

EXPANDING THE USE OF RECLAIMED WATER IN FLORIDA'S URBAN LANDSCAPES: IMPLICATIONS FOR WATER SUPPLY AND WATER QUALITY

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Reclaimed water is former wastewater that has been treated and undergone disinfection at a wastewater treatment plant. It can be discharged to surface or ground water or it can be piped back to communities for beneficial reuse. Facing continued population growth and pressures on potable water supplies, there is effort to expand the beneficial reuse of reclaimed water so as to offset the use of potable supplies for applications such as landscape irrigation. This talk presents data on statewide reuse of reclaimed water, the quality of reclaimed water in terms of nutrients and inorganic salts, and ways that reclaimed water use for urban landscapes may impact urban water quality.

PRESENTER BIO: Dr. Lusk is an assistant professor in the UF Soil and Water Sciences Department at the university's Gulf Coast Research and Education Center in Hillsborough County. Her research and extension work focus on residential scale best management practices for nutrient stewardship and water quality.