

# The Utilities Department Newsletter

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE CITY OF VALDOSTA UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

## Star Employee



Ed has been a fixture of the Environmental Services division since its inception 10+ years ago. In his position, he has been the only Environmental Technician for the City and has had a hand in developing and implementing the Environmental Services division as well as its policies and procedures. Not only has he been at the forefront of the Environmental Program for the City but also the front-line for spills and environmental emergencies by handling the sampling program and working with the Combined Lab and Environmental Manager to best and most effectively protect the environment and citizens of Valdosta.

Most recently, Ed used information gathered from two seemingly unconnected sources to realize that there was a potential issue. This observation led to the discovery of a spill. Ed's actions allowed all related divisions to work together on remediation and new policies to prevent future spills. Not only does Ed give 100% every day, but he does his best to encourage and acknowledge other employees increasing the morale of the department.

## BIGGEST LOSER

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## Save the Date

March 8 - Daylight Savings  
(Spring Forward)

March 9 - Biggest Loser  
Final Weigh-in

March 22 - First day of Spring

## Water Conservation Tip:

When planting, assign areas of your landscape in different hydro-zones depending on sun/shade exposure, soil & plant types, and type of sprinklers, then adjust your irrigation system or watering schedule based on those zones' specific needs. This helps you avoid over-watering some areas or under-watering others.

# COVU CAFE



## GRAND OPENING

## Director's Corner

Thank you for joining us in another volume of our monthly newsletter. Recently, crews discovered a large collection of Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) in our sewer collection system. The FOG formed a blockage over six feet long and required an emergency response from the Utilities department.



Commercial and residential customers can prevent these blockages by following a few basic practices. Scrape food into your trash - not into your sink's food disposal unit, use a jar or can to collect frying oil - pouring into the drain will clog your pipes, commercial customers should have grease traps cleaned monthly or more often if required - pictures of unpleasant grease overflows at your business could make their way to the internet damaging your reputation, and never pour grease down the drain - running hot water does not help.

If you are unsure about how to become a part of the solution, just give us a call. We will come out and spend some time with you or your crew members one-on-one. Let's ensure Valdosta doesn't become a Fatburg. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGkVsyua2Sw>





# Thank You!

Thank you for contributing  
to our 2020 Relay for Life  
Steak Lunch.

We look  
forward to  
seeing you  
next year!



RELAY FOR LIFE  
Lowndes County

This year's relay will be at  
**Valdosta High School**  
4590 Inner Perimeter Rd.

**5/1/2020**  
**7:00 PM**

