

# The Utilities Department Newsletter

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE CITY OF VALDOSTA UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

August



August is National Water Quality Month, which means it's the perfect time to educate ourselves on where our water comes from and how we can preserve it. Educating ourselves is the best way to ensure that our water continues to be high quality and free of contamination.

You can find more information on National Water Quality Month at <https://www.doitbest.com/resources/articles-and-buying-guides/national-water-quality-month>

## WATER TRIVIA

How much of the world's water is frozen and therefore unusable?

A. 2%

## Staying Safe After a Hurricane

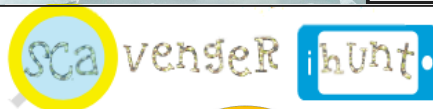
In addition to preparing for a hurricane, it's important to take steps to stay safe after a hurricane is over, for example:

- **Avoid flooded areas:** Take precautions before, during, and after a flood.
- **Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning after the storm:** Ensure your CO detector has working batteries. Place generators outside at least 20 feet from any door, window, or vent.

COVU

Motivational Quote

**You are not a product of your circumstances. You are a product of your decisions.**



We are so excited to announce our first EVER Summertime Scavenger Hunt winner!

**Congratulations Taylor Marzell!**

Thank you to everyone who participated and submitted pictures! We enjoyed seeing everyone's creativity. We hope you all enjoyed the Scavenger Hunt as much as we did!

VOTE

Voter Registration Deadline:

Oct. 5, 2020

[www.georgia.gov/register-vote](http://www.georgia.gov/register-vote)

## Director's Corner

Good day, and thank you for taking a moment to join us in our Newsletter.

The Utilities Department is excited about new projects and technology we are deploying to increase resiliency, expedite maintenance responses, as well as, improve our customer's experiences.

Please follow this link

<https://www.valdostacity.com/utilities/equalization-basin-project> to monitor the construction of a new Secondary Equalization basin at the Withlacoochee treatment facility. The Secondary Equalization basin will increase the storage capacity an additional 7.5 million gallons, further hardening its ability to function under adverse weather conditions. Next, is the finalization of the SCADA system, which provided advanced analytics and predictive failures to improve maintenance activities throughout the Utilities.

Finally, the City is days away from the deployment of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). This deployment will give customers immediate access to the data they need to control water usage, improve conservation, and save money.

If you would like more information on any of these projects, do not hesitate to give us a call or schedule a visit.



## Star Employee



Steve Webb is a valuable member of the Operations Staff at the Withlacoochee Wastewater Treatment Plant. He is one of our Senior Operators with many years of experience in domestic and industrial wastewater treatment plant operations. Another asset that makes Steve an outstanding plant operator is his mechanical expertise.

Steve works very well with our operations and maintenance staff. He often takes the lead in keeping the plant grounds and buildings neat and orderly. He is also a member of the City's Safety Committee.

For these reasons and more, Steve Webb deserves the Star Employee of the Month.