



## Water Conservation

First and foremost, Vivian, Meaghan, Janet and I want to extend our best wishes for a Happy Easter and Passover to all who observe. Spring has arrived and it is a wonderful time to be here in sunny South Florida to celebrate with family and friends before we head into the hotter months.

While April showers might bring May flowers in other parts of the world, April is typically a dry month when water demands are most acute here in the sunshine state. The State of Florida, water management districts and water utility departments are working together to increase awareness about the importance of water conservation. Every business, industry, school and resident can make a difference in saving water by conserving this precious resource and thus promote a healthy economy and community. To educate citizens about how they can help save Florida's precious water resources they have designated April as Florida's Water Conservation Month.

To this end, I have sponsored a proclamation declaring April 2019 Water Conservation Month here in [Palm Beach County](#) (PBC). I encourage you to help protect water by practicing conservation measures and becoming more aware of the need to save water. There are many ways to conserve water both in and out of our homes. I personally do not let the water run while brushing my teeth or washing my hands and try to run my dishwasher and washing machine only when full. When traveling I request fewer replacement towels and sheet changes. This may not seem like much but the cumulative effect over time will help conserve a significant amount of water.



Outside the home, [native plants](#) need less water and adding mulch reduces evaporation. PBC [Cooperative Extension](#) is an amazing resource for landscaping ideas. Lawn watering is limited all year by the South Florida Water Management District's [Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule](#) and local ordinances limiting landscape watering to two days a week throughout the district. I encourage reading more about that as well as [many other ways](#) to conserve water by visiting them online at <https://www.sfwmd.gov/>.

To conclude, I would like to give a quick shout-out to PBC [Water Utilities Department](#) (WUD), recently named the **Best Large Water Distribution System in Florida** by the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association based upon water quality, operational efficiency, system maintenance, professionalism, safety standards, emergency preparedness and cross-connection programs. WUD serves nearly 600,000 County residents across more than 193,000 connections. WUD's service area covers more than 1,300 square miles, with 2,456 linear miles of pipe in the water distribution system. Impressive!

As always, I invite your comments on any issue of interest to you. As your Commissioner, I am here to help you. You may write me at 301 N. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach, 33401 or at [MBerger@pbcgov.org](mailto:MBerger@pbcgov.org). You can call me or my staff at 276-1310 or toll free at 877-930-2205. Please visit me on the Web at [www.pbcgov.com/d5](http://www.pbcgov.com/d5).

Yours in Public Service,