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Funding to protect Ichetucknee Springs



Ichetucknee Springs head spring

LIVE OAK, FL, October 1, 2014, — Businesses in the City of Lake City and Columbia County will proactively protect the Ichetucknee Springs through a water conservation initiative thanks to the Springs Grants funding from Governor Scott and the Legislature.

The Ichetucknee Springs / Columbia County Water Conservation Initiative will provide cost-share rebates to local businesses to replace an estimated 600 existing toilet fixtures and faucets with high efficiency units. The project is

estimated to save 32 million gallons per year, benefitting the Ichetucknee Springs as well as other springs in the Lower Santa Fe River. Local cooperators are the Lake City and Columbia County Chamber of Commerce, the Ichetucknee Partnership, the City of Lake City, and participating businesses. The total project cost is \$350,000 with contributions of \$250,000 from the State, \$30,000 from the District and \$70,000 from the cooperators.

This project was made possible through Governor Scott's "It's Your Money Tax Budget," the favorable vote from the Legislative Budget Committee, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Suwannee River Water Management and the City of Lake City.

DEP evaluated the proposed projects put forth by the District. As a result of this process, nine projects throughout the District are poised to move forward totaling nearly \$15.2 million dollars.

For more information about this and other springs projects please visit www.mysuwanneeriver.com