

Protecting Florida's Water

The Board of County Commissioners

And

The Indian River County Department
of Utility Services



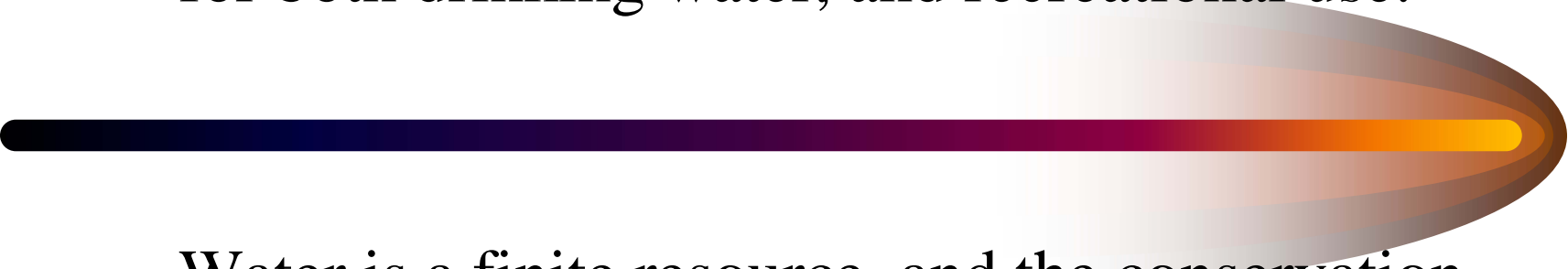
The St. John's River Water Management District

Indian River County is part of the St. John's River Water Management District. The decision to establish water management districts came about as a result of the devastation produced by hurricanes in the 1940s and 1960s.

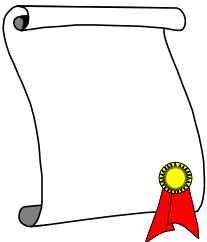


TO BENEFIT THE CITIZENS of INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Florida's citizens and lawmakers recognize the importance of managing the state's water supply for both drinking water, and recreational use.



Water is a finite resource, and the conservation and preservation of this most precious resource has become one of our primary goals.



WHERE DOES FLORIDA'S WATER COME FROM?

About 90 percent of those of us living in north and east-central Florida get our water supply from an aquifer. Aquifers can be thought of as vast underground sponge-like rocks that hold water and allow water to move through the holes within the rock.

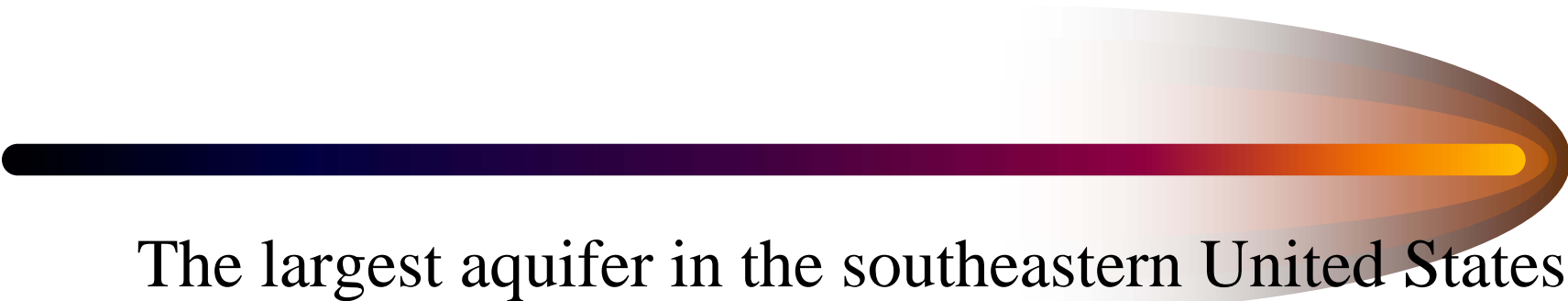


WHERE DOES FLORIDA'S WATER COME FROM?

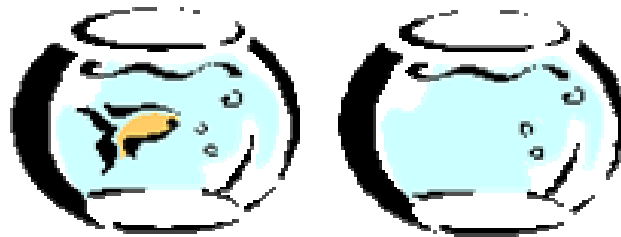
Aquifers are layers within limestone and sandshell rock under the earth's crust. Fresh and saltwater fill the various sized holes in the rock.



PROTECTING FLORIDA'S WATER



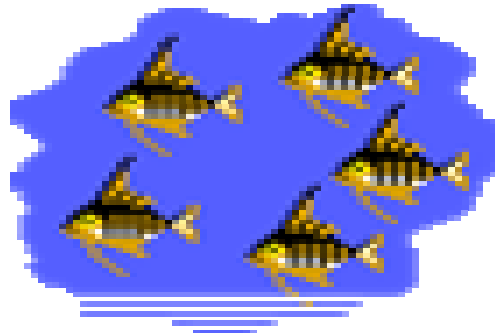
The largest aquifer in the southeastern United States is the Floridan. It is from this aquifer, the Floridan, that Indian River County's water comes from.



PROTECTING FLORIDA'S WATER

Besides supplying drinking water to Florida residents, as well as the state's visitors, recreational opportunities are found

in water that escapes from the aquifers. When aquifer waters escape, it is known as a spring.



WATER FOR RECREATION

In these springs, clear liquid gushes forcefully toward the earth's surface. Springs can be seen without having to don scuba or snorkeling gear at attractions like Silver Springs in Marion County,



where visitors only have to look through the glass bottom boats. Springs from the aquifer system are also found in the Atlantic Ocean, lakes, and rivers.

WATER FOR THE FUTURE

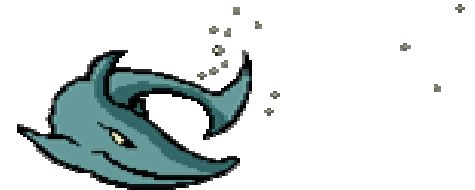
Though there appears to be a vast supply of water today, in the aquifer system, we must maintain a balance with nature. The rain which fill aquifers is

also needed in lakes, rivers, estuaries, and wetlands, to meet nature's needs.



WHAT CAN WE DO TO ENSURE FUTURE DRINKING WATER?

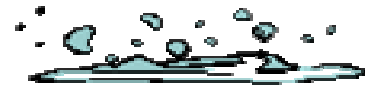
To help maintain a balance, the Department of Utility Services, with the assistance of agencies such as the St. John's River Water Management District, work daily to educate the public on ways to conserve, protect, restore, and enhance water bodies for people and Wildlife who use them.



WHAT CAN WE DO TO ENSURE THE FUTURE OF DRINKING WATER? (Cont'd)

Indian River County is continuously searching for ways to ensure that there will be drinking water for the future, as well as exploring ways to protect the

environment and the creatures and plants that live in these environs.



WATCH WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU!

WE KNOW THAT WE MUST WORK TOGETHER IF WE ARE TO BE SUCCESSFUL. IN THE COMING MONTHS,

WATCH FOR THE OUTSTANDING WAYS IN WHICH INDIAN RIVER COUNTY IS DOING JUST THAT!

