



# BUCKMAN OZONE TREATMENT WETLAND PILOT STUDY

A pilot study is evaluating how ozonation and other treatment can be used to purify reclaimed water so that it can be used as a safe and reliable source to replenish groundwater in Northeast Florida.

## **BUILDING ON A PROVEN METHOD**

Constructed wetland recharge systems have already proven effective across Florida to naturally treat water using biological processes before recharging the aquifer.

Wetlands act as natural filters and help remove nutrients and other compounds from water, using:



Plants



Soils



Microorganisms

This pilot study builds on those proven systems by evaluating additional treatment methods that will further enhance water quality.

## **WHAT SCIENTISTS ARE MEASURING**

Over the course of the study, engineers and water scientists will evaluate how well the treatment systems remove or reduce:

- Nutrients
- Pharmaceuticals
- PFAS and other emerging constituents
- Industrial-related compounds
- Other trace compounds

## **WHY THIS MATTERS**

The Floridan Aquifer reaches from South Carolina to southern Florida and supplies drinking water to millions of people across Florida and the Southeast.

Careful research helps ensure decisions continue to be based on science, monitoring, and strong water quality protections.

## GOING BEYOND

JEA and the St. Johns River Water Management District began studying treatment technologies nearly a decade ago and completed a multi-year research program in 2019. Building on that, JEA is piloting a treatment train using ozone and treatment wetlands to evaluate real-world effectiveness of eliminating emerging constituents in reclaimed water.

The results of this study will be used to inform the design of the Water First North Florida Project to ensure that any water that directly recharges the aquifer meets or exceeds state and federal drinking water standards.

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