



# IWA PIPELINE



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## PLEASE EXCUSE OUR (IWA & THE CITY OF SANIBEL) CONSTRUCTION...

You may have noticed the two rather large cranes and the portable traffic signals that control traffic through the one open lane at the box culvert on Lindgren Boulevard. The City of Sanibel is rebuilding the aging bridge over the culvert, and in



City of Sanibel culvert/bridge project

the process is widening the culvert and raising the roadway. Island Water has an 8-inch ductile iron pipe attached to the culvert that must be removed and then reattached to the new bridge structure.

This "main" water pipe is part of a loop, so when the isolation valves on both sides of the bridge are closed, no one will lose water service. Since the excavated area for the new culvert is rather large, we decided to move these isolation valves farther away from the bridge, out of the construction/excavation area. If you saw IWA technicians digging in the area, that's what they were doing, relocating the two isolation valves.

Some homeowners did lose water service for a few hours while the work was being done, and boil water notices were issued for the homeowners that were affected. When the existing line over the bridge is finally shut down for replacement, no one will see a disruption of their water service.

## 16-INCH PRODUCT TRANSFER LINE...

In our Summer Pipeline we wrote about an upcoming project to finish the replacement of the 12-inch product (treated, or finished, water) transfer pipe that runs from the Plant to the two 5MG stor-



Transfer Line Extension

age tanks. In 2009 the three 30HP transfer pumps and about half of the 400 feet of 12-inch transfer pipe were replaced with three 50HP transfer pumps and 16-inch pipe, thereby realizing significant energy savings.

In late August we began replacing the last 200 feet of 12-inch pipe with 16-inch pipe. This part of the pipeline runs through a very busy part of our yard, subterraneously speaking. There are numerous other underground utilities such as water



*Tom Powers and Tommy Flaglrello preparing to secure the inlet piping*

pipes, electrical conduits, communication cables, and control wiring conduits, including fiber optic. Much of the digging through this area will be by



hand, which is safer, but slow going.

Part of this project involves replacing the 12-inch transfer line valves at both of our five million gallon storage tanks. When the 16-inch line gets near the tanks, it reduces to 12-inch and tees off to each tank. A valve at each tank allows the operators to

shut off, or isolate, each tank. These valves are now over 30 years old, so we decided to replace them while we are working on the transfer line. This will also give us the opportunity to inspect the ductile iron nozzles, running from the valves into the tanks, inside and out for corrosion. This project should be completed by the end of September.

There are several other pipes in our yard that are now over 30 years old and are also made of ductile iron. While we have a contractor on the property with heavy equipment, we will uncover a few sections of these pipes and conduct corrosion tests to determine the remaining life of these pipes.

We try to schedule construction projects during the slow summer months for a couple of reasons. First, many homeowners spend their summers up north, and tourist bookings are down, lowering demand on our system. Also, summer rainfall has lowered the need for landscape irrigation, dramatically reducing demand on our system.

### IWA SAFETY AWARD...

Once again IWA has received the Florida Water and Pollution Control Operators Association Safety Commendation for our outstanding safety record in both the Production and Distribution departments. This commendation also represents the safe working practices of all employees of IWA. As of September 1st, IWA has worked a total of 3,875 days without any lost-time work related injuries. Safety is a full-time concern at IWA.



Employees attend monthly safety meetings specific to each department, along with annual and sometimes semi-annual company-wide safety

### Safety Awards

meetings on a broad range of safety issues. Employees must also be properly trained and tested before they are allowed to operate any of our rolling stock (forklift, tractors, front loader).



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## WELL S-8 CONTROL CABINET...

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*Suwannee Well 8 Control Cabinet*

Our Summer 2011 Pipeline featured an article detailing the replacement of the copper control cable that runs from Well S-5 to Well S-8 with Fiber Optic Cable. At the same time we decided to replace the aging plywood/fiberglass control cabinet at Well S-8. The new cabinet was fitted with the latest electronic programmable controls and a new Variable Frequency Drive (VFD), which is about one-third the physical size as the one being replaced. VFD's allow the operators to control the speed of the well pumps, thereby controlling flow and pressure. With the addition of the Fiber Optic control cable and the latest controls, the operators will now have the ability to adjust the pumps from the Operators Station at the Plant. Previously, to fine tune the wells required an extra man and a truck, and a lot of radio chatter between the Plant and the man in the field. All wells will eventually be fitted with the new electronics.

The new controls and fiber link now give the operators feedback and total control of the well field from the Plant.

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## ANNUAL RAINFALL, WATER SHORTAGE

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Year-to-date rainfall on Sanibel for 2011 has been 20% below our 34-year average, with February, April, and June being especially dry (3.12" to-

tal). The previous 12 months total is even worse, 33% below average. This rainfall deficit is prevalent throughout South Florida. Accordingly, the South Florida water Management District has continued the two day a week irrigation restrictions that have been in effect. To quote their website:

*"Although summer rains have provided relief after months of record-low rainfall, ground and surface water levels in some areas of South Florida have been slow to recover. In response, water shortage orders remain in effect to limit landscape irrigation to two days per week throughout most of the South Florida Water Management District's 16-county region. South Florida lawns typically only need 3/4 to 1 inch of water per week, which can be delivered from rain or irrigation systems."*

You can find the latest information on the current watering restrictions on the Home Page of our website, [www.islandwater.com](http://www.islandwater.com). Click on Water Restrictions Updated June 2011.

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## JOHN LEITER, 30 YEARS...

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As of August 19, John Leiter, IWA's Industrial Technology Manager, has been with IWA thirty years. John's first experience with IWA was in 1980 when he was working for the electrical contractor that was installing the wiring and controls for the brand new Reverse Osmosis Plant. Then-Production Manager Pete Wilson recognized



*John Leiter with grandsons Jaiden and Nathan*

John's expertise and offered him a permanent position as Senior Electronics Technician maintaining the hardware and software for the new plant. John accepted the position and has overseen many cutting edge energy saving technological upgrades to the plant since then. When Pete retired in 1998, John was promoted to Maintenance Manager, responsible for maintaining wiring and controls for



*John, right, working on well line tie-in.*

the RO Plant, the well field, all IWA buildings, as well as IWA's fleet of service vehicles.

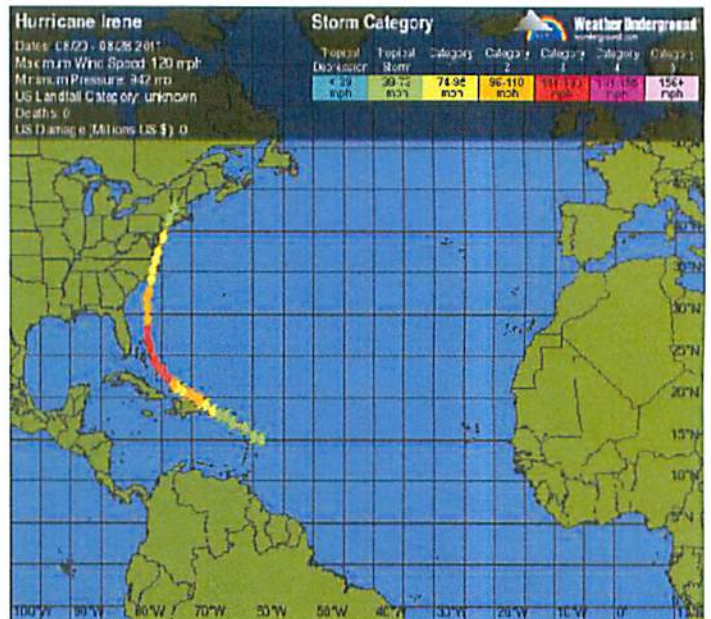
During his tenure at IWA, John has raised a son, John Matthew, and a daughter, Lindsay. Lindsay has given her Dad and his wife Susan a couple of grandsons to entertain, which they do quite often.

John also became a Coast Guard licensed Captain so he could enjoy his passion for boating and the sea. His boating activities make sure he has something to maintain or repair when he isn't at work.

Over the years at IWA John has continuously advanced his knowledge of pumps, engines, electric motors, SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) systems, instrumentation, industrial controls, hurricane recovery, and management. John has always been a hands-on type of supervisor and manager, and can still be seen around the property carrying a bag of tools or moving a load of dirt with the John Deere front loader.

## STORM SEASON UPDATE...

If you have been by our offices you may have noticed that we do not have our storm shutters up. Although we were expecting a worse than average hurricane season this year, we have not had to look through our clear Lexan storm shutters. At the midpoint of the hurricane season most of the storms have turned north and away from the U.S. coastline. We dodged a big bullet when Irene turned north away from Florida, although the East coast of the U.S. was not so lucky.



*Hurricane Irene politely went around Florida*



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