

# Pipeline

Spring 2019



**N e w s l e t t e r**  
For Customers of the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department



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Mayor

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**Miami-Dade Water and Sewer**  
Kevin Lynskey  
Director

## Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department awarded \$100 million loan to fund new injection wells at wastewater treatment plants

**Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Andrew Wheeler awarded the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) one of the first allocations from its Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program.**

This loan will fund a significant portion of constructing 14 new injection wells at WASD's three wastewater treatment plants to capture treated wastewater that is currently discharged to the ocean. When the construction of this project and all necessary associated facilities are complete, Miami-Dade County will comply with State regulatory requirements.

"On behalf of Miami-Dade County, we are proud to be one of the first recipients of this national program's funding," said Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez. "This funding will support a project that will enhance the resiliency of our sewer system as we continue to plan for and address the impact of sea level rise to our community. WASD is already being considered for another WIFIA award, so we look forward to a continued partnership with the EPA as we work toward resolving our critical water and sewer infrastructure needs in the years to come."



EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler and Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez sign loan agreement that funds construction of new injection wells.

The construction of these injection wells is one of the hundreds of projects that WASD is undertaking as part of its multi-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

"The combination of aging infrastructure, new regulatory requirements and the unique ecology of South Florida requires that we operate a more resilient water and sewer system," said WASD Director Kevin Lynskey. "To achieve this, the department has undertaken one of the largest capital improvement programs in the nation. With WIFIA's funding, the EPA becomes a very valuable financing partner in addressing national critical infrastructure goals."

## WASD's water voted tops in Miami-Dade County

Your taste buds are not deceiving you – Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department's drinking water was recently crowned as the Best of the Best Drinking Water for the Florida Section American Water Works Association (AWWA) Region VII. The department squared off against other local utilities including the City of Homestead, City of North Miami, NMB Water and the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority. Experts in the field compared the water in a blind taste test where Miami-Dade's Water took the top honors. The department was to then compete in the state competition in Tampa. WASD is committed to service delivery excellence and utilizing the most advanced methods available, and staff works 24-hours-a-day, year round to ensure that high quality drinking water is available to our more than 2.3 million customers. Staff samples the water more than 150,000 times a year to provide the best of the best.



QUALITY. VALUE. ECONOMIC GROWTH.

WWW.MIAMIDADE.GOV/WATER



Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate on the basis of handicap.

It is the policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

For questions concerning your account, please contact:  
**Customer Service: 305-665-7477**  
Hours: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
(excluding holidays)  
Internet: [www.miamidade.gov/water](http://www.miamidade.gov/water)



## Did you know...

WASD produces about 300 million gallons of drinking water every single day!  
To put that into perspective, that's enough water to fill the Empire State Building 1.1 times daily

## It's The Law!

In Miami-Dade County, watering outdoors is not allowed from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.  
Residents and businesses with odd-numbered addresses can water on Wednesday and Saturdays. Those with even numbered addresses can water on Thursdays and Sundays.  
For questions concerning your account, please contact our Customer Service Call Center 305-665-7477  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
or visit us online [www.miamidade.gov/water](http://www.miamidade.gov/water)

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# WASD Releases Annual Water Quality Report

WASD released its 2018 Water Quality Report-also known as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The CCR provides a snapshot of drinking water quality each year based on the prior year's testing results. WASD staff works 24-hours-a-day, year-round to ensure that high quality drinking water is available to its customers.  
Every water utility in the United States is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to produce an annual CCR and make available to each of its billed customers by July 1st.



## May 5-11, 2019 is Drinking Water Week

For more than 35 years, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and its members have celebrated National Drinking Water Week. This year, the event is from May 5-11 and serves as a unique opportunity for both water professionals and the communities they serve to join to recognize the vital role water plays in our daily lives. Having clean, safe reliable drinking water far exceeds filling a glass of water straight from the faucet.



Without a safe water source, the public health, fire protection, the economy and the community's quality of life would all be jeopardized. This year's theme is Protect the Source. In the case of Miami-Dade County, ground water is primarily withdrawn from the Biscayne Aquifer. The Biscayne Aquifer is located just below land surface in South Florida. It is made from porous rock with tiny cracks and holes. Rain water then seeps in and fills these tiny cracks and holes.

The Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) also plays a role in ensuring the water used to drink, cook with and manufacture with is safe. WASD is proud of the water it delivers to the more than 2.3 million people each day in Miami-Dade County. The department is the largest utility in the Southeastern United States and ninth largest water utility in the nation. WASD tests its water more than 150,000 times annually and the County's water meets or exceeds all local, state and federal requirements.

## Adopt-A-Tree, exchange your showerheads and lightbulbs

The Adopt-a-Tree program provides Miami-Dade single-family or duplex homeowners with two FREE trees every year, even if they have adopted trees in previous years. The next event is 9 a.m. to noon Sunday, June 2 at FIU Biscayne Campus located at 3000 NE 151 St. Single-family homeowners adopted more than 195,000 trees since the program's inception in 2001. Residents can also exchange two showerheads for new, free, high efficiency showerheads and three incandescent lightbulbs for high efficiency CFLs that will save water and energy. All events will take place from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., rain or shine.

For more information, email [adoptatree@miamidade.gov](mailto:adoptatree@miamidade.gov) or call 305-372-6784.

