

STATEMENT OF POLICY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ST. JOHNS DRAINAGE DISTRICT

St. Johns Drainage District was organized under the provisions of Chapter 298, Florida Statutes, and a local Act designated as Chapter 65-812, Laws of Florida. The District does not have by-laws or a Charter, such as a corporation. It operates solely under the authority of these laws, and the District's policy and operation are governed by their provisions. A general statement of policy is as follows:

1. As to the details of the organization and operation of the District, its powers, authority and its obligations, landowners should refer to the above-mentioned Chapter 298 and Chapter 65-812.

2. The primary function of the District is to control water within its boundaries with respect to drainage in times of excess water, and with respect to irrigation in times of a shortage of water. The District maintains the pumping stations, dikes, main canals and lateral canals as shown on the Plan of Reclamation.

3. The District, through the advice of its Engineer, makes an effort to maintain a water level in its canals and laterals at an average elevation to best serve the needs of the landowners. The landowner has a right to take water from and pump water into the District's canals and laterals.

4. Any landowner desiring a different water table or elevation of water within the boundaries of the landowners' property different from that maintained in the laterals and canals of the District is responsible for constructing and maintaining such culverts, pumps or other controls to pump in or pump out to meet internal needs.

5. Landowners are to apply for and receive from the Board a permit for the construction of any culverts, pumps or other facilities on District rights of way or into the rights of way for any purpose so the Board can maintain uniform control of its facilities.

6. All pumps of the District are under the complete control of the Board and its employees, and no landowner is permitted to stop or start the pumps or otherwise interfere with them. If there is any question as to whether or not a pump should be pumping or not pumping, this should be taken up with the District employees.

7. It is a misdemeanor to interfere with or hamper the operations of the District or any of its facilities. Likewise, it is a misdemeanor to damage

or trespass on the District facilities. This is called to the attention of all because of the prevalence of theft, pilferage and vandalism from the public generally, and not from any specific landowner. The Board requests that all landowners help in policing the District, and being vigilant in keeping down theft and vandalism, and reporting to the Board and its employees any information as to such.

8. It is recognized that it is impossible to at all times maintain water levels in the District canals and laterals which will suit the needs of every landowner served thereby without auxiliary pumping and control by the landowner to provide for his specific internal requirements. The District's responsibility is to maintain a fair average water level upon the advice of its Engineer. All recognize that in this sub-tropical area, there are occasions when flash and unexpected rainfalls occur, which cause excess water and a temporary flooding. The District will make every effort to remove this water from its facilities as rapidly as possible to the average water level.

9. The District roads are for the use of the landowners for ingress and egress and for other persons entering the boundaries of the District on business. The landowners are requested to help the Board in keeping the traffic on these roads to a minimum and to discourage the use of them by the public in general for other than business within the District so as to reduce maintenance problems and cost.

10. Any time a landowner has any suggestion or feels that there is a need for improvement or change in the operation of the District, they should feel free to request a meeting with the Board.