



Conservation News



Environmental News and Information from the City of Melbourne Utilities Department

Melbourne's web site packed with useful information, forms and more!

If you haven't visited the City of Melbourne's web site yet or if it has been a while since you've stopped by, you need to plan a trip! It is jam packed with useful information and forms that can answer questions and simplify your life. The address is www.melbourneflorida.org

A popular program that continues to grow is the automatic debit plan for paying utility bills. When you arrive at Melbourne's home page, look at the navigation bar on the left and select "Water Conservation." When you arrive there, look on the bar located on the right and select "Utility Customer Service." From this page you can retrieve the agreement form for automatic bill payment and find out

information about other payment methods available.

You will be able to navigate to areas that include water and sewer rates, how to perform a leak test, and how to get your water shut off if you are going away on vacation.

You will also be able to view publications such as this one, "Conservation News," along with the monthly report, "Utilities Connection," and others. You can find water conservation tips, a photo gallery, information about Melbourne's new surface water plant and the existing reverse osmosis water treatment plant, and much more.

While you're there, be sure to wander around the other areas



of Melbourne's web site. Visit the new section called, "Inside the City," for the City Manager's latest news briefs. You can also view interactive maps, download various forms, and get employment information.

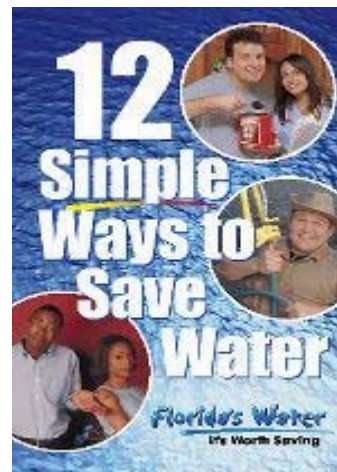
A leisurely visit to the site should prove well worth your while.

Partnership resulting in media campaign

Seventeen water utilities, including the City of Melbourne, have partnered with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) to implement a major water conservation media campaign.

"A water conservation campaign of this magnitude and type has never been attempted before in Florida," said Linda Burnette, Director of the Office of Communications & Governmental Affairs for the SJRWMD.

The first of three television commercials began airing in late February. Dubbed "The Water Hunter," this 30-second



begin airing later this spring and into the summer.

In addition to the TV commercials there will be radio ads and newspaper ads. The campaign web site, www.floridaswater.com, is up and running, and a brochure, entitled "12 Simple Ways to Save Water," is being distributed. Copies of the brochure can be ordered from the web site or you can call our offices at 674-5761 to request a copy.

The ultimate goal of the campaign is to present a clear, concise and consistent conservation message.

commercial has been shown on numerous stations. Two more entertaining commercials will

The City of
Melbourne



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Bits and Pieces from Recycling . . .

Recycle phone books this April and May



New phone books will begin arriving in April which means it's time to recycle your old books. You won't be able to put them in your curbside bins but many

locations have been established throughout the County for recycling collection. There are three locations in Melbourne that are designated drop-off points. These include:

- North Melbourne — Melbourne Fire Station #77 at 3721 N. Wickham Road, just south of Brevard Community College.
- Central Melbourne — Melbourne Auditorium at 625 E. Hibiscus Blvd., across from Holmes Regional Medical Center.
- South Melbourne — Melbourne Fire Station #75 at 151 E. University Blvd.

At each location you will find outdoor-style dumpsters that will be outfitted with large yellow stickers identifying their use for phone book recycling. They will be available during the months of April and May only.

For the second year, Brevard County Recycling will hold a phone book recycling contest at Brevard County public schools. There will be cash prizes for the schools that collect the most phone books. For additional information, contact the Brevard County Recycling Hotline at 633-2043.

Join the Great American Trash Bash

The City of Melbourne is joining with Keep Brevard Beautiful for the annual Great American Trash Bash. It will be held on April 20 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. All materials for participants will be provided. Locations in Melbourne include:

- Front Street Park (this site is also where boaters can volunteer to clean up the Indian River Lagoon)
- West Shore Sr./Jr. High School
- Brothers Park

For more information or to check on other clean-up sites throughout the County, call KBB at 453-8767 or visit the web site at www.KeepBrevardBeautiful.com.

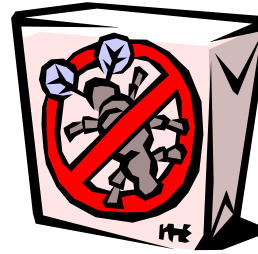
Household Hazardous Roundup scheduled

According to a news release from the Brevard County Solid Waste Operations Division, Americans throw away as much as 21 pounds of harmful household hazardous waste per year. Most of this eventually makes its way into landfills, sewers and septic tanks. This poses a serious health and safety risk to sanitation workers handling the material and, if the toxic materials are thrown in the trash or poured onto the ground, they can potentially pollute ground and surface water resources.

You can help this situation. Take the time to sort through your garage, shed, and under bathroom and kitchen sinks. Use these products as directed then dispose of them safely.

The County is making it easy. They are holding their Spring 2002 Household Hazardous Waste Roundup in April at two different locations in Brevard. At the roundups, homeowners will have the opportunity to turn in any unwanted or leftover household chemical products including:

- automotive fluids, such as motor oil, antifreeze and brake fluid
- lawn and garden chemicals



- pesticides and insecticides
- pool chemicals
- fluorescent lamps
- thermometers and thermostats
- automotive batteries
- rechargeable nickel

cadmium batteries

- paints and solvents

These types of products should be brought to the roundup in non-leaking, labeled containers. Many of the products will be recycled.

The roundups are each being held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the following locations:

- Sat., April 13 at B.C.C. Palm Bay Campus, 250 Community College Parkway, Palm Bay
- Sat., April 20 at the Barefoot Bay Community Center, 625 Barefoot Blvd., Building A Parking Lot, Barefoot Bay.

If you can't make it to the roundups, you can also bring household hazardous wastes to the Sarno Landfill, located at 3379 Sarno Road in Melbourne, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

For additional information, please call 633-1888.

Save water outdoors this spring

More than half of residential water use occurs outdoors. Watering wisely will promote healthier landscapes and save water. There are some easy ways you can have a beautiful yard and still save water outdoors this spring. Here are some easy tips to follow:

- Water your lawn in the early morning or early evening to minimize evaporation and waste. Lawns only need watering every three to five days in the spring and summer. A hearty rain can eliminate the need for watering for up to two weeks. In Melbourne, year-around rules only allow for watering between 4 p.m. to 10 a.m.
- Install water-efficient sprinklers and a rain sensor switch to override the system when it rains. Check timing devices regularly. Make sure you are watering your

plants and not the street or driveway.

- Landscape with drought tolerant grass, plants and trees. Group plants together based on similar water needs. Mulch to retain moisture and reduce weeds.

Please help us conserve!

You can help us conserve paper and resources. If you are receiving duplicate copies of "Conservation News" or would like to be removed from the mailing list, please let us know. You can call us at 674-5761 or drop an e-mail to utilitiesconserve@melbourneflorida.org. If you know of someone who would like to be added to the mailing list, please let us know that information.