



Purified Recycled Water:

Safely Supplying Florida's Future



 **One Water
Florida**

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One Water Florida is an initiative to educate the public on the benefits of purified recycled water as a necessary alternative water supply. Due to Florida's limited freshwater supply, the need to plan for and diversify alternative water sources is vital to meet projected water needs as well as respond to drought, protect the environment and ensure a robust economic future.

What is Purified Recycled Water?

Purified recycled water is reclaimed water that undergoes a multi-step, rigorous purification process that can be used for drinking, cooking and bathing.





Is Purified Recycled Water Safe for People to Drink?

Yes. Purified recycled water uses proven technology to make the water safe and taste great. It complies with or exceeds state and federal drinking water standards.



Why Should Purified Recycled Water be Added to Florida's Water Supply?

Florida is growing at a record pace. We welcome hundreds of new residents and an average of nearly 400,000 visitors to our state each day. Our aquifers, lakes and springs cannot keep up with our need for water. In fact, we need an additional 755 million gallons of water per day by 2045. Our supply is not endless, and by including purified recycled water, we can ensure there is plenty of water for everyone. This is part of our state's plan to be more sustainable, diversify its water sources and protect the environment.





How is Purified Recycled Water Treated?

Treatment for purified recycled water has proven safe for public health and the environment. The processes provide a safe, reliable and sustainable drinking water supply.

- First, the water goes through multiple advanced pretreatment processes.
- Next, the water receives additional filtration processes to remove microorganisms, including viruses, bacteria and other pollutants.
- Although the water is exceptionally clean at this point, the last step provides additional layers of protection through advanced disinfection treatments such as ultraviolet light, ozone and peroxide. These disinfection processes ensure high-quality drinking water.



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Who is Responsible for Making Sure Water is Safe to Drink in Florida?

Highly trained and certified treatment operators are responsible for maintaining safe, functioning water systems in Florida. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) takes its responsibility seriously to ensure that water utilities provide safe, reliable drinking water to Floridians, including those using purified recycled water.

How Does Purified Recycled Water Help Our Environment?

Reusing water relieves pressure on Florida's water resources and ecosystems. The more water we recycle, the more water remains in our aquifer where our drinking water comes from and in our rivers and springs for the fish, plants and wildlife that rely upon them.





Do Other States Use Purified Recycled Water to Supplement Their Drinking Water Supply?

A variety of purified recycled water projects have been implemented from coast to coast in the United States, around the globe and even in space. Various utilities in Florida already are planning for purified recycled water as a future water source because of our dwindling water supply in lakes, springs and aquifers.

How You Can Learn More:

Visit OneWaterFL.org for more information on the benefits of purified recycled water and how it's being used to supplement the supply of drinking water around the United States and the world.

