

Tristan Davis

From: Tristan Davis on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 4:30 PM
To: 'William Trimble'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: History of Pollution from Sunshine Water Services at the Wekiva Treatment Plant

Good Afternoon,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20250137, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance.

Thank you!

Tristan Davis
Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 413-6121

PLEASE NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your email message may be subject to public disclosure.

From: William Trimble <wttrim@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 4:25 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; michelle.friendsofwekiva.org@hhrqdc.sqspmail.com; scottdsantos@gmail.com; trierweiler.walt@leg.state.fl.us; PONCE.OCTAVIO@leg.state.fl.us; WATROUS.AUSTIN@leg.state.fl.us; david.smicherko@floridadep.gov; gabbiemilch@aol.com; Manuel.Cardona@FloridaDEP.gov; kamiltully@gmail.com; nkieper@gmail.com; lewis.sarah@leg.state.fl.us; mcomas@orlandosentinel.com; bflores@seminolecountyfl.gov; carolyn.x.hall@floridadep.gov; 1miketully@gmail.com; shirleyjohnson@sweetwatoaks.org; nathanthomas@sweetwatoaks.org; friendswekivariver@gmail.com; hannah.vanburen@floridadep.gov
Subject: History of Pollution from Sunshine Water Services at the Wekiva Treatment Plant

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

For those here that are new to the abuse Sunshine Water Services inflicts on its customers here is a history for reference.

This all started in 2019 when Utilities Inc was purchased by the owners of now Sunshine Water Services.

At that time it was decided to shut down Shadow Hills plant and diverted everything to Wekiva.

Sunshine Water Services have not been or are either safe or reliable.

Sunshine has not been a good partner in the community have lied and told untruths or not been forthright on questions. They don't answer the phone when we are given phone numbers to call and it felt as if we were just put off.

Chronological Highlights

February 2019 the oders were really getting bad. Chris Snow acknowledged and said they were going to do something.

The oders persisted and we continued to complain.

Approximately March 2019 Utilities Inc. was to do an oder study.

Wednesday, June 26, 2019 June 26 results from the oder study was determined to be "Swamp Gas" Ive lived in my house for 19 years and was never "swamp Gas" before.

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 9:04 PM Tried contacting Utilities Inc Brian Ganogre with out much success so I was able to speak with Manuel Cardona to file thru OCULUS

Thursday, April 14, 2022 3:44 PM Bryan Gongre Complain again about oders.

Thursday, April 14, 2022 3:48 PM Wrote to Commissioner Lee Constantine.

Mon, Apr 18, 2022 at 12:28 PM Brian Congre excuse sour tanks?

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 11:35 AM Jenny Farrell at the Dep said no excessive sewage odors.

Depends on the wind strength and direction. Offered to “investigate”.

Smicherko, David

Tue, Jun 7, 2022 at 12:08 PM

Smicherko, David at DEP

Good Afternoon Mr. Trimble, I appreciate your concern regarding the Sunshine Water Treatment Facility on Ledbury Road. The Department has visited the Sunshine Water Wastewater Treatment Plant and surrounding area more than 15 times since March 2022 to investigate complaints and inspect the treatment facility. The latest visits being yesterday afternoon and this morning.

After an unauthorized discharge into a water body, bacteriological samples are collected by the facility to determine the impact on the water body. E. coli samples collected in various sections of Sweetwater Creek are below the surface water quality standard.

Please be assured the Department takes all complaints seriously and investigates them to ensure that facilities are in compliance with their permit conditions and are operating within the applicable state rules and regulations. Please contact me if you need further assistance.

Thu, Jun 9, 2022 at 3:46 PM

James C Adamski, PG Friends of Wekiva

Thank you for your email concerning the spills at the Sunshine Wastewater Treatment Plant near Sweetwater Creek. I just wanted to let you know that Friends of the Wekiva River is aware of the issue and working on it.

Friday, March 10, 2023 9:39 AM

To: Smicherko, David <David.Smicherko@FloridaDEP.gov>

Cc: Hess, Nathan <Nathan.Hess@FloridaDEP.gov>; Farrell, Jenny E. <Jenny.E.Farrell@dep.state.fl.us>; Gabrielle Milch <gabbiemilch@aol.com>; Mike Damico <mikeddamico@hotmail.com>; Mike Tully <tully@imperialbuilders.com>; Nathan Kieper <nkieper@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Meeting With DEP Regarding Sunshine Water

The smell continues to be a problem.

One of the main issues is those "investigating tell the offender the visit is coming.

Mar 10, 2023 at 11:57 AM

To me, Smicherko, David

Good Morning, Thank you for contacting the Department and providing the information below. An unannounced site visit to this area will be conducted today in response to this complaint.

Thank you,

Finally a response to conduct an UN-ANNOUNCED VIST by Jenny E. Farrell Environmental Manager Compliance Assurance Program

Sunday, February 11, 2024 8:56 AM

Beatriz Flores Executive Assistant to Commissioner Lee Constantine Board of County Commissioners, District 3

Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2024 8:56 AM

To: kamiltully@gmail.com; nkieper@gmail.com; Farrell, Jenny E. <Jenny.E.Farrell@dep.state.fl.us>; Mike Tully (Sweetwater Oaks Customer) <1miketully@gmail.com>

Cc: Smicherko, David <David.Smicherko@FloridaDEP.gov>; Cardona, Manuel <Manuel.Cardona@FloridaDEP.gov>; gabbiemilch@aol.com; Flores, Beatriz <bflores@seminolecountyfl.gov>; Hall, Carolyn X <Carolyn.X.Hall@FloridaDEP.gov>

Subject: Sunshine Water Wild Oak Circle Odor Complaints

Again complain to Commisioners office. There has been a constant Oder from the Sunshine Water Treatment plant off Ledbetter in the Wekiva Subdidvision all weekend since at least Friday 2/9/24

Sun, Jun 23 at 11:46 PM

Consent order issued

DW Facility ID # FL0036251 OGC Case No: 23-0392

Seminole County

**5/24/24 Consent Order
issued.**

Dear Mr. Twomey:

**Enclosed is the executed Consent Order to resolve the above referenced case. This copy is
for**

your records.

**Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Nathan Hess at 407-897-4140 or
via**

July 2024 Homeowners Meeting with Toeney now President.

Towney blamed to previous staff and said they are raising the rates again.

Christopher Snow CSnow@uiwater.com

Thursday, February 21, 2019 10:41 AM

To: Mike D'Amico (UIF Sanlando customer)

Cc: Bryan Gongre

Subject: Wekiva Utilities Inc of Florida facility

Mr. D'Amico,

Thank you for reaching out to Bryan about your concerns. Yes, we have been making significant upgrades in Seminole County over the past 5 years and are continuing to do so well into the future. You can find more info on the attached press release.

As Bryan may have mentioned, **we have been running a fan operated odor control unit** at night near the ground storage tanks at the water plant **to see if it would help with the odors** but the fan generates a whistling noise and may be a part of the noise so we are going to shut it down at night to eliminate the noise; however that doesn't help to prevent odors. Day to day noise include truck deliveries, operation of equipment, transfer pumps, reuse pumps and the waste water treatment facility blowers.

We have also asked one of our vendors to purchase new roll off containers that may decrease the odors and we purchase some granular odor control to apply to the roll offs when they first arrive. This should help with the odors.

The existing blowers are going to be replaced with high speed turbo blowers and these new blowers are very quiet so that should help at some level with odors and noise.

You can find more information about what we're up to on our website or via social media @myuiflorida. Thank you again for your time and please let me know if you have any questions!

Chris Snow | Director of External Affairs

From: Chris Snow <csnow@uiwater.com>

Sent: **Wednesday, June 26, 2019** at 02:03:00 PM EDT

Subject: **Wekiva Noise & Odor Study**

Gentlemen,

I have attached the noise and odor study Utilities, Inc. of Florida had performed by Kimley Horn. I am sending this around today as there seems to be a lack of interest in doing a meeting in person to discuss this issue. This seemed to be the best option in lieu of a meeting.

The study examines both the odor and noise concerns that you have communicated to Bryan, Steve, Tucker, and myself. In examining the odor issue in particular the data indicates there is no correlation between the work happening at the Wekiva Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and the odors you are smelling. As you will find in the conclusion of the study, (page 10) the odors are likely related to **"swamp gas"** generated by the surrounding wetlands. This was confirmed to be an issue in the area by Seminole County.

As you will find there is quite a bit of information in the study. Take your time and please let us know if you have questions or would like to sit down and discuss it with us.

DEP Planned Enforcement Action Letter Fw: Meeting With DEP Regarding Sunshine Water

Smicherko, David <david.smicherko@floridadep.gov>

To: wtrim@yahoo.com <wtrim@yahoo.com>

Cc: Hess, Nathan <Nathan.Hess@FloridaDEP.gov>; Farrell, Jenny E. <Jenny.E.Farrell@dep.state.fl.us>

Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 at 08:06:01 AM EDT

Friday, October 11, 2019 2:20 PM

SEMINOLE COUNTY, Fla. – Mechanical malfunctions caused 1.2 million gallons of wastewater to spill into Sweetwater Creek near Wekiva Springs from Tuesday night into Wednesday morning, according to Utilities Inc. of Florida.

On Monday, October 14, 2019, 11:59:47 AM EDT, Chris Snow <CSnow@uiwater.com> wrote:

Mr. Trimble, Thank you for reaching out.

Yes, last week we had an overflow of wastewater in our system. We deeply apologize for this. We have corrected the mechanical flaw. For more information please check the press release we put out last week. We're making significant investment in that Wekiva plant in the coming year. I've also attached more information on that.

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 9:04 PM

To: Bryan Gongre <BKGongre@uiwater.com>; Mike Damico <mikeddamico@hotmail.com>; Mike Tully (Sweetwater Oaks Customer) <1miketully@gmail.com> Subject: Re: Dumping Water

Tried contacting Utilities Inc Brian Ganogre with out much success so I was able to speak with Manuel to file thru OCULUS

Brian, I just thought I would pass along the fact that I was able to speak with Manny at the DEP. He took time to answer my questions, explain the process of actually what happened at your plant and what will come in the future.

He was very helpful and sent me instructions so that I could log into the OCULUS system at the DEP and review information that I may have questions about and share with others that may also be concerned.

Hardy, Sarah

To me

From: William Trimble <wtrim@yahoo.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2022 3:44 PM

To: Bryan Gongre <Bryan.Gongre@SunshineWater.com>; Mike Tully (Sweetwater Oaks Customer) <1miketully@gmail.com>; Mike Damico <mikeddamico@hotmail.com>

Subject: Re: Dumping Water

Complain again about odors.

Brian,

It appears your plant is dumping water with a very foul odor again.

What can you do to fix this again?

Bill Trimble

On Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 04:20:46 PM EDT, William Trimble <wtrim@yahoo.com> wrote:

Since Sunday there has been a very strong odor coming from the Wekiva Hunt Club Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), located at 144 Ledbury Drive in Longwood, FL.

It has present in the air all day 3/8/26, 3/9/26 and 3/10/26.

I was going to write to whoever cares on Sunday but am worn out asking for something to be done. I would guess that is what Sunshine wants.

There was a consent order not too long ago and Sunshine was rewarded with a rate increase to its customers.

Sunshine Utilities continues to pollute the natural drainage land that borders between Sweetwater Oaks and Wekiva subdivisions, the volume of spills has polluted Sweetwater Creek and its subsequent run to the Wekiva River Basin.

This was sent to me in one letter from the DEP, " E. coli samples collected in various sections of Sweetwater Creek are below the surface water quality standard."
Oh, ok then why don't you have a drink?

Why are they allowed to continue to pollute by air and land, with virtually no consequences and allowed to raise rates?

When will something be done and a responsible vendor or the county take back the operation?

Sunshine Water continues to be a horrible partner for Seminole County or Wekiva and Sweetwater Oaks communities.