



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Diane Salz

850.339.8550

WATER AUTHORITY AWARDS WATER CONSERVATION GRANTS

Recipients Contribute to the Conservation and Protection of the Region's Water Resources

LECANTO, FL, July 18, 2012 -- The Board of Directors for the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority representing Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties awarded a total amount of \$130,000 for its 2013 water conservation grant program. Citrus, Hernando, and Marion counties will each receive matching grants to increase water-use efficiency and reduce demands on local water resources, in order to attain the Southwest Florida Water Management District per capita rate of consumption goal of 150 gallons per person per day. "The Authority's matching grants serve as an excellent opportunity for member governments to leverage limited budgets for carrying out water conservation programs," according to Mr. Richard Owen, the Authority's new executive director. Board members expressed enthusiastic support for the grant awards which will include rebates, irrigation audits, indoor and outdoor retrofits, and other incentives for citizens to upgrade outdated fixtures. "Partnering with the Authority to improve water-use efficiency can help delay the need for building costly water treatment plants," according to Chairman Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner. The next WRWSA Board of Directors meeting will be held on September 19, 2012, at 4:30 p.m., in the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461.

###