

District Notes & News



Established 1923

Summer 2013

SUPERVISORS

Michael Danchuk

President

Tom Rice

Vice-President

Stephen Hinkle

Tom Powell

Michael Ryan

STAFF

Michael A. Dillon

Manager of Operations

Holly Rigby

Office Administrator

DISTRICT OFFICE

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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 Jupiter High School
at 7:30 p.m.
Contact the District Office
for an agenda.*

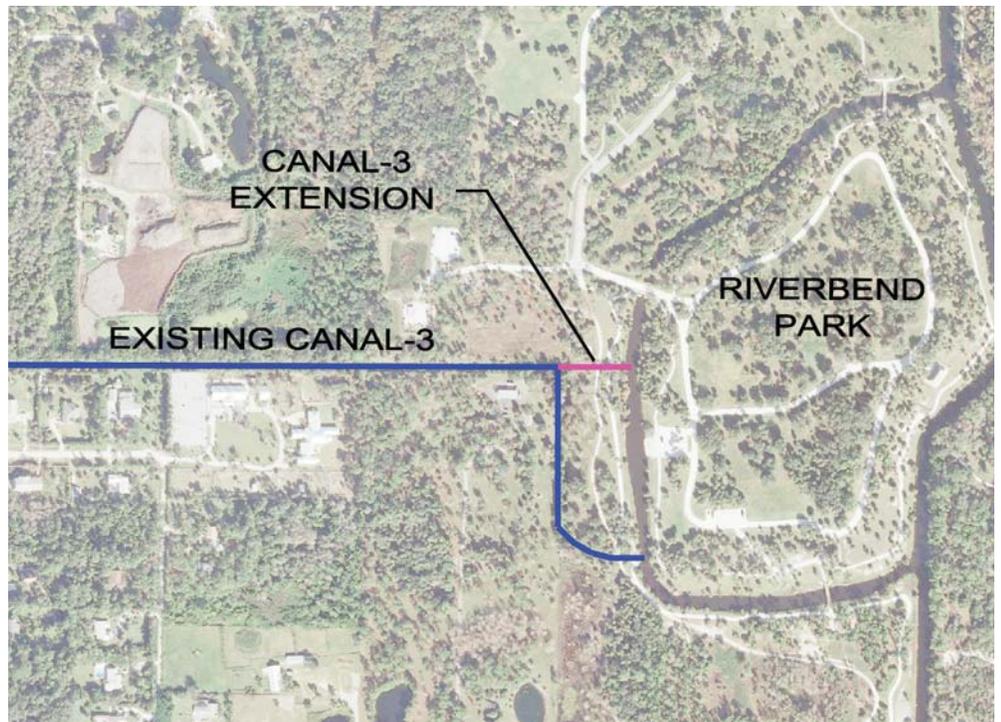
Canal 3 Extension Project

In order to aid in flood control, the District has extended Canal 3 in Jupiter Farms directly east into the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River in Riverbend Park. The District has an existing canal right-of-way in the project area that is consistent with the original intent of the *Sixth Plan of Reclamation* to connect at this location. By adding the extension, the head loss in Canal 3 will be reduced and therefore provide better flood protection.

The original configuration of Canal 3 extends east, past the control structure to the end of the District boundary, travels under two culverts and bends to the south along the District boundary. It then enters Riverbend Park east of the District boundary through two 42-inch culverts before discharging into the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River. This section of the canal will remain in place to provide added surface water control for the area.

District Engineer Amy Eason and District Manager of Operations Michael Dillon worked with a number of agencies on the project, including South Florida Water Management District, the Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council, the Town of Jupiter, Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Construction on the project began on May 27, however, progress was slowed by near-record monthly rainfall in June, and as of mid-July, there have only been two rain-free days at the Palm Beach International Airport - July 2 and 8. The new extension utilizes 58" x 91" diameter elliptical concrete pipe and covers a distance of 146 feet. Riprap installation and restoration is scheduled for completion by the end of the month, weather permitting.



Canal 3 extension in Jupiter Farms

Landowner-Initiated Roadway Improvement Project Update

South Indian River Water Control District has received petitions from landowners to apply both open-graded emulsified mix (OGEM) and asphalt on certain roadways within the District. The roads met the requirements to distribute a referendum to all benefitted landowners and pursuant to Board of Supervisor direction, staff prepared a referendum for the landowner proposed projects, which was mailed August 3, 2012 with the request that the landowners submit their response to the District by September 5, 2012. On September 11, 2012, staff received the certification from the Supervisor of Elections on the results of the referendum. The majority of the landowners who voted on the following roadways were "in favor" of the proposed project for OGEM in Jupiter Farms (approximately 0.4 miles):

- 127th Drive N between 187th Place N and Old Indiantown Grade
- 90th Trail N between 165th Place N and 166th Way N

In addition, the majority of the landowners who voted on the following roadways were "in favor" of the proposed project for asphalt in Palm Beach Country Estates (approximately 1.5 miles):

- 73rd Terrace N between 155th Place N and 159th Court N
- 79th Terrace N between 155th Place N and 162nd Court N
- 75th Way N between 163rd Court N and 165th Street N
- 77th Trail N between 165th Street N and 167th Court N

A resolution to amend the Water Control Plan was presented to the Board of Supervisors on October 18, 2012. As part of this resolution, staff determined the cost estimate and the benefitted area.

At a February 7, 2013 meeting, the Board was advised that the OGEM project per lot cost had significantly increased due to a small number of lots in the benefitted area. The Board directed staff to prepare a letter of explanation to the landowners included within this benefitted area, along with an updated referendum showing the new cost estimates. This was sent to affected landowners on March 27 with the request that the landowners submit their response to the District by April 27. The results of the referendum were certified by the Supervisor of Elections on May 7 and both OGEM roadway segments were "in favor" of the project.

Meanwhile, the Board had directed staff to proceed with the preparation of the Plan of Improvement, and it was submitted to the District office on March 22. The first required public hearing was held on April 18. After the public hearing, the Board directed staff to proceed with the preparation of the Engineer's Report, which was submitted to the District office on May 23. Staff has issued the necessary notices for the 2nd public hearing on the Engineer's Report and proposed water control plan amendment, which has been scheduled for the August 15 board meeting.

Staff has received new requests for petitions from landowners for roadway improvement projects. Per the February 2013 workshop, staff has developed an updated, more informative petition to distribute to landowners that request it. In addition, staff has been reviewing the limits of any roadway improvement requests before distributing the updated petition for circulation. Also, to provide additional notification for affected landowners, signs are to be installed stating that a petition is being circulated in the area.



Danchuk and Ryan Seek Board of Supervisors Seats

As previously reported, the Board of Supervisors and District staff continue to monitor the implementation of water quality rules in Florida.

On March 15, 2013, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) reached an agreement on setting numeric nutrient criteria (NNC) for Florida's waterways.

The plan includes proposing state legislation and adopting additional state rules that, when combined, will eliminate the need for continued dual rulemaking and secure a single solution for Florida.

This was in response to additional regulations that were proposed by the EPA to the FDEP's numeric nutrient criteria plan in November of 2012 that would apply the EPA's criteria to those waters not covered by the FDEP's NNC, such as urban storm water conveyances and many estuaries where FDEP Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) have already been adopted.

The proposed legislation requires FDEP to complete its NNC rulemaking for the

remaining coastal and estuarine waters by December 1, 2014 and establish interim nutrient standards until then.

The legislation also includes requirements for NNC conditions in all managed conveyances and canals.

District staff has continued to coordinate a water quality monitoring program with the Loxahatchee River District and as directed by the Board, has HBEL, Inc. under contract for water quality sampling services to meet SIRWCD needs.

NPDES TIP: Phosphorus and nitrogen are the primary nutrients of concern in the proposed NNC and are present in many fertilizers. Use them sparingly or consider organic fertilizers, and don't fertilize before a rain storm.

ILLICIT DISCHARGE

If landowners witness anyone dumping materials into the District swales or canal system, or Palm Beach County catch basins, please report this to the District Office at 747-0550.

Ballots for this year's two Board of Supervisor's positions will be mailed out to all landowners in August.

This year, Michael Danchuk, who currently serves as president, and Michael Ryan are running for reelection. For biographies on each candidate, please visit our website.

According to the District's Special Act, at least one candidate in this year's election must reside east of the C-18 Canal – both Mr. Danchuk and Mr. Ryan meet this requirement, as both reside in Palm Beach Country Estates.

Please note that you must cast a vote for a resident east of the C-18 Canal, or your vote will be invalid.

Even though there are only two candidates for the two seats, we encourage you to please send in your ballot. Election ballots must be received at the District office no later than Sept. 19, or you may cast your ballot in person just prior to the start of the Annual Landowners' Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Jupiter High School on Sept. 19.

Hurricane Season is Here!

Hurricane season is here once again and the state is concerned that Floridians are unprepared for what is predicted to be an above-average year for storms.

Palm Beach County offers comprehensive information on hurricane preparation and resources on their website at <http://www.pbcgov.com/dem/hurricane/>. They offer a Hurricane Survival Guide that details what to do before a storm, during landfall, and after the storm, as well as provide general guidance and a list of important phone numbers. A map of Palm Beach County storm shelters is also included.

As District landowners in a rural area, you are encouraged to get prepared now - do not wait until a storm is coming! Prune overgrown landscaping and remove dead tree branches. **However, this should not be done just prior to a storm warning, as trash will not be picked up and could become a danger to others during a storm.** Yard waste is limited to 6 cubic yards per week (the equivalent of 3 standard refrigerators). All yard waste, with the exception of tree branches and palm fronds, must be containerized in standard 32-50 gallon cans or sealed plastic bags. Containers and contents can not weigh more than 50 pounds. Branches must be 6 feet or less in length and 50 pounds or less in weight.

Detailed information is available in the Hurricane Survival Guide, but in general you should stock up on non-perishable food and water, batteries, flashlights, lanterns, a radio, first aid kits, prescription medications, gas for generators, propane for grills, tarps, and bug repellent. Freeze jugs of water, as solid blocks of ice will last longer than cubes. As power will be out after a storm, you might want to get some cash beforehand and get gas for your car.

If a hurricane warning is issued, secure your windows and doors with some type of protection. Please note that taping your windows will do nothing for protection. Toys, tools, garden decorations, and patio furniture should be brought inside or stored in a sturdy shed that has been secured against high winds.

After a hurricane, there will be downed trees and power lines, high water levels and possible flooding, particularly in rural areas. Avoid walking or playing in high water due to bacteria and pollutants that may be present. Also there may be downed power lines that may become active. Stay home until the "all clear" is given that it is safe to move about.

The District office has a generator and all personnel have been trained in hurricane response procedures, so we will be ready in the event of a storm. However, it is everyone's responsibility to be prepared in case a storm hits. Government alone cannot begin to handle all of the adverse impacts. It is up to each and every resident to be prepared and make sure our homes are as secure as possible.



Amy E. Eason New District Engineer

Amy E. Eason, PE, has been named South Indian River Water Control District Engineer to replace Lennart J. Lindahl, who took a position with the South Florida Water Management District. She is responsible for providing water control and road construction design, permitting, and compliance monitoring.

Mrs. Eason is a Project and Client Service Manager for AECOM Technical Services, Inc. Her professional affiliations have included the Florida Engineering Society, National Society of Professional Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers, Florida Stormwater Association, Martin County Citizen Advisory Committee (Vice-Chair), and Toastmasters International (Distinguished Toastmaster).

She has over 15 years of experience in water resources and general civil engineering and serves as District Engineer for several Special Taxing Districts. She has worked closely with Mr. Lindahl on numerous projects and is well-versed on the issues affecting the District. In addition, she provides general civil engineering services to public and private clients throughout Florida.

She earned her B.S. in Engineering with a specialization in Environmental Engineering at Mercer University in Macon, GA and holds professional engineer's licenses in Florida and Georgia. "The Board of Supervisors is confident that Mrs. Eason will continue to provide the District and its landowners with the highest level of professional engineering services," said Michael Danchuk, president of the board.

22nd Annual Landowners Family Day





15600 Jupiter Farms Road
Jupiter, FL 33478

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Upcoming Events

**Annual Budget Workshop
and Hearing - August 15**

**2nd Public Hearing
Landowner-Initiated
Roadway Improvement
Projects - August 15**

**Annual Landowners'
Meeting
September 19**

Visit www.sirwcd.org
for news updates!

22nd Annual Landowners Family Day



Celebrating the District's 90th Anniversary!

District landowners had a great time at the District's Landowner's Family Day held on Saturday, March 16. Everyone enjoyed Sonny's Bar-B-Q, activities for the kids, live music by the Tom Jackson Band, and great exhibits by community organizations!

