



PALM BAY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Palm Bay Utilities Department Receives National Safety Award

PALM BAY, Florida – The Palm Bay Utilities Department was recently recognized at the United Safety Council's 58th Annual Safety Awards Banquet held in Orlando on January 28, 2011. The local water and wastewater utility received a Gold Safety Achievement Award in the small company category which includes private and public companies from across the nation with 500 employees or less. The gold designation is the highest recognition given by the United Safety Council in this category.

The United Safety Council is a non-profit, non-governmental safety and health training organization dedicated to improving quality of life. The organization is headquartered in Orlando and has become an international safety training agency working to promote safety in homes, on the road, in schools, businesses and industrial facilities.

Members from the Palm Bay Utilities' Environment, Health and Safety Committee attended the ceremony to accept the award. The Gold Safety Achievement Award is presented to companies who excel in the following areas: safety committee activity, senior management commitment, employee involvement, written safety and health programs, inspection programs, and mishap investigation.

"This award recognizes the efforts of our staff and our organization's overall commitment to safety in the workplace," stated Jason Yarborough, Utilities Director.

Palm Bay Utilities Department initiated an Environmental Management Program known as GreenWay in 2008, which led to the department being certified under the ISO 14001:2004 environmental standards. The GreenWay program incorporates an extensive safety program for employees within the organization, which includes training and monthly awareness meetings to ensure continual focus and improvement on safety measures. In addition, the Utilities Department has initiated the implementation of a safety management system in compliance with the American National Standard Institute (ANSI) Z10 Standard. Fully implemented, the safety management system will provide an additional level of awareness, training, and commitment to employee safety.

"Safety is something that we take very seriously for both our customers and staff," commented Yarborough.

For more information about the Palm Bay Utilities Department and its safety program, please visit www.pbud.org or contact Dan Roberts, Assistant Utilities Director, at (321) 952-3410.

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