



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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Tamarac receives water conservation grant from SFWMD
WaterSIP grant to fund city's indoor plumbing retrofit program

Tamarac, FL – Recognizing the importance of promoting efficient use of water resources through conservation, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) today awarded the City of Tamarac a \$27,000 grant for its indoor plumbing retrofit program targeting the city's older communities. District representatives presented a check for the Water Savings Incentive Program (WaterSIP) grant to the Tamarac City Commission during a meeting at City Hall.

Using the grant and \$30,000 of its own funding, the city will offer \$100 rebates to single-family homeowners who replace older, inefficient toilets with high-efficiency models. Program participants will also receive high-efficiency showerheads and aerators for their bathrooms. The city will distribute at least 250 rebates, showerheads and aerators, with a limit of two of each per household. The program has already offered 350 rebates, funded in part by another \$42,000 WaterSIP grant from the District in 2008.

Through the program, the city will also install low-flow pre-rinse valve devices in commercial kitchens of restaurants, schools, hospitals, assisted living facilities and supermarkets. Pre-rinse spray valves are handheld *devices* that use a concentrated spray of water to remove food waste from dishes prior to cleaning in a commercial dishwasher. In addition, the program includes water audits, recommendations for further water savings and the installation of faucet aerators.

The District's Water Savings Incentive Program, which began in 2002, provides matching funds of up to \$50,000 to water providers for installing water-saving technology, such as low-flow plumbing fixtures, high-efficiency irrigation equipment and fire hydrant flushing devices. From 2002 through 2008, WaterSIP helped fund dozens of conservation projects that have saved an estimated 1.56 billion gallons of water per year throughout the District's 16-county region.

Tamarac's indoor plumbing retrofit program is one of 44 projects authorized by the SFWMD Governing Board to receive WaterSIP grants in fiscal year 2009. The grants, totaling \$1.03 million, will help fund projects that will save an estimated 550 million gallons of water per year.

The application period for WaterSIP grants begins each February. The process is open to cities, utilities, homeowners associations, community development districts and other water providers. For more information about the program, please visit www.sfwmd.gov/watersupply and click on the "Water Conservation" link.

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About the South Florida Water Management District – [Celebrating 60 Years \(1949-2009\)](#)

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.