



WATER USAGE Report Card

MANATEE COUNTY UTILITIES 2021 REPORT

The 2021 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.

Cross Connection Control Program

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

All Manatee County Utility customers that have any of the following conditions at their properties are required to install a Backflow Prevention Assembly(ies) no later than December 31, 2025:

- 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;
- Fire sprinkler system;
- Solar water heating system; or
- Cross connection found (any connection between your drinking water and another source of water that combines the two waters).



Backflow preventers must be installed to [Manatee County Utilities Standards](#) and be the correct type of assembly based on the conditions on your property. The assembly must meet the lead-free requirement of Section 1417 of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Every customer who owns a backflow prevention assembly is required to have the assembly 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](#) website.

If you irrigate with drinking water, you shall have two backflow preventers, one at the meter and another one on the irrigation line at the point of connection to the drinking water line. If you have two meters, potable, and irrigation, you are also required to have two backflow preventers, one at each meter.

For more information regarding your backflow prevention assembly please visit our website at www.mymanatee.org/water, email water.saver@mymanatee.org or call **941-792-8811** extension **5267** or **5283**.

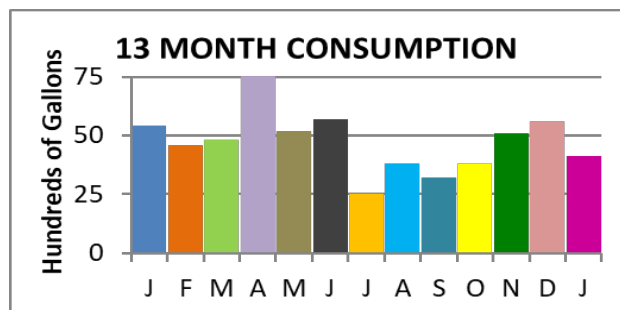
For more information check our website at www.mymanatee.org/water

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	5,083	51
Multi-Family Homes	3,172	32
Mobile/Travel Trailers	2,475	25
Irrigation	9,023	90

*Hundreds of gallons as it appears on your utility bill



The average household of 4 should have a consumption of less than **5,000 gallons** per month. Where does your household stand? Remember to keep an eye on the 13-month period chart located on your bill in the bottom left-hand corner, to see if your water usage has increased or decreased. Your water bill is determined by your usage and the established water rates.

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 the past year.

Extension Service Water Conservation Educational Program at a Glance

Classes/Workshops held	168
Workshop attendance	11,867
Irrigation/Landscape evaluations	361
Participants at displays/exhibits	798
Publications distributed	62,362

To learn about available classes and to register, go to the [Manatee County Extension Service](#) 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](#) website.

Manatee County Water Rates

The current water rates are shown below and are available on the [Manatee County Utilities](http://www.manatee.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"	\$9.78	\$9.78	\$23.32
3/4"	\$13.22	\$13.22	\$33.42
1"	\$20.13	\$20.13	\$53.54
1 1/2"	\$37.40	\$37.40	\$103.91

Monthly Master Meter Base Charge per Unit

Type	Individual Water	Wastewater
Residential	\$7.35	\$21.05
Multi - Family	\$5.26	\$14.08
Mobile/Travel	\$4.02	\$11.26

Monthly Rates Per 1,000 Gallons of Potable Water

Individual Residential Meters and Master Metered Single-Family Dwellings

First 6,000 gallons	\$2.35
Next 9,000 gallons	\$2.94
Next 5,000 gallons	\$7.07
Over 20,000 gallons	\$10.62

Master Metered Condos/Apartments

First 4,500 gallons	\$2.35
Next 6,500 gallons	\$2.94
Over 11,000 gallons	\$7.07

Master Metered Mobile Homes and Travel Trailer Parks

First 3,600 gallons	\$2.35
Next 5,400 gallons	\$2.94
Over 9,000 gallons	\$7.07

Irrigation Meter – 1" and Smaller

First 5,000 gallons	\$2.35
Next 15,00 gallons	\$7.07
Over 20,000 gallons	\$10.62

Irrigation Meter – 1 1/2" and Larger

First 5,000 gallons	\$2.35
Next 10,000 gallons	\$2.94
Next 15,000 gallons	\$3.80
Next 30,000 gallons	\$5.85
Next 40,000 gallons	\$7.07
Over 100,000 gallons	\$10.62

Reclaimed Water Rates

Individual metered residential, commercial, and industrial	\$0.92
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Wastewater (Sewer) Quantity Charge*

Individual metered residential, commercial, and industrial	\$5.20
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*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.

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...
Even Numbers (0, 2, 4, 6, 8)	Thursday and/or Sunday
Odd Numbers (1, 3, 5, 7, 9)	Wednesday and/or Saturday
No Address	Tuesday and/or Friday

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 \$10,000 as provided for under Florida Statute §373.129(5).

For questions regarding watering restrictions, variances, or to report watering violations, email water.saver@mymanatee.org or call **941-792-8811** extension **5327**.

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 (up to \$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 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).
- 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.
- Submit an [online](#) application, or download a [printable version of the application](#) to be emailed, or mailed in. You may also email toilet.rebate@mymanatee.org for any questions or to submit your application. All required photos must be submitted along with the application.

Refer to www.mymanatee.org/water for all details and qualifications for our Water Conservation Programs.

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 \$34.58 plus sales tax of 7% (total of \$37) 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 or call **(941) 792-8811**.