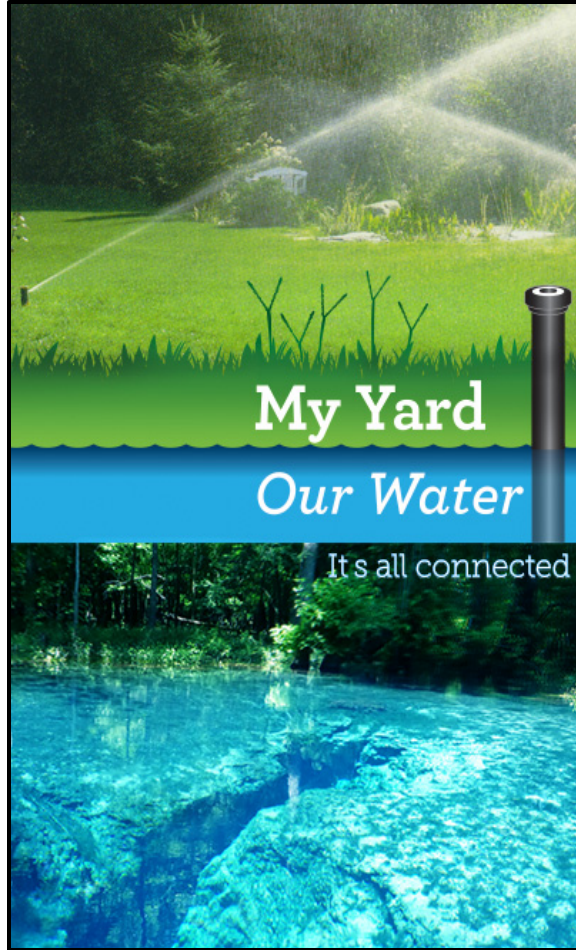




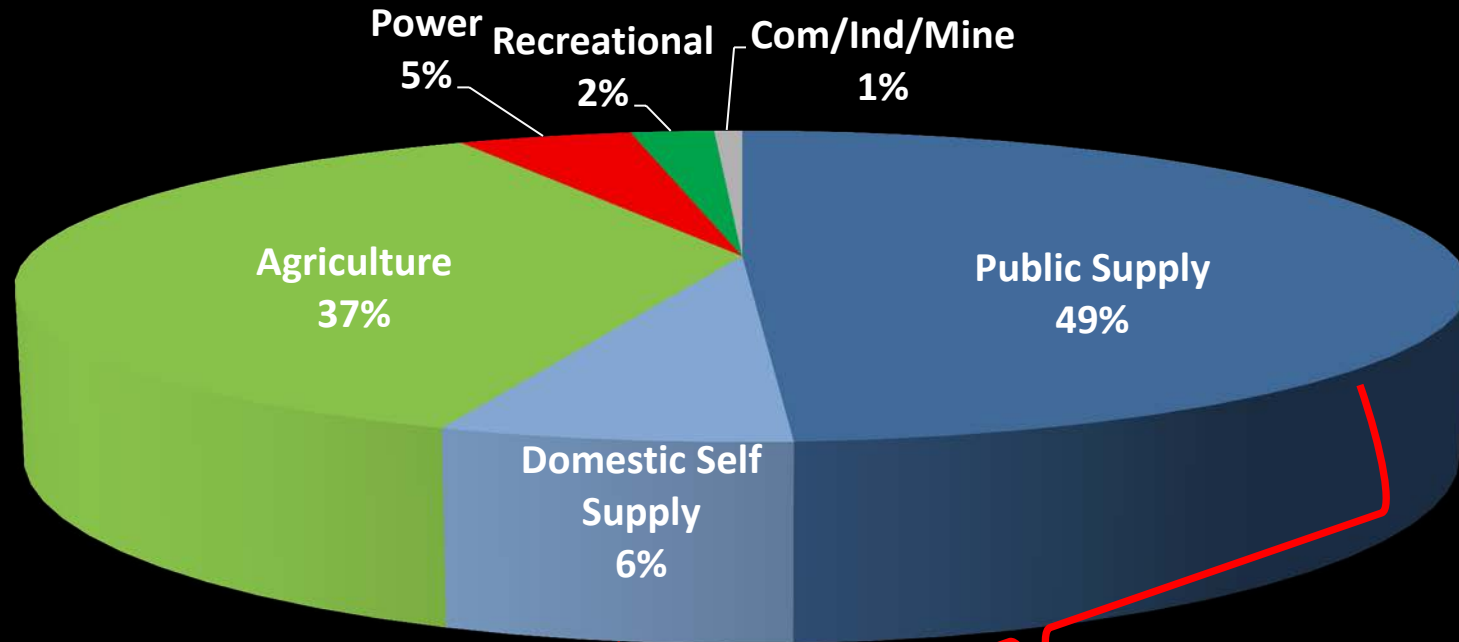
Alachua County Landscape Irrigation Efficiency Code



February 3, 2016

2010 Groundwater use in Alachua County

Source: USGS 2014



~33% of total water use in Alachua Co. is for landscapes



Local Water Use

Average daily water use in homes built since 2000 :

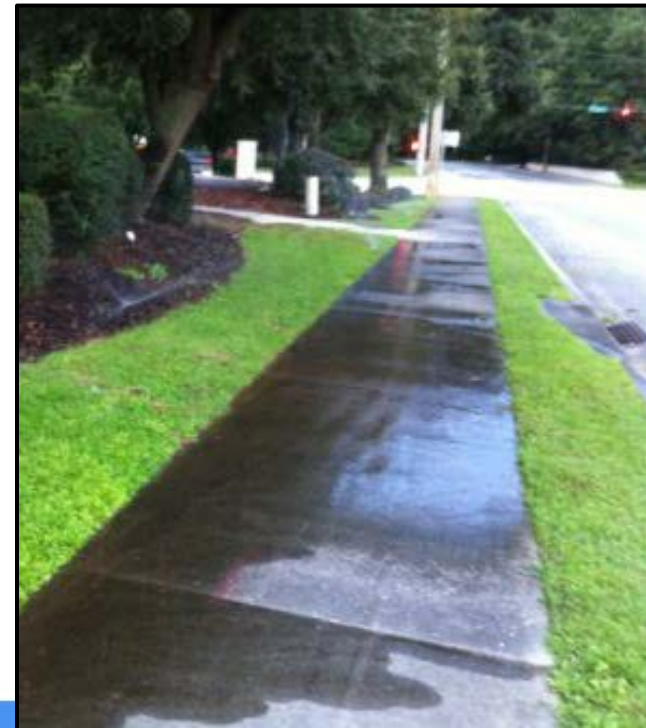
- 💧 358 gallons- with irrigation system
- 💧 190 gallons- without irrigation

90% of new homes (in GRU's service area) have irrigation systems



Intent of Ordinance

- Improve water quality by reducing lawn chemical pollution from inefficient irrigation
- Reduce discretionary outdoor water use





Process

- All irrigation professionals installing and/or maintaining irrigation systems must register with Alachua County.
- All new irrigation systems in unincorporated AC require county approval
 - Submit completed Application Review Form, irrigation site sketch, and fee
 - County will review and send approval notice
- Inspection (self inspection, third party, or County)



Design Standards

- High volume irrigation shall not exceed 60% of landscaped area (applicable on lots over 1/8 acre).
- Maximum irrigated area of residential lots shall not exceed 0.5 acres.





Design Standards

- No high volume for trees and shrubs
- Separate zones for spray heads and rotors
- Separate zones for turf and mulched areas
- Pressure regulating spray heads
- No overspray to impervious areas





Adopted Fees

- Residential
 - \$50 Approval fee
 - \$85 County Inspection fee (if not self inspected)
 - \$50 County Re-inspection fee
- Non-Residential (common areas, commercial, churches, etc.)
 - \$100 Approval fee
 - \$170 County Inspection fee (if not self inspected)
 - \$100 County Re-inspection fee



Code Implementation

- County will offer training opportunities for local irrigation professionals.
- Violations of the code will lead to written warnings, fines, and possibly court appearances.
- Retrofitting of non-compliant irrigation systems may be required to achieve compliance.



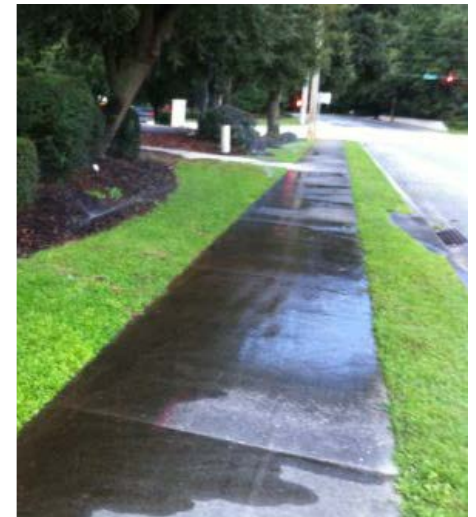
Ordinance Update

- Adopted by County Commission on 9/22/15
- 29 irrigation professionals have registered their businesses with the County
- Two free Florida Water Star Accredited Professionals classes have been held with ~80 participants
- Currently creating the website/portal for irrigation approvals (required after 4/1/16)



City of Gainesville Options

- Opt into Alachua County's ordinance via a resolution.
- Adopt and implement a similar City Ordinance (complicated for irrigation professionals).
- Take no action.





Thank You!

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