Water Regulation in Florida

**FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**
- Regulates investor-owned water and wastewater companies in 35 counties.
- Establishes exclusive service territories.
- Requires utilities to provide reliable service to all customers.
- Sets the rates a regulated utility may charge for water and wastewater service.
- Provides the regulated water and/or wastewater company an opportunity to earn a fair return on its investment.
- Ensures that water meters and bills are accurate.

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**
- Manages Florida’s air, water, and land resources as the lead state agency with this responsibility.
- Protects Florida’s rivers, lakes, and wetlands.
- Monitors, protects, and improves drinking water quality through the Drinking Water Program.
- Implements groundwater programs to enhance drinking water supplies.
- Administers the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- Supervises Florida’s five regional Water Management Districts.

**FLORIDA’S WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS**
- Improves, maintains, and protects water resources within its geographic district.
- Manages flood protection, aquifer recharge, water shortage planning, well construction, and surface water management programs.
- Administers water conservation and restoration projects unique to each district.
- Issues consumptive use permits.

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**
- Regulates small water systems, with no more than 15 service connections, that do not come under the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- Monitors the water safety of beaches, fresh water swimming areas, and swimming pools.