



# WATER USAGE Report Card

## MANATEE COUNTY UTILITIES 2024 REPORT

The 2024 edition of the Water Usage Report Card highlights the Cross Connection Control Program and presents the latest information on water consumption, water rates, Manatee County watering restrictions, rain barrels, and the water conservation rebate programs.

### Watering Restrictions Information

In Manatee County, there are specific days and times when you may water your yard. The allowable days depend on whether you have an odd or even numbered address.

ADRESSES ENDING IN...	MAY WATER ON...
<i>Even Numbers (0, 2, 4, 6, 8)</i>	<b><i>Thursday and/or Sunday</i></b>
<i>Odd Numbers (1, 3, 5, 7, 9)</i>	<b><i>Wednesday and/or Saturday</i></b>
<i>No Address</i>	<b><i>Tuesday and/or Friday</i></b>

Irrigation of existing lawns and landscaping shall be limited to once a day, two times per week. Irrigation is allowed only **before 10:00 a.m. or after 4:00 p.m.**

*Restrictions apply to all potable (drinking) water and all irrigation waters that come from wells, surface water sources including retention ponds, rivers, lakes, etc. Violations of this directive carry fines up to \$15,000 as provided for under Florida Statute §373.129(5).*

For questions regarding watering restrictions, variances, or to report watering violations, email [water.conservation@mymanatee.org](mailto:water.conservation@mymanatee.org) or call **941-792-8811** extension **5327**.

### Rain Barrels

Manatee County's Rain Barrel Program is designed to help residents lower their utility bills and conserve water by using rain barrels to collect and store rainwater for irrigation. Limit 4 per household or business. Rain barrel kits are available at cost for \$41.12 plus sales tax of 7% (total of \$44) and include the following:

- One blue reconditioned 55-gallon plastic drum,
- Debris drain, all necessary PVC fittings and a brass spigot,
- Instructions for assembly and instructions to build a stand (if choosing to build one).

To purchase a rain barrel, please email [utilitiescustomerservice@mymanatee.org](mailto:utilitiescustomerservice@mymanatee.org), submit a request via customer self- service portal, or call customer service at **(941) 792-8811**.



For more information check our website at [www.mymanatee.org/water](http://www.mymanatee.org/water)

## How Do You Compare?

The average monthly consumption for residential, multi-family, mobile/travel trailer, and irrigation categories is shown below:

Category	Average Monthly Use in Gallons	Average Monthly Use in Hundreds of Gallons*
Single family Homes	4,930	49
Multi-Family Homes	2,922	29
Mobile/Travel Trailers	2,805	28
Irrigation	9,480	94

\*Hundreds of gallons as it appears on your utility bill

The average household of 4 should have a consumption of around **5,000 gallons** per month. Where does your household stand? Remember to keep an eye on the water usage graph in the Utilities customer self-service portal to see if your water usage has increased or decreased. Your water bill is determined by your usage and the established water rates.

## Outdoor Water Conservation Rebate Program

Rebate categories include:

- Irrigation System Repair/Replacement – 50% of cost up to \$1,500.00
- Landscape Retrofit – 50% of cost up to \$1,500.00.
- Rain Sensor/Evapotranspiration Control – 100% of cost up to \$150.00
- Moisture Sensor – 100% of cost up to \$500.00
- WaterSense Smart Irrigation Controller – 50% of cost up to \$500.00
- Irrigation Well (individual) – 50% of cost up to \$2,500.00
- Alternative Water Source – 50% of cost up to \$1,000.00
- Reclaimed Water Connection – 50% of cost up to \$1,000.00



Some restrictions apply. For full program details and to confirm eligibility, please visit our website at [www.mymanatee.org/rebateprogram](http://www.mymanatee.org/rebateprogram) or email us at [water.conservations@mymanatee.org](mailto:water.conservations@mymanatee.org).

## UF/IFAS Manatee County Extension

The Manatee County Extension Office provides services for all Manatee County residents. The table below shows the results of their efforts for 2023.

### Extension Service Water Conservation Educational Program at a Glance

Classes/Workshops held	202
Workshop attendance	18,872
Irrigation/Landscape evaluations	283
Participants at displays/exhibits	1,696
Publications distributed	54,709

To learn about available classes and to register, visit the [Manatee County Extension Service](http://www.manateecountyextension.org) website.

### Free Landscape and Irrigation Evaluations for Homeowners

All residential and business properties in Manatee County with automatic sprinkler systems qualify for a **No-Cost Landscape and Irrigation Evaluation** with the County's mobile irrigation lab. Call the Manatee County Extension Office at **941-722-4524 x 1828** to schedule a free evaluation. To learn more about the mobile irrigation lab and how evaluations are conducted, you can view the video on the [Manatee County Extension Service](http://www.manateecountyextension.org) website.

## Manatee County Water Rates

The current water rates are shown below and are available on the [Manatee County Utilities](https://www.mymanatee.org/utilities) website. These rates are established to discourage excessive use and/or waste of our highly treated potable water supply.

### Monthly Individual Meter Base Charge by Meter Size

Size	Individual Water	Irrigation	Wastewater
5/8" X 3/4"	\$11.78	\$11.78	\$28.09
3/4"	\$15.92	\$14.51	\$40.26
1"	\$24.24	\$24.24	\$64.49
1 1/2"	\$45.05	\$45.05	\$125.16

### Monthly Master Meter Base Charge per Unit

Type	Individual Water	Wastewater
Residential	\$8.86	\$25.35
Multi - Family	\$6.33	\$16.96
Mobile/Travel	\$4.84	\$13.57

### Monthly Rates Per 1,000 Gallons of Potable Water

#### Individual Residential Meters and Master Metered Single-Family Dwellings

First 6,000 gallons	\$2.83
Next 9,000 gallons	\$3.54
Next 5,000 gallons	\$8.52
Over 20,000 gallons	\$12.80

#### Master Metered Condos/Apartments

First 4,500 gallons	\$2.83
Next 6,500 gallons	\$3.54
Over 11,000 gallons	\$8.52

#### Master Metered Mobile Homes and Travel Trailer Parks

First 3,600 gallons	\$2.83
Next 5,400 gallons	\$3.54
Over 9,000 gallons	\$8.52

#### Irrigation Meter – 1" and Smaller

First 5,000 gallons	\$2.83
Next 15,00 gallons	\$8.52
Over 20,000 gallons	\$12.80

#### Irrigation Meter – 1 1/2" and Larger

First 5,000 gallons	\$2.83
Next 10,000 gallons	\$3.54
Next 15,000 gallons	\$4.58
Next 30,000 gallons	\$7.05
Next 40,000 gallons	\$8.52
Over 100,000 gallons	\$12.80

#### Reclaimed Water Rates

Individual metered residential, commercial, and industrial	\$1.11
--	--------

#### Wastewater (Sewer) Quantity Charge\*

Individual metered residential, commercial, and industrial	\$6.27
--	--------

\*The Wastewater (Sewer) Quantity Charge is based on 100% of water usage, and the maximum monthly wastewater charge for residential individually metered customers is capped at 10,000 gallons of potable water consumption. This charge covers the cost of operating the wastewater collection system and variable costs at the three Wastewater Treatment Plants, such as chemicals and electricity.



## Toilet Rebate Program

Manatee County offers up to a \$100 rebate to customers who replace their old toilet with a new high-efficiency model (1.28 gpf or less). Limit 2 toilets rebated per residential property (maximum \$100 per toilet). The program is designed to reduce the amount of drinking water used for flushing. Toilets manufactured **prior** to 1995 normally use 3.5 gallons per flush or more, while new high-efficiency ones use 1.28 gpf or less. WaterSense toilets can save as much as **9,636 gallons** of water per year in your home.

Participants must receive water from the Manatee County Utilities Department and have an active water account. Customers who live in a master metered community must provide the name of the homeowner's association on their application. Rebates for commercial and multi-family properties are also available.

### How to participate:

- Take a picture of your old toilet(s) prior to removal, **AND** a picture showing the year (must be 1994 or older) on the bottom of the old lid(s) or inside the old toilet tank(s), usually near the waterline.
- Save the old tank(s) **AND** lid(s) with the date stamps **until your application is approved by staff.** **Physical verification may be required.**
- Submit a picture/copy of your itemized receipt showing paid/\$0 balance.
- Replace your old toilet(s) with a new EPA WaterSense labeled toilet(s) of 1.28 gpf or less.
- Take a picture of the new toilet(s) installed and the EPA WaterSense label.

Apply through your MCUD account at [www.mymanatee.org/css](http://www.mymanatee.org/css), submit an [online](#) application, or download a printable version of the at [www.mymanatee.org/rebateprogram](http://www.mymanatee.org/rebateprogram), to mail or email in. You may also email [water.conservation@mymanatee.org](mailto:water.conservation@mymanatee.org) for any additional information.

All required photos must be submitted along with the application.

Refer to [www.mymanatee.org/rebateprogram](http://www.mymanatee.org/rebateprogram) for all details and qualifications.

## Cross Connection Control Program

### MANATEE COUNTY ORDINANCE 20-44 EXPANDED REQUIREMENTS FOR BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES

Every customer who owns a backflow prevention assembly is required to have the device tested annually. Testing must be completed by a contractor registered with the Cross Connection Control office. The list of certified testers can be found on the [Manatee County Utilities](http://www.manateecountyutilities.com) website.

**BPA's are required for all homes built after July 20, 1987 if any of the following conditions are present:**

In-ground irrigation system; secondary source of water, such as reclaimed water or well; swimming pool; flood zone designation; property located near a body of water, including river, bay, lake or pond; commercial, industrial, multistory or multifamily residential facility; any cross connection found.

**If your home was built prior to July 20, 1987 and any condition(s) listed above is present, a backflow preventer(s) is required to be installed no later than **December 31, 2025**, to ensure proper protection of the drinking water in compliance with [Manatee County Code of Ordinances, Article X of Chapter 2-31](#).**

For more information regarding your backflow prevention assembly, visit our website at [www.mymanatee.org/water](http://www.mymanatee.org/water), email [water.saver@mymanatee.org](mailto:water.saver@mymanatee.org) or call 941-792-8811 extension 5267 or 5283.

