search form and immediately find out if you are within a FGUA service area. If the address is serviced by FGUA, a link will appear inside of the mapping application to help you find more information regarding rates and fees.

If you have any questions or would like to view a tutorial regarding this application, please visit www.fgua.com




## Capital Projects

The FGUA is constantly striving to improve our numerous utility systems across the state of Florida. This helps to provide the best level of service for our customers.

Currently there are 19 main capital improvement projects going on within the FGUA systems. From a lift station replacement in North Fort Myers to phase II process equipment improvements in Flagler, you may see these Capital Improvement Projects taking place near you. Quarterly updates are released detailing the status of these projects.

To learn more about the FGUA's Capital Improvement Projects please visit FGUA.com - Community - Capital Projects