

OVERVIEW



Marion County Utilities is a department of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners that provides water and wastewater services to more than 32,000 customers in Marion.

Utilities was voted as having the best-tasting water in Florida (from the Florida Rural Water Association), and received state recognition for its business practices and national recognition for its environmental stewardship.

The department implemented springs protection policies, regionalized systems and constructed wastewater treatment facilities that meet advanced state standards to significantly reduce nitrate levels.

Utilities operates under federal and state regulations for water and wastewater standards, as well as the oversight of the local water management districts.

KEY SERVICES



- Reclaimed wastewater (sold to golf courses for irrigation purposes).
- Water service.
- Wastewater service.

FUNDING



Funding sources include:

- Fees (water and wastewater connection and service fees, paid by utility customers).
- Grants (from water management districts and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection).
- Other revenue (includes contributions in aid of construction, reclaimed water sales and tower rental).

*This department does not receive general fund money (property taxes). It is funded solely by water and wastewater customers, grants and other revenue.

MARION COUNTY

- 1,652 square miles.
- Population: 345,749.
- Florida's fifth largest county; larger than the state of Rhode Island.
- Known as the "Horse Capital of the World," the county's rich equine and agricultural heritage is internationally renowned.
- Comprises thousands of acres of national forest, 32,000 acres of lakes, 92 miles of rivers and more than 40 springs, including Silver Springs, which is recognized as one of the largest artesian spring formations in the world.

By the Numbers*

711,217

Gallons of reclaimed water irrigates five golf courses each day.

*FY 15-16

