

District Notes & News



Established 1923

Summer 2006

SUPERVISORS

Thomas H. Powell

President

Tom Rice

Vice-President

David Beane

Robert Berman

Michael Danchuk

STAFF

Gale English

General Manager

Michael Dillon

Operations Superintendent

Greta Rayman

Office Administrator

DISTRICT OFFICE

15600 Jupiter Farms Road

Jupiter, FL 33478

(561) 747-0550

www.sirwcd.org

sirwcd@sirwcd.org

Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday

*The Board of Supervisors meets
the third Thursday of each
month at the Jupiter High
School Media Center
at 7:30 p.m.*

*Contact the District Office
for an agenda.*

BALLOTS SENT OUT FOR JUPITER FARMS ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD) has received and verified petitions for the application of Open Graded Emulsified Mix (OGEM) for the proposed 14th Plan of Improvements for Jupiter Farms. As a result of the landowners' petitions and the District Engineer's recommendation, and pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 2001-313, Laws of Florida, which is the Special Act of the Legislature that serves as the charter of the District, the Board of Supervisors has authorized a referendum on the project. Ballots have been sent out to landowners for 68 individual roadway improvement projects.

These referendums represent nearly 32 miles of roadway. The preparation and mailing of the ballots had been delayed due to material supply problems. Statewide shortages of bitumen (asphalt) binders and aggregates used in road construction have resulted in projects of all types being postponed or delayed.

For 66 of the roadway improvement projects, the total estimated annual payment per parcel is approximately \$515.00. Two other roadway segments are estimated at approximately \$900.00 and \$930.00 per parcel per year. All estimates shown are based upon current interest rates over a term of twenty years.

If a majority of the votes (51%) are cast in favor for each referendum, the roadway project will be constructed. Please be advised that the District will be able to proceed with the Section 33 and Rocky Pines Road projects only if an easement or other legal right to access the roadway and construct the project is granted to the District by the property owners who have title to the roadway. *You must sign, date, and send in your ballot in the pre-addressed, stamped envelope to the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections to have your vote counted!* All ballots must be received on or before August 18, 2006.

NRCS-Funded Project Near Completion

SIRWCD received funding from the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Emergency Watershed Protection Program to repair damages to infrastructure caused by Hurricane Wilma in October 2005. The grant, in the amount of \$1,102,000 covers the costs to clear debris and install rip rap at 24 different site locations.

The contractor for the project, Murray Logan, Inc., has completed canal cleaning operations and is concurrently installing rock rip-rap on several canal crossings culverts in the main canal sections of Jupiter Farms. Upon completion of the Jupiter Farms operation, rock rip-rap installation is scheduled for outfall canal banks in Palm Beach Country Estates.

SIRWCD has also received a total of \$2,097,500 in grants from the NRCS and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for hurricane restoration efforts resulting from the 2004 storm season. These grants have covered a majority of the cost of hurricane repairs that would otherwise have been the responsibility of the District's landowners.



Florida Stormwater Education Corner Protecting Florida's Water

The management of stormwater runoff and the implementation of the federally-mandated National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) has become a major concern for states and local municipalities.

Studies show that once impervious cover exceeds more than 10% of a watershed area, it causes an adverse impact on surface waters. As a result, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in conjunction with other public and private organizations, is now promoting "Smart Growth" and Low Impact Development. These programs encourage the use of *infiltration* best management practices that replicate pre-development hydrology and keep stormwater on site, and if possible, use it to recharge groundwater. These practices also reduce runoff and its associated pollutants, such as nutrients, oil, heavy metals, nitrates, and phosphorous.

Infiltration practices include swales, rain gardens, bio-retention areas, and permeable pavement. For years, developers moved away from these types of practices in favor of the "curb and gutter" approach.

However, the EPA and other agencies are now encouraging the use of these systems for new development and redevelopment.

In a program presented at the recent 2006 StormCon national expo in Denver, the EPA noted that *"traditional stormwater management that focuses on moving water off the landscape often exacerbates the stormwater problem."*

SIRWCD already uses swales as a major component of their stormwater runoff management plan. Swales are considered an infiltration practice and are extremely important for recharging groundwater in the District, particularly with the rapid growth occurring in northern Palm Beach County. South Florida Water Management District considers the swales an integral part of water management in this area.

While some landowners have expressed concern about standing water in the swales and in low areas on their property, the system is designed to hold this water so it can be infiltrated back into the earth. Water will only move through culverts into canals during excessive rain events to prevent flooding.

SIRWCD's Arie Raz Becomes Range Aide Worker for Safety Council of Palm Beach County



Arie Raz, an equipment operator with the District since February 1999, has been accepted by the Safety Council of Palm Beach County to serve as Range Aide Worker and safety instructor. In addition, Arie recently earned his Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and is now certified to operate the District's dump truck.

General Manager Gale English also serves on the board of the Safety Council.

Visit www.sirwcd.org
for news updates!

7:30 pm
Ballots Due
Board of Supervisors Elections
Annual Landowners Meeting

September 21

7:30 pm
Annual Budget
Public Hearing and Meeting

August 17

Dates of Interest

15600 Jupiter Farms Road
Jupiter, FL 33478



PRSR STD
U S POSTAGE
PAID
WEST PALM BCH FL
PERMIT # 611