

## MEETING SUMMARY

### CENTRAL FLORIDA WATER INITIATIVE CONSERVATION TEAM MEETING

AUGUST 26, 2016

#### Conservation Team Members Present

DEP	Kathleen Greenwood (interim co-chair)
DEP	Kristen Simmons (interim co-chair)
Agriculture	Jim Fletcher
Public Water Supply	Christine Russell
Public Water Supply	Mike Sweeney
Other Self Supply	Dee Allen
Environmental	Chris Farrell
SFWMD	Jim Harmon
SFWMD	Mark Elsner
SWFWMD	Jason Mickel
SWFWMD	Josh Madden
SJRWMD	Deirdre Irwin
SJRWMD	Lori Burklew
FDACS	Cori Hermle
Other Attendees	Claire Muirhead - SJRWMD Nancy Christman - SJRWMD Mary Ellen Winkler -SJRWMD Janet Llewellyn - The Nature Conservancy

1. The meeting was called to order, the introductory statement was read and roll was taken.
2. Regulatory Team, Landscape Irrigation Restrictions - Mary Ellen Winkler asked if the team had any feedback on the material she distributed. There was discussion about leaving Osceola and Lake Counties as they are, since changing their irrigation restrictions wouldn't really result in a lot of increased water savings, and current messaging efforts are working. There was discussion about restricting the quantity of water used for landscape irrigation. This should probably not be in the rule as it is not enforceable, but should be in the homeowner education materials. Regarding changing the date from Daylight Savings to March 1<sup>st</sup>, there was discussion about the fact that it would make little difference in water savings and it would probably be confusing to change the messaging that has been successful so far. There also was discussion on the possibility of exemptions for those who install smart irrigation technology, but

Mary Ellen noted that was a separate issue. The regulatory team will begin drafting rules on the landscape irrigation restrictions.

3. Water Conservation Clearinghouse – PWS formed a subteam to look into the clearinghouse. Mike Sweeney described a study about Water Star Program that Toho Water Authority and SJRWMD contracted with University of Florida. Mike explained how the results of this study could be used to develop a new clearinghouse. (Note: The study was not done to promote the clearinghouse.) Jim Fletcher explained the concept as a management tool that could be useful to agricultural and public water supply users. Jim Fletcher explained that the Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million to develop a place to house water information. An agreement is being worked out with Statistical Analytical Services (SAS) to undertake a pilot study for the CFWI region. The team discussed the benefits and drawbacks of various conservation models and asked many questions.
4. Subteams – each subteam gave the group an update.
  - a. Agriculture – A face-to-face meeting will be scheduled for the team and sub-teams to discuss some of the issues identified by the Ag sub-team.
  - b. Public Water Supply – Chris Russell gave an update on the status of the PWS survey and Kathleen Greenwood updated the group on the status of the email from DEP to be sent out to survey participants urging them to complete the survey. Chris also gave an update on the regulatory team efforts to develop rule language for water conservation goals for permits as required by SB 552.

**Summary of Action Items:**

- DEP to Schedule face-to-face meeting
- DEP to send out email for PWS survey