



The Florida Water Management Inventory (FLWMI)
Frequently Asked Questions
Current as of: March 9, 2021

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Q: "What are you looking for" in simple terms?

A: Simply put, we are seeking information on the developed property parcels (physical addresses) and their wastewater treatment method and drinking water source. This includes properties served by Department of Environmental Protection permitted facility, private wells and Onsite Sewage Treatment Disposal System That is all.

Q: What is the purpose of the Statewide Inventory?

A: The purpose of the Florida Water Management Inventory (FLWMI), also referred to simply as the Statewide Inventory, is to document both the drinking water source and the wastewater treatment method for each developed parcel in the state. This project is building on a similar project completed by legislative mandate in 2008-09, focusing exclusively on wastewater treatment methods. The current project effort includes the addition of drinking water sources. Additionally, some of the information provided in 2009 is now out of date or data was not provided. These data gaps required an estimation of "likely" onsite or central treatment methods. In the 2009 Inventory, responses were received from 52% of utilities, representing 85% of the state's total permitted sewage capacity. There are more source

data present today than several years ago and this current project seeks to update the existing information, while also gathering and analyzing information that was not provided in the previous inventory effort.

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Q: Is the information I provide secure?

A: Yes. The Statewide Inventory Database and the information gathered to conduct the inventory will be secured in accordance with the Department of Health (DOH) Enterprise Information Technology Security Policy. Only that information necessary to achieve the desired benefits to the state (please refer to the [Benefits](#) section) will be posted on the publicly accessible DOH website. Furthermore, names and personal information associated with parcel data are not required to conduct the inventory, will not be stored in the database, nor posted on the website.

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Q: What are the benefits of the Statewide Inventory?

A: There are many benefits to completing and maintaining a comprehensive inventory of drinking water sources and wastewater treatment methods:

- It provides a vital tool in disaster preparedness and response activities.
- It provides the ability to more accurately estimate the impact to public health during a disaster.
- All information in the inventory will be shared with interested parties via the Department of Health (DOH) website.
- It provides the ability for utilities that do not have Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities to utilize DOH resources to enhance their information, processes, planning, etc.
- It is a potential time saver for utilities providing the ability to direct persons to the DOH website for answers to similar questions that are frequently asked by the public.
- It improves the speed of permitting processes for multiple agencies and interested parties.
- It provides the ability for utilities to identify areas for potential expansion of services.
- It assists with identifying environmentally sensitive areas where conversion of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDS) (septic systems) and private drinking water wells to central sewer and public water may be warranted.
- It provides the ability for builders, developers, and businesses to access information from the website to enhance their planning and permitting activities.
- It assists development review staff with determining "how close" sewer service is when assessing new subdivisions.
- It provides additional tools for land use and infrastructure planning.
- It provides homeowners, potential buyers, and realtors online access to drinking water and wastewater information on properties.
- It assists in public education and outreach.
- It increases knowledge and awareness on environmental health topics associated with water contaminant in relation to human health.
- It makes Florida a national leader in identifying and maintaining drinking water sources and wastewater treatment methods.

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Q: Who is conducting and assisting with the Statewide Inventory?

A: The Department of Health (DOH) is conducting the inventory in cooperation with each of the 67 County Health Departments (CHDs), the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR), the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DOACS), the State Emergency Response Team (SERT), and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In addition, water and wastewater utilities, local government and other parties also play a vital role relative to the FLWMI data collection effort.

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Q: What types of information are you looking for?

A: The Department of Health (DOH) has parcel information provided by each county Property Appraiser for all properties in the state. The inventory effort seeks to identify drinking water sources and wastewater treatment methods for each improved parcel through the collection and analysis of:

- Geographic Information System (GIS) Geodatabases
- Geographic Information System (GIS) Shapefiles
- Geographic Information System (GIS) point, line, or polygon data
- Database tables or extracts with relevant drinking water or wastewater information (please see the MS Excel Data Sheet template developed by the Project Team)
- Customer lists (excluding names) with Parcel and/or Tax IDs and Physical Addresses indicating provision of central water or sewer services (please see the [MS Excel Data Sheet template](#) developed by the Project Team)

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Q: What if I do not have a Geographic Information System (GIS) from which to provide the requested information? What file formats will you accept?

A: We will accept database tables from MS SQL Server or MS Access, spreadsheets from MS Excel, or Comma Delimited (CSV) documents. In the interest of accuracy and efficiency, paper files are not desired.

Regardless of the type of file submitted, each should contain the information and fields indicated in the "[What fields are you interested in receiving?](#)" section of this FAQ and as indicated in the [MS Excel Data Sheet template](#) developed by the Project Team (please download and view the template to get a better idea of the information being requested).

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Q: What fields are you interested in receiving?

A: We are looking for the following fields:

1. Date of Submission
2. Property Parcel ID / Tax ID (**if available**)
3. Property Physical Address
4. County
5. Drinking Water Source (Public Water, Private Well, Limited Use Well, or Unknown)
6. Public Water System ID & Name (as permitted by FDEP), if applicable
7. Wastewater Method (Sewer, Septic, or Unknown)
8. Wastewater Facility ID & Name (as permitted by FDEP), if applicable

9. Comments (relevant to the particular property parcel or facility to which the data refers)

Access the [MS Excel Data Sheet template](#) developed by the Project Team.

Each of the fields above should be included in the data sets submitted to the Project Team, whether they are GIS files, database table extracts, or the [MS Excel Data Sheet template](#) developed by the Project Team.

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Q: I am a little confused. What exactly are you looking for?

A: We are seeking information on property parcels and/or service addresses for each Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) and Public Water System (PWS) in the state. These facilities are regulated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). We have already obtained information regarding the specific WWTF and PWS facilities from FDEP, and this does not include any information on service addresses..

We are requesting the *property parcels and/or service addresses which are served by each permitted facility* and whether the property parcel and/or service address has *Central Sewer or Onsite Septic* for wastewater treatment and a *Public Water System, Private Well, or Limited Use Well* as the source of drinking water.

It is important to note that, for the purpose of the Statewide Inventory, any facility that is permitted by FDEP is considered to be “public” (i.e. Central Sewer and/or Public Water), regardless of ownership, capacity or how many parcels are served by the facility.

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Q: I just own a small business such as a Mobile Home Park, RV Park, Convenience Store, Small Commercial or Industrial building, etc. How do I report this information to you?

A: If the permitted WWTF or PWS facility for which you are reporting serves only one single parcel, then this would be a single record (or just a single row in [MS Excel Data Sheet template](#) developed by the Project Team; please [download](#) and view the template to get a better idea of the information being requested).

If the facility(s) for which you are reporting serve multiple parcels, then there would be multiple corresponding records (or rows).

For the specific fields and formats we are requesting, please see the other areas in this FAQ or the Data Gathering portion of the website.

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Q: What will be done with the information I provide?

A: The Department of Health (DOH) will collect, analyze, and store all information in the Statewide Inventory Database. Information on drinking water sources and wastewater treatment methods will be made available on the DOH website. Please also refer to the [Purpose](#) and the [Benefits](#) sections for more details on activities.

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Q: How do I send my information to you?

A: All data sets are requested as digital files transmitted electronically. There are multiple options available for you to submit your data sets:

- You may simply attach and [email](#) your files (less than 8MB**)
- You may transmit your files (over 8MB**) via the FDOH MOVEit DMZ secure messaging system
- You may [email the Project Team](#) the link and/or location of files available on your public Internet website
- You may place the files on your File Transfer Protocol (FTP) site and [email the Project Team](#) with the link and any required credentials for accessing the files

**Note: for files exceeding the 8MB email threshold, you may utilize the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) MOVEit DMZ secure messaging system. Please [email us](#) letting us know you wish to submit large files using MOVEit DMZ secure messaging. We will generate a secure email "Package" and send it to you. Upon receipt of the email Package, you may follow the instructions in the MOVEit DMZ Handbook found on the [project website](#) to quickly and easily complete the transmission. The handbook provides step-by-step instructions for transmitting large files utilizing the secure messaging of MOVEit DMZ.

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Q: What is MOVEit DMZ?

A: The Department of Health (DOH) MOVEit DMZ application is utilized for secure transmission of large files (>8MB). DOH staff will create a "Package" within the MOVEit DMZ application and email the "Package" to the organization's contact person that will be transmitting files. This creates a temporary account for the recipient in the DOH MOVEit DMZ application. A hyperlink to the DOH MOVEit DMZ application, along with the recipient's temporary account username and password, is included in the email. Clicking on the hyperlink takes you to the secure website where you are able to log into the website and will be prompted to change your temporary password. You now have access to the secure website and an "Inbox" containing the "Package" that was emailed to you from the DOH staff. To transmit files, open the "Package" from your "Inbox", attach the files you wish to transmit, and press "Send" to transmit the files to DOH. **The temporary account established for file transmission is active for 30 days and the files must be transmitted during that timeframe.** For additional questions and step-by-step instructions on using the DOH MOVEit DMZ application, please refer to the handbook found on the [project website](#). Additionally, any support questions may be emailed to: DCEHInventory@flhealth.gov

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Q: What if I have questions that are not answered here?

A: Please visit the [Florida Water Management Inventory webpage](#). Please carefully review the Data Gathering section. If you still have questions and are unsure of how to proceed, please [email your questions to the Project Team](#).

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