



# IWA PIPELINE



FALL 1989

© 1989 THE ISLAND WATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 4

## Murphy's Law covers IWA too

The law is the law, nobody is immune. Something could go wrong with our front "We Save Water" license plate deal, and it did. Hundreds were delivered to us badly smeared and blurred. Back they went (unpaid for) and now a different supplier has completed the job. And our snappy new plates are ready for distribution. Just shows what happens when you stray from your own line of work.

If you haven't ordered yours you can stop by the office and get one...free while they last.



Yes, I would like to have a "We Save Water" License plate.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this coupon to Island Water Association, Inc.,  
P.O. Box 509, Sanibel, FL 33957.

## Lee County proposes Regional Water Supply Authority

The Lee County Commission has sent the City of Sanibel the first draft of an interlocal agreement that would establish a Regional Water Supply Authority that would cover all of Lee County.

The Authority would provide a cooperative effort of Lee County and the cities of Fort Myers, Cape Coral and Sanibel to meet the water needs of the rapidly growing area in the most prudent and economical way possible.

The Authority would be governed by a seven member "water board" made up of representatives from the county and the cities involved.

According to the rough draft the Authority would have various powers and responsibilities including:

- Funding plans and feasibility studies
- Engaging interlocal agreements or contracts for supplying water
- Acting as the sole regional water supplier.

The Authority would provide water only on a wholesale basis and would not be involved in local distribution.

The IWA board recently met with officials from the City and the Southwest Florida Water Management District to talk about the proposed water authority. Judging by the number of questions raised there will doubtless be much more discussion before final action is taken.

This is the first of a series of articles which will be presented as part of the cooperative water conservation program between IWA and the Sanibel/Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF).

There are a variety of creative ways to conserve water, one of these is xeriscaping. Our goal is to educate the public about this common sense approach to landscaping.

The first step in xeriscaping is to plan your new landscape. Some things to keep in mind when designing your yard are lot size, shape, existing vegetation, and the amount of sod needed for recreational use. Ground covers, mulched beds or hardscape are consideration for areas where turf is not practical.

Soils on Sanibel and Captiva are most commonly composed of sand and shell. They are lacking in organic matter and nutrients.

Amending the soil at this time of planting with peat humus/potting soil and composted cow manure will greatly improve the soil's capacity to retain moisture and will give your new plantings a mild shot of nutrients.

Drought tolerant plants should be utilized in your design. When grouping plants, select plants which have similar water requirements. This way you will avoid overwatering one species and under-watering another.

Mulching your planted areas is recommended. Mulching conserves water, keeps the soil cooler and helps reduce weed growth. Mulch should be applied at a depth of three inches to be most efficient.

Proper landscape maintenance is also important. Fertilization encourages new

growth and in turn increases the plant's demand for water. Mowing your lawns too short makes it grow faster and dry out more quickly.

A well designed and maintained irrigation system is also critical. Sprinklers work best in turf areas. In bedded areas of trees, shrubs and/or ground covers, a bubbler or drip system is more efficient. Sprinkler heads should periodically be checked for clogs, direction of spray, and head damage. Irrigation timers should be adjusted from time to time as temperatures and rainfall fluctuate. Water only when needed. Grass blades will fold up when they are under water stress and new growth on other plants will droop when water is needed.

If you are interested in learning more or need help applying what you've learned here, the SCCF Native Plant Nursery will provide you with:

- Individual landscaping/irrigation consultations by appointment.
- Free literature on xeriscaping.
- Videos on xeriscaping which can be viewed during business hours in the nursery office.
- Programs on water issues will be presented through SCCF's Tuesday at the Center, 2 P.M., Tuesdays beginning January 18.

Please write, visit or call 472-1932 for further information. The Native Plant Nursery is located at the Conservation Foundation, Mile Marker 1 on the Sanibel-Captiva Road. (One mile from Tarpon Bay Road.)

**REMEMBER BE WATER WISE — PLANT SMART!**



---

## Employee notes

---

Congratulations to Lead Plant Operator Phil Noe who recently received his Treatment Operator "B" license. Phil successfully completed a rather difficult test to obtain the new license.

Ozzie also welcomes Plant Operator Trainees Joe Scofield and Brett Green and Inspector Dave Romano.

---

## Captiva storage tank underway

---

The pilings for the one million gallon storage tank on Captiva have been driven...153 12x12 concrete pilings to a depth of 50'. That sounds like a lot but not when you consider that they'll be supporting some 8.3 million pounds of water plus the concrete tank itself.

The next steps will be building the tank and then the pumping station.

The tank will be in use by the end of next year.

---

## Captiva pipeline in production

---

IWA has let the contract for the penultimate stage of a three-year program to build a new 6-mile pipeline from the R.O. plant to Captiva.

This section, from Wulfert Pumping Station to Blind Pass (about 2 miles), will cost approximately \$235,000. The work was planned to begin after the rainy season and be finished before the tourist season.

The new pipeline will let 3 to 4 times as much water flow to Captiva. It will be totally finished when the short section over the proposed new Blind Pass bridge is installed.

It's all part of the upgrading started with IWA's 1982 Master Plan which outlined an adequate fire protection and domestic supply scheme for the islands' buildout.

---

## Two new wells in the works

---

IWA is presently finishing work on its sixth and seventh Suwannee wells on the islands. These wells are each capable of providing enough water to operate one of the reverse osmosis trains. That's a total new daily production of 1,500,000 gallons of brackish water which will produce 1,200,000 gallons of potable water.

The wells will be in operation by the end of this year. Counting the smaller Hawthorne wells IWA will then have a total of 16 wells to be drawn from, four more than last year.



---

## IWA plans new anti-corrosion technique

---

IWA is testing a new strategy to limit copper pipe corrosion. As reported a few issues back IWA has been dealing with the problem by adding a corrosion-inhibiting zinc orthophosphate compound.

The new strategy is aimed at achieving the same or better results by increasing the alkalinity and reducing the oxygen content of the treated water.

The new system would also provide a plus benefit...even better tasting water.

It will take IWA at least a year to get approval for the new system from state and county agencies.

**THE ISLAND WATER ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**COMPARISON OF 1989 BUDGET TO ACTUAL RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>1989 Budget</u>	<u>NINE MONTHS OF</u>
		<u>Actual Receipts</u>
Water Sales	\$2,981,285	\$2,810,644
Interest	80,000	90,132
Other Receipts	7,500	22,894
Connection Fees	180,000	117,641
<b><u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u></b>	<b>\$3,198,785</b>	<b>\$3,041,311</b>
3/4 1989 Carryover	1,246,544	1,246,544
<b><u>TOTAL FUNDS</u></b>	<b>\$4,445,329</b>	<b>\$4,287,855</b>
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>1989 Budget</u>	<u>NINE MONTHS OF</u>
		<u>Actual Disbursements</u>
Wages and Benefits	\$889,580	\$856,368
Professional Fees	58,800	70,128
Electricity	504,150	476,164
Telephone	10,125	10,264
O & M Service & Supply	443,100	466,988
Motor Fuels	10,350	8,426
Insurance	75,300	75,015
Postal Charges	9,000	7,774
Travel, Training, Conferences	17,280	10,819
Debt Repayments	225,351	400,624
Capital Expenditures	1,467,700	1,030,609
Contingency Fund	75,000	21,090
<b><u>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</u></b>	<b>\$3,769,376</b>	<b>\$3,423,266</b>
<b><u>EXCESS OF FUNDS OVER DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1989</u></b>		<b>\$864,589</b>
<b><u>FOR CASH POSITION ADD REMAINING CARRYOVER (\$415,514)</u></b>		<b>\$1,280,103</b>
<b><u>LESS RESERVE REQUIREMENTS &amp; CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS</u></b>		<b>\$811,495</b>
<b><u>NET AVAILABLE FUNDS</u></b>		<b>\$468,608</b>

These figures represent the unaudited accounts as of September 30, 1989.



Thomas A. Sharp  
President