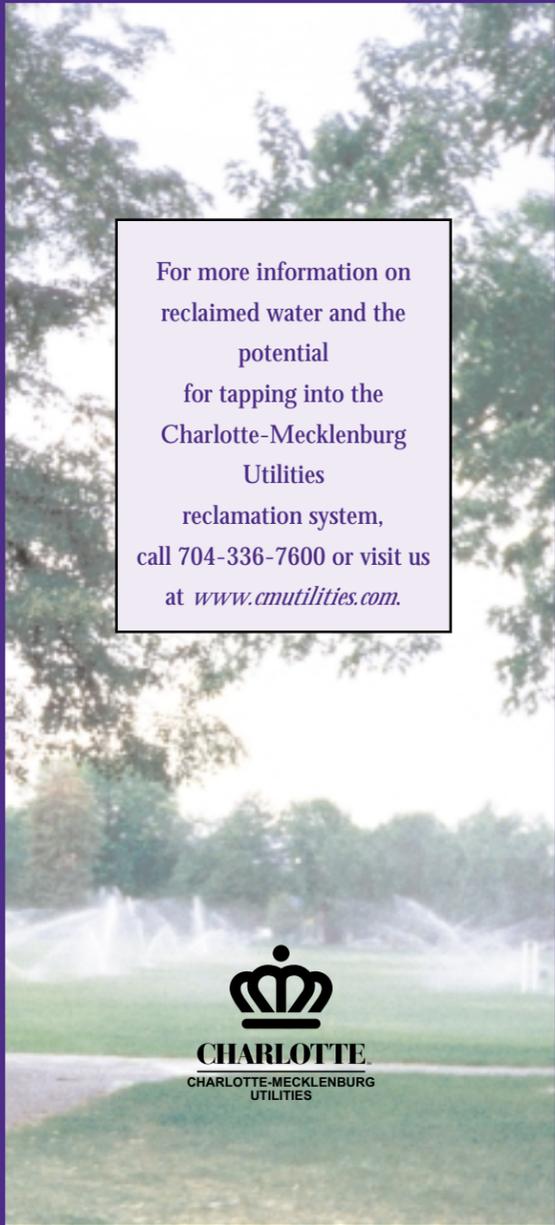




CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG UTILITIES

Reclaimed Water

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG UTILITIES



For more information on reclaimed water and the potential for tapping into the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities reclamation system, call 704-336-7600 or visit us at www.cmutilities.com.



RECLAIMED WATER

What is Reclaimed Water?



Reclaimed water is treated wastewater — normally put back into creeks, streams and lakes — that is instead made available for irrigation purposes. Reclaimed water is cleaner than what is usually present in the waterways. While not suitable for drinking, it is a safe, less expensive alternative for meeting many irrigation needs.

A fairly new concept in North Carolina, reclaimed water is already an important water resource for many communities across the U.S. and in other countries. Over 1,900 U.S. communities have active, well-run and regulated reclaimed water programs. The busiest states include Florida, California, Arizona, Washington and Texas. The univer-

sal color code for reclaimed water — which you'll see painted on pipes and other reclaimed water equipment — is purple.

In 1998, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities Mallard Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant began sending this county's first reclaimed water to The Tradition Golf Course and at Mallard Creek Park. Reclaimed water projects are also on their way to areas near the Sugar Creek, McAlpine Creek, McDowell Creek wastewater treatment plants.

Our goals for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities Reclaimed Water Program are to provide demand management of potable water system, effectively recycle a precious natural resource, gain public acceptance for reclaimed water and protect public health.

DO NOT drink any reclaimed water.

Why use it?

During the warm-weather months — when water use is at its highest — about one-third of all water usage is due to outdoor irrigation. Every gallon of reclaimed water:

- Keeps a gallon of fresh, drinking water available for use by Charlotte-Mecklenburg residents
- Reduces the need to build future water pumping, treatment and distribution facilities
- Is cheaper than using potable (drinking) water

Typical uses for reclaimed water:

- Irrigating lawns and landscaping
- Using in fountains or decorative pools
- Some industrial uses such as chillers or fire protection

Reclaimed water is for irrigation use only.

Is it safe?

YES — but not for drinking

Used for its intended purpose, reclaimed water is safe. The State of North Carolina has strict regulations regarding the use of and water quality standards for reclaimed water. To ensure safety, our own high standards and sophisticated controls are incorporated during the wastewater treatment process. The quality of the reclaimed water is continuously monitored to ensure public health and safety.

