

NEWS RELEASE

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Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Presented 'Outstanding Water Treatment Plant Award'



Richard Anderson, System Operations Manager and Mike Chell, Operations Supervisor for the Authority.

The Florida Section of the American Water Works Association (FSAWWA) recently presented the '2016 Outstanding Class A Water Treatment Plant Award' to the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority at the Florida Water Resources Conference in West Palm Beach. The award is based on operation, maintenance, water quality and management. Upon receiving the award Richard Anderson, Authority System Operations Manager said, 'the day to day efforts of our great staff make it possible to have this award winning facility; I want to thank each and every employee for their hard work and dedication, their contributions are the key to our success.'

The Authority, a regional entity comprised of Charlotte, DeSoto, Sarasota and Manatee Counties, owns and operates the Peace River Facility located in southwest DeSoto County. This facility, which can treat up to 51 million gallons per day of water, is the major supplier of treated drinking water to Charlotte County Utilities, DeSoto County Utilities and Sarasota County Utilities and is also a provider to the City of North Port Utilities.

The facility is a surface water treatment plant with an off-stream reservoir providing storage of raw water withdrawn from the Peace River during times of high river flow. The facility provides additional water storage with an aquifer storage and recovery system that uses the natural groundwater aquifer for storage of treated drinking water. Combined, this storage system provides a total of 12 billion gallons of storage, assuring our water supply can endure droughts without impacting the environment. The regional pipeline network consists of over 65 miles of large diameter pipeline interconnecting the four county region proving a reliable, safe and affordable water supply to residents and businesses.

The success of the regional water system is the result of collaboration of multiple governments and investment of \$400 million in water infrastructure over the past two decades. 'To be recognized for this award is a lesson in regional cooperation' stated Patrick Lehman, Executive Director of the Authority.

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