



Florida's Water Reuse Program received a national 2006 Water Efficiency Leaders (WEL) Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Water Efficiency Leaders (WEL) awards recognize organizations and individuals who are providing leadership and innovation in water efficient products and practices. The awards are intended to help foster a nationwide ethic of water efficiency, as well as to inspire, motivate, and recognize efforts to improve water efficiency. Florida's Water Reuse Program was among six agencies, firms, utilities, and individuals recognized for outstanding leadership in water efficiency, conservation, and stewardship.

In Florida, 465 water reclamation facilities provide about 660 million gallons per day (MGD) of reclaimed water for a wide range of beneficial uses, including irrigation of over 201,000 residential lawns, 462 golf courses, 572 parks, and 251 schools. Use of reclaimed water has been shown to be an effective means of conserving drinking water resources.

"We are honored to receive one of the first WEL Awards," said DEP's Water Reuse Coordinator, Dr. David York. "Our Water Reuse Program is a collaborative effort between DEP, the state's five water management districts, the Florida Department of Health, PSC, and several other state agencies; and credit goes to all of them, along with the hundreds of progressive utilities in Florida that have embraced water reuse and made Florida the national leader in water reuse."

For more information on EPA's WEL awards, visit [www.epa.gov/ow/wel](http://www.epa.gov/ow/wel).