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**Presentation of State Funding from St. Johns River Water Management District for the Water Consumption and Conservation Programs Visualization Tool (NB)**

Gainesville Regional Utilities was recently awarded cost-share money from the St. Johns River Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the development of a Water Consumption and Conservation Programs Visualization Tool. The State has awarded GRU with a 50 percent match of the total project cost for an amount up to \$51,000.

Gainesville Regional Utilities, the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department, and the Alachua County Extension Office are partnering to enhance water conservation programs in the community by pursuing a spatial tool that will provide statistics on water consumption at the parcel level. This tool will be developed and maintained by the University of Florida’s Program for Efficient Communities (UF/PREC). Using the reporting and spatial capabilities of the tool, the project partners will be able to track and measure the effectiveness of current conservation efforts and target future conservation programs. GRU expects that this tool will help reduce water consumption by 140,000 gallons per day by the end of the two year project.

This project highlights GRU’s and the other project partners’ continued commitment to helping the community conserve water and use this precious resource wisely. Tony Cunningham, GRU W/WW Systems Officer, will give the City Commission a brief description of the project and James Troiano, SJRWMD Intergovernmental Coordinator, will present a novelty check.

The total project cost is \$102,000. The State is providing the City with a 50 percent funding match for an amount up to \$51,000. The fiscal impact to GRU will be \$51,000 over the two year project. Funds for the project were budgeted in the Water & Wastewater Systems Operations & Maintenance Budget as part of the GRU water conservation efforts to support our community’s consumptive use permit.

Hear a presentation.

