

# District Notes & News



Established 1923

Winter 2006/2007

## SUPERVISORS

**Thomas H. Powell**

*President*

**Tom Rice**

*Vice-President*

**David Beane**

**Robert Berman**

**Michael Danchuk**

## STAFF

**Gale English**

*General Manager*

**Michael Dillon**

*Operations Superintendent*

**Greta Rayman**

*Office Administrator*

## DISTRICT OFFICE

15600 Jupiter Farms Road

Jupiter, FL 33478

(561) 747-0550

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### Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday

*The Board of Supervisors meets  
the third Thursday of each  
month at the Jupiter High  
School Media Center  
at 7:30 p.m.*

*Contact the District Office  
for an agenda.*

## General Manager's Annual Report (October 2005-September 2006)

This past year, District personnel once again had to deal with not only routine maintenance, but also restoration and repairs to damaged infrastructure caused by yet another hurricane – Wilma. Emergency repairs and partial debris removal from District canals were initially funded by grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) totaling approximately \$137,000.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), a division of the federal Department of Agriculture, also has provided funds for debris removal from the canal system that were not addressed by FEMA. This phase of the agreement has been completed. The \$1.102 million NRCS grant also included the installation of rock rubble rip-rap around major canal crossing culverts, as well as canal areas approaching the telemetry-operated water control structures in Jupiter Farms. This project included 20 sites in Jupiter Farms and 7 sites in Palm Beach Country Estates.



*Rip-rap installation in Jupiter Farms funded by NRCS*

The state and federal grants received for restoration work associated with the three hurricanes that impacted our area totaled approximately \$3.2 million, which represents almost three years worth of the District's normal maintenance budget.

Routine maintenance on swales and outfalls continues to include permanent improvements around new swale and cross culverts. This includes the headwall rip-rap on driveway installations and structures under District purview. Headwall instal-

lations have been temporarily suspended in Palm Beach Country Estates, due to road and swale disturbance caused by the \$18 million potable water project that was approved by the landowners and is now under construction.



*Gale English*

The long-awaited referendum for the application of open-graded emulsified mix (OGEM) on 68 Jupiter Farms roadways was completed and mailed to 1400 affected landowners. The long delay was the result of scarcity of materials required for the OGEM. Of the 68 road referendums, 28 were approved and 40 were rejected. Two public hearings are required before the approved roads can be started (*the first hearing was held in October and the second, in February*).

The District continues to be involved on a broader scale with the extended community of municipal and county governments and support groups that serve all county units of government. The District participates as committee member, board director, or chair on several agencies, including the Florida Association of Special Districts, the Loxahatchee Council of Governments, Palm Beach County League of Cities, Safety Council of Palm Beach County, Palm Beach County Intergovernmental Coordinating Element, the Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council, and ad hoc committees. These interactions help to ensure good relations with governmental department heads and community leaders and are invaluable to the District's quality of service delivery, as well as interfacing and overlapping areas of responsibility within the scope of its legislative authority. These agencies have the potential for major impact on District landowners and participation remains vital to ensure that our best interests are considered.

*(continued pg. 2)*

# General Manager's Report

(continued from pg. 1)

Office personnel continue to be very busy with Palm Beach Country Estates water issues, petitions for OGEM and asphalt, the annual landowners' meeting and Board of Supervisors election, record keeping, and processing requests for reimbursement pertaining to the governmental grants we are receiving. This is in addition to our daily routine that includes office and equipment inventory, audit, invoice processing, maintenance of personnel records, and insurance.

Eleven of the District's 15 full and part-time employees are responsible for operating the motor graders, backhoes, and mowers necessary to the maintenance program. Our staff brings a combined total of 133 years of experience to the District, with two employees receiving awards for 10 years service, two with 28 years, and one with 25 years service. Ongoing training is regularly provided for all District personnel, offering an opportunity to improve their performance levels. Regularly scheduled safety meetings are conducted jointly by the District's safety committee and management to ensure an accident and injury-free workplace for employees, residents, and equipment.

Our equipment inventory continues to be renewed and replaced in an annual program that is designed to maximize a favorable benefit/cost ratio in accordance with the Board's emphasis on low annual maintenance assessments. This year we purchased a 26-foot trailer to facilitate product transport, as well as a new Rhino wing-mower to ensure uninterrupted mowing on road swales and canal banks. The new machines were purchased under a pre-bid government contract, which translates to an approximate 30% savings per machine. We also purchased a used 45-foot boom self-propelled backhoe, that has

proven to be invaluable for reaching across canals and cleaning hard to reach areas impacted with debris, especially during flooding events.

For the benefit of new landowners in the District, the following is a brief overview of our function as a Special Taxing District. The District provides water control and road maintenance functions for the landowners and operates under limitations imposed by Chapter 298 of the Florida Statutes. Assessments are levied in the amount necessary to provide those services and are closely monitored with monthly reports and annual audits to ensure accountability of available funds.

Within the 12,000-acre service area of the District, which includes Palm Beach Country Estates, Jupiter Farms, Egret Landing, and Jupiter Commerce Park, there are 60 miles of primary drainage canals and 185 miles of roadways that are maintained on a regular basis. Of the 185 miles of roads, 25 miles are paved to Department of Transportation standards and approximately 22 miles are surfaced with OGEM, putting most residents within one-half mile of a paved road.

The District is a beautiful, largely natural area with lots of trees and greenery that make it a very nice place to live. However, just like any other area, there are "rules of engagement" that if honored, make for harmonious and safe living. The earliest residents of the District were wildlife, and many species still make their home here. While we enjoy this, they are wild creatures and must be respected. Alligators can be particularly bothersome during drought conditions as they migrate from pond to pond and canal to canal searching for deeper water. Caution is urged around any body of water, such as backyard ponds, canals and drainage ditches. *Whatever you do...please don't feed the 'gators!*

Another concern expressed by a number of landowners is the irresponsible and reckless operation of ATVs and dirt bikes on our roadways. Though the state currently allows ATVs to be used on unpaved roads with speed limits less than 35 mph, Palm Beach County commissioners have preliminarily voted to opt out of the law and ban them on all public roads, paved or unpaved. People are receiving citations from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management also is concerned about damage in natural areas caused by these vehicles.

Landscape debris that is deposited on the side of the road must be cut correctly before the Solid Waste Authority will remove it. If the debris is not removed in a reasonable time, Palm Beach County Code Enforcement will tag the pile as illegal dumping and the homeowner may be cited. Please note that they will not transport tree stumps. Be advised that debris deposited within the traveled portion of the road right-of-ways are subject to citation as well.

The District's office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Landowners are welcome to stop by with any questions or concerns and we will do our best to assist you in any way we can.



*Please respect the wildlife in the District!*

## SIRWCD AND REGULATORY AGENCIES

Each year, a summary of regulatory agencies affecting SIRWCD is listed in the Annual Report to help landowners be aware of the number of regulatory agencies and cooperative associations the District deals with and their potential impact on District capital improvements, operations, and maintenance:

- United States Environmental Protection Agency
- United States Fish and Wildlife Services
- Florida Department of Community Affairs
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
- Loxahatchee River Environmental Control District
- Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District
- Seacoast Utility Authority
- Seminole Improvement District
- United States Army Corps of Engineers
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Department of Transportation
- South Florida Water Management District
- City of West Palm Beach
- City of Palm Beach Gardens
- Indian Trail Improvement District
- Loxahatchee River Ecosystem Management Area Committee
- Numerous Citizen Interest Groups and Committees
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Palm Beach County
- Town of Jupiter
- Jupiter Inlet District
- Martin County



# District Engineer's Annual Report (October 2005-September 2006)

South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD) has been involved in many activities that are both internal and external to the District's

boundaries. From an internal standpoint the activities have included, but are not limited to:

- Renovations of the existing canals in conjunction with funds provided by the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Capital improvements such as the potable water distribution project for Palm Beach Country Estates
- Ongoing operation and maintenance of the existing system
- Compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
- Landowner initiated projects
- Coordination with adjacent political entities to accomplish better water management from both a quantity and quality perspective

In addition, the District is involved in external activities to the District boundary because it has clearly been positioned as a strategic entity in the planning and management of water resources. As plans are being developed and implemented, the geographic location of the District is a strategic element in any water management plan for the Loxahatchee River Basin. External activities have included participation in the Northern Palm Beach County Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), the Town of Jupiter Well-field Recharge Program, and South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) planning process for meeting water supply needs for the lower East Coast of Florida.

The District has continued to experience significant residential growth over the past year. The District continues to work with the landowners at improving conditions affecting water management and roadways. With the increase in population, many of whom are new to South Florida, or are first-time homeowners in a rural residential community, there are many inquiries as to the performance standards designed into the surface water management system and roadways in the District. While the District attempts to respond to these, many times the expectations of the new landowners far exceed the level of service and performance standards provided by the existing system, and to a large

extent, regulated by local, regional, state, and federal agencies. This aspect of the District's operation and management is discussed thoroughly at the Annual Landowner's Meeting held in September of each year.

The District Engineer assists the Board of Supervisors and General Manager with operation and maintenance involving site-specific drainage improvements that impact individual landowners or groups of landowners, canal and culvert maintenance, and post-hurricane restoration to the facilities that affect the works of the District.

As always, the District continues to undergo internal and external changes that create new challenges, new policies and procedures, and new systems to meet the needs of the landowners, as well as the external influences and/or mandates that affect the District.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS Thirteenth Plan of Improvements

Based on a landowner initiative in 2003, the District prepared and sent a ballot to landowners in Palm Beach Country Estates for the construction of a potable water distribution system, with water to be supplied by the Town of Jupiter. The measure passed 754 "for" and 442 "against". District staff negotiated terms that would not require annexation by the town and on October 7, 2003, the Jupiter Town Council voted unanimously to draft an interlocal agreement with SIRWCD. After numerous meetings with Town of Jupiter Utilities Department staff to discuss details for the planning and design of the system, the first public hearing for the project was held in July 2004, and the second public hearing was held in October 2004. In December 2004, a Notice of Consistency was issued by SFWMD for the plan.

Throughout 2005, District staff worked with the town on the interlocal agreement to provide water service to Palm Beach Country Estates and to coordinate the design aspects of the project. The agreement was finalized and accepted in May 2005. Staff completed construction plans and contract documents for the entire project, which includes approximately 45 miles of pipe, a crossing under both

Interstate 95 and Florida's Turnpike, sixteen sub-aqueous and elevated canal crossings, and 445 fire hydrants. The project also required coordination with adjacent property owners and utilities, such as BellSouth, Adelphia, and FPL, to avoid potential conflicts. In addition, all required permits from jurisdictional agencies were obtained for the project.

The Board of Supervisors established a Contractor Selection Committee to pre-qualify contractors for the project. Of the nine contractors that were prequalified, eight purchased bidding documents for the project and attended a pre-bid meeting on August 10, 2005. Two contractors ultimately submitted bids, however, based on recommendations from staff after a review, it was decided at the September 1, 2005 Board of Supervisors meeting to reject both bids and to re-bid the project. On October 20, 2005, three contractors submitted bids ranging from \$14, 206,239 to \$16,250,100. District staff negotiated with the low bidder, Felix Associates, LLC, for a final bid amount of \$13,570,000, which was accepted by the Board of Supervisors at the February 14, 2006 monthly meeting.

When first proposed, the estimated cost of the project was \$11,000,000. The increased construction costs were due to dramatic increases in costs of construction materials in South Florida (60% increase for pipe, 50% increase for fittings, valves,



Installation of water supply pipes in Palm Beach Country Estates

appurtenances, and fire hydrants, and a 31% increase for in-kind restoration, such as driveway repair and sod replacement).

On April 20, 2006, a Chapter 197 public hearing was conducted for the project before bonds were issued and the bonds were closed on May 24, 2006. Felix Associates, LLC, was given the Notice to Proceed on June 14, 2006 and has begun construction.

*(continued pg. 4)*

## Pending Capital Improvement Projects

### 2005 Landowner-Initiated Roadway Improvement Program - OGEM

Landowners in Jupiter Farms have petitioned the District for application of OGEM to 68 roadways. In addition, 22 roads in Palm Beach Country Estates have petitioned for the application of OGEM.

In October 2005, this landowner-initiated project required further clarification, as landowners for roads located on the East Side, and one road on the West Side (Rocky Pines Road) needed to identify which road surface they preferred. In November 2005, landowners along Rocky Pines Road decided to petition for OGEM.

The Board of Supervisors directed staff to move ahead with the Jupiter Farms referendum to apply OGEM to 68 roadways. Due to different residential densities, three different referendums were sent out on July 14, 2006. On August 18, 2006, the referendums were due at the Supervisor of Elections and out of the 68 total roadway projects, 28 passed. *(A list of these roadways was published in the last edition of the newsletter and also are available at the District office.)* This proposed plan of improvements would result in approximately 14 miles of new OGEM surface within the District.

### 2005 Landowner-Initiated Roadway Improvement Program - Palm Beach County Standard Paving

As noted in the previous section, some landowners in Palm Beach Country Estates have been clarifying which roadway surface they prefer by submitting new petitions requesting that a Palm Beach County standard paving surface be considered in lieu of OGEM. To date, 86 roadways have provided that clarification *(please see an update on this project on page 6)*.



SR-706 Outfall Canal Revetment Project funded by NRCS

## Resource Regulations

■ The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements for the improvement of the quality of stormwater discharges. SIRWCD is a co-permittee with 34 municipalities, the Department of Transportation, Palm Beach County, and four special districts. The current Palm Beach County NPDES permit was issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) on November 18, 2002. An NPDES steering committee was formed to complete permit-related activities and to provide training and resource assistance. Meetings this past year included the Water Quality Monitoring Program, the Inspector Training Program, the FY 2005-2006 budget, and the status of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) in Palm Beach County.

■ Since 1991, when the District filed its first Public Facilities Report, data collection has been an on-going process to provide better and more accurate mapping of the works of the District. Most of these updates involved new roads taken into the District's operations and maintenance inventory, as well as updating for projects such as the Jupiter Commerce Park and Egret Landing Plan of Improvements. In 2005, the *Ninth*, *Eleventh*, and *Twelfth Plans of Improvement* were completed. The *Tenth Plan of Improvements* was completed in 2004. The Public Facilities Report will be updated this year as required by Florida Statutes to include the above referenced projects. In accordance with Chapter 298.225 of the Florida Statutes, an Amended Water Control Plan will be prepared to reflect the applicable requirements of the statute. This Plan will be prepared in conjunction with any proposed Plan of Improvements in the following year. Currently, the Water Control plan has no major additions for this year.

■ In late 1989, SIRWCD entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the Town of Jupiter regarding a cooperative arrangement that provides for implementation of a system to convey surplus surface waters to the town's surface water recharge program. The purpose of this interlocal program is to recharge areas impacted by the town's surficial wellfield withdrawals to aid in stabilizing the surficial aquifer and support water management systems serving the surrounding residential communities. The town has been considering expanding this program to provide for increased transfer of recharge water through the system. Discussions were initiated with SIRWCD to possibly modify the

outfall canal structure and to discharge nano-filtration effluent into SIRWCD's surface water management system. The Board of Supervisors authorized staff to discuss the District's concerns with town officials. Subsequent to these discussions, the town has decided not to pursue this alternative and will examine other potential solutions. The District continues to support this program, as it provides an excellent benefit to both the residents and resources of the region.

## Intergovernmental Coordination

■ SIRWCD continues to participate as an active member of the Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council. Discussions at council meetings this past year included issues dealing with the restoration of seasonal flows to the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River, moving forward with detailed basin studies for the Pal Mar and Cypress Creek areas, coordination of planning with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Ecosystem Management Area Program, and monitoring proposed development within close proximity to the Northwest Fork as it relates to potential water quantity and quality deliveries to the river. The Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River is the primary stormwater outfall for the portion of the District lying west of SFWMD C-18.

■ The Project Management Plan (PMP) was completed and approved in June 2005. The PMP focuses on the development of the Project Implementation Report (PIR) for the North Palm Beach County Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Project - Part 1 components, which is scheduled to be completed in late 2007. The PIR will determine the appropriate quantity, timing, and distribution of water dedicated and managed for the natural system, as well as comply with water quality permitting requirements. SFWMD continues to work on the Lower East Coast subRegional (LECsR) Watershed Model with completion estimated for December 2006. The next CERP milestone is the Alternative Formulation Briefing currently planned for mid-2007.

■ Components of the Northern Palm Beach County Comprehensive Water Management Plan (NPBCCWMP) have moved forward this year. The intent is to bring about improvements to storage and water conveyance infrastructure that will capture water currently lost to the tides in the wet season, provide supplemental supplies in the dry season to meet environmental needs and the projected 2020 urban and agricultural demands.

*(continued pg. 5)*

■ The G-161 Structure construction was scheduled for completion at the end of 2006. This structure will convey water under Northlake Boulevard (west of the Beeline Highway) to provide a connection for water deliveries from the Grassy Waters Preserve north to the Loxahatchee Slough, the C-18 Canal, and the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River.

■ SIRWCD's Board of Supervisors and staff continue to participate in the Florida Association of Special Districts. The association acts as a watchdog for codes, ordinances, rules and legislation that might affect the activities of Special Districts. Regular meetings are held throughout the year, where information is shared with regard to policies, procedures, and operation and maintenance issues.

■ In January 2004, SFWMD completed construction of the G-160, or Loxahatchee Slough Structure, in the east leg of the C-18 Canal, immediately south of the C-18's confluence with the west leg. The purpose of the structure is to provide for restoration of a more natural hydro-period for wetland areas located upstream of the structure, while maintaining flood protection for adjacent developed areas. It also provides base flow augmentation to help restore freshwater flows in the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River. An interlocal agreement executed in August 2005 between SIRWCD, the City of Palm Beach Gardens, and the Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District, addresses a future planned course of action regarding the phased operation schedule for the structure and a study of potential mitigation measures to protect existing facilities.



*Palm Beach Country Estates Potable Water Project Materials Storage/Staging Area*

■ Recently, Palm Beach County contacted SIRWCD regarding the implementation of a mitigation plan on properties being purchased immediately west of SIRWCD's western boundary and south of Indiantown Road. Palm Beach County is pursuing environmental restoration of this property, known as the Pine Glades Natural Area. The County has requested to discharge water into SIRWCD to manage the water levels within the restoration area. District Staff has been working with the County to

determine if a design can be developed that would allow for release of water into the District during off-peak times without negatively impacting the existing flood protection.

## Operation and Maintenance

■ On October 24, 2005, Hurricane Wilma produced hurricane conditions throughout the District. Total rainfall (as recorded at the District Office) was 5.54 inches in one day.

■ Since that time, as with the previous hurricane year, District's General Manager Gale English and staff have continued to coordinate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), to determine what projects would qualify for cost sharing grants. One project, the SR-706 Outfall Canal Revetment Project, qualified and two grants of \$400,000 and \$440,000, of which 25% was a matching share by SIRWCD, were awarded. The grants covered repair and restoration work of the SR-706 outfall canal banks that were eroded by excessive rainfall and water levels generated by Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne in 2004. The District had previously received a total of nearly \$1,940,000 in grants from the NRCS and FEMA for hurricane restoration efforts resulting from those storms. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the SR-706 outfall canal on March 17, 2006 after the project was completed.

In addition to the project mentioned above, subsequent to Hurricane Wilma, the NRCS has additionally signed agreements to provide the District with approximately \$1,102,000 for repairs throughout the District as a result of this storm. Also, FEMA provided funding of approximately \$137,000 for Wilma-related repairs. Repairs included removal of debris from SIRWCD's primary drainage canals and tertiary swale system and installation of rock rubble rip-rap around major canal crossing culverts, as well as canal areas approaching the telemetry-operated water control structures. This program has been very successful due to the efforts of the District staff, and especially Gale English, who has maintained contact with all the agencies and supervised all works that have been accomplished under these contracts.

■ The District's 60+ miles of canals are continuously being cleared, graded, and shaped, and if needed, restored, replaced, or enhanced with structural improvements. The overall objective of this program is to restore and maintain a canal section that is

easily accessible, and to the extent possible, free from trees and other vegetation that could fall into the canal during major storm events, causing blockages that could aggravate flooding. For the forthcoming year, the Board has authorized the Engineer and District Manager to identify areas within the District that could be improved as a conveyance and storage aspect in the swale maintenance program.

■ In accordance with the provisions of the Florida Statutes, the District maintains a Policies and Procedures Manual that is available to any landowner.



*SR-706 Outfall Canal Ribbon Cutting - Left to right: Supervisors Tom Rice, Dave Beane, Mike Danchuk, Tom Powell, General Manager Gale English, Supervisor Bob Berman, Elwyn Cooper of NRCS, and District Engineers Len J. Lindahl, and Amy Eason*

■ Over the last year, no additional roadways were taken over by the District for operation and maintenance. Also, no roads were paved to Palm Beach County standard or were surfaced with OGEM. This year, landowners have petitioned to surface existing dirt roadways with both OGEM and asphalt and these are pending capital improvement projects for 2007. Also, the District continues to maintain existing dirt roads within its boundaries.

■ The District continues its efforts to control aquatic weeds within the primary canal system. In the future, more emphasis may be needed for this program to comply with NPDES water quality programs, the Ecosystem Management Area Plan, and other intergovernmental coordinating activities.

## Rainfall Totals

Total rainfall, as measured at the District's office for the 12 month period from September 2005 through August 2006, amounted to 64.65 inches. The current year rainfall data is lower than the historical average of 67.34 for the same time period.

## Palm Beach Country Estates Landowner-Initiated Road Improvement Update

Lennart E. Lindahl made a presentation to the Board of Supervisors at the January 18 monthly board meeting on preliminary estimates for paving all roadways in PBCE to Palm Beach County standards, as petitioned by landowners. Approximately 33.5 miles of roadway would be included in the project at an estimated cost of nearly \$20 million (approximately \$1300.00-\$1450.00 annually for 20 years). Lindahl cited greatly increased costs for both bitumen products and aggregate over the last few years that have rapidly escalated the cost of road construction. The Supervisors expressed concern about the cost, given the recent increases in taxes and insurance for many landowners. As a result, Supervisor Bob Berman volunteered to conduct an informal poll of PBCE landowners to gauge their interest in moving forward with a referendum on the project. The Board also asked the District Engineer to be prepared to offer alternative options.

## PALM BEACH COUNTRY ESTATES POTABLE WATER UPDATE

The installation of the Palm Beach Country Estates potable water system is on schedule. To date the following streets have had pipe installed: 159th Court North and everything to the North, and 70th Trail North west to 82nd Terrace North from 155th Place North to 159th Court North. Part of this installation is part of Milestone #2 (west of 76th Trail North).

They also have completed pipe installation on 83rd Way North and 84th Avenue North from 155th Place North to 159th Court North. The contractor, Felix Associates, also is currently working on grading, seeding and mulching in Milestone #1, and is restoring pavement cuts along 75th Avenue North and 155th Place North.

The contractors have flushed the southern section of Milestone #1, however, they have not yet flushed the northern section of Milestone #1 (north of 163rd Court North). Testing of the completed sections in the southern section of Milestone #1 will be done first and is estimated to be completed within a month. After

this testing is completed, there will be a sixty day period for certification. Everything is on schedule for the project. The current estimated completion date for the entire project is February 2008.

In October, a water service location form was sent to all landowners requesting their preference for the location of the water service hookup for their property. This is necessary regardless of whether the landowner will be hooking up to the system. If you have not received a form, or have not been contacted by the District Engineer regarding this issue, please call Marcelo Dimitriou at LBFH, Inc. at 772-219-2953. Engineering staff is going door-to-door if necessary to obtain location forms from those landowners who have not turned them in.

Please watch your mail for a letter on hooking up to the potable water system. As reported in previous editions of this newsletter, landowners are not required to hook up to the system. For landowners wishing to connect, the Town of Jupiter will charge a fee of approximately \$3,877.00 for a typical 5/8" x 3/4" service. SIRWCD has arranged that the current hook up fee will remain the same for a period of seven years. After this time, fees would most likely increase. If desired, SIRWCD also can arrange to finance the cost of hooking up to the system. District Treasurer Charles Haas has noted that if landowners hook up to the system quickly, assessment costs would be reduced for everyone. Please note there would be an additional cost to run plumbing from the system to a home, which is the responsibility of the homeowner.



The installation of pipe to provide potable water to Palm Beach Country Estates is on schedule for completion in February 2008

## District Engineer's Report

(continued from pg. 5)

SIRWCD has worked with the U.S. Geological Survey Department on a water quality monitoring program for the last ten years. This program has been discontinued by the USGS due to a lack of funding. The Board has authorized the District Engineer to implement a water quality and surface water gauging plan. Tests were performed to analyze the surface water and groundwater for various metal, organic, and inorganic contaminants, as well as water quality criteria. The Lateral Control Structures as part of the *Ninth Plan of Improvements* have provided the District with a significant amount of water level monitoring data that will be valuable to the District in better managing the system for flood protection and environmental benefits. The water quality monitoring program is being revised to complement the recording stations constructed in association with the *Ninth Plan*. The water quality monitoring program is being revised and an updated one is to be implemented at the beginning of 2007.

### General Comments

SIRWCD has an obligation to its landowners and to the surrounding area due to its strategic location within naturally sensitive conservation areas. It is no longer an entity that looks only within its boundaries with regard to its activities. A major portion of SIRWCD's activities require participation in activities that look at infrastructure needs and ecosystem management for the overall region. The District and its landowners will have to share in the continued responsibility of being good stewards in maintaining compatibility with these natural systems. Although the goals and objectives of SIRWCD are not inconsistent with those for the NPBCWMP, the Loxahatchee Basin Ecosystem Management Area, or CERP, the District needs to work with SFWMD and other agencies in developing and implementing plans for the District, the basin, and the river.

SIRWCD will continue serving its landowners by providing support during emergency situations, maintaining and operating the surface water management system at optimal levels, and providing services that are commensurate with system capabilities, land policies, and the community.

### ILLICIT DISCHARGE

If landowners witness anyone dumping materials into the District swales or canal system, please report this to the District Office at 747-0550.

*South Indian River Water Control District  
cordially invites you to attend the  
16th Annual Landowners Family Day*

**Saturday, March 17, 2007 • 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
at the District Work Center**

**Jupiter Farms, Palm Beach Country Estates, Egret Landing and Jupiter Commerce Park  
Meet the Supervisors & Staff • Enjoy Free Barbeque & Live Music  
See Exhibitors from Local Community Organizations**

***Fun for the Whole Family!***

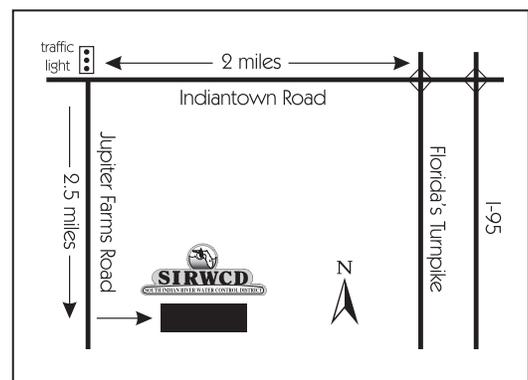
**Park Avenue BBQ and Grille • Untold Riches Bluegrass Band • Cookie the Clown**

**Cock-A-Doodle-Do Petting Zoo  
and Bounce House**



**Exhibitors - Free information and give-a-ways!**

- Community Connections • CMH Swim School
- Drowning Prevention Coalition of Palm Beach County
- Florida Blood Centers
- Florida Division of Forestry • Jupiter Farms Citizens On Patrol
- Palm Beach County Dept. of Environmental Resource Mgmt.
- Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
- Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections
- Safety Council of Palm Beach County
- Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County
- Visiting Nurses Association of Florida



**RSVP to Greta Rayman 747-0550**



15600 Jupiter Farms Road  
Jupiter, FL 33478

PSRST STD  
U S POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
WEST PALM BCH FL  
PERMIT # 611

## *Want to Know What's Going On in the District?*

Read your newsletters  
or visit our website  
for the latest information!

Visit [www.sirwcd.org](http://www.sirwcd.org)  
for news updates!

## *16th Annual Landowners Family Day Saturday, March 17, 2007*



**Bring the family and meet your neighbors for a day of fun!**