



PACA Media Release

For release on Tuesday, February 3, 2009



Pasco codes manager to help residents avoid watering fines by detailing new rules, answering questions at Feb. 12 public meeting

LAND O' LAKES – Confused about the new watering restrictions in Pasco County that can lead to stiff fines for violators?

Then attend the Thursday, Feb. 12, meeting of PACA – the Pasco Alliance of Community Associations.

Richard Ortiz, Pasco County's Code Compliance Manager, will address PACA members and the general public during the meeting that begins at 7 p.m. at the Land O' Lakes Community Center. It is located at 5401 Land O' Lakes Blvd. in Land O' Lakes.

Mr. Ortiz will provide a general overview of the code compliance issues that face the residents and the communities within Pasco County.

He said, "I will address the current restrictions and the changes in code restrictions as they pertain to watering of lawns, grass, and vehicles for homes and communities in Pasco. I would then be happy to open up the discussion to a general question-and-answer session for all participants."

PACA President Bill Parsons said, "PACA invites the public and the media to join our membership in hearing what Mr. Ortiz has to say. Compliance with county codes not only avoids fines, but following lawn watering restrictions is extremely important to conserve our precious water resources during this long-term drought. We'll also welcome questions seeking answers to individual problems and issues."

The Pasco County Code Compliance Division is responsible for the enforcement of county codes and ordinances pertaining to zoning, occupational licensing, environmental, and consumer law. Code Compliance Officers respond to resident inquiries concerning zoning violations; public nuisances, air, water, and soil pollution, tree preservation and removal and other problems related to land development within the county. Code Compliance Officers also investigate some consumer law violations.

PACA is a not-for-profit organization whose members include representatives from 72 of Pasco County's homeowner associations, community development districts and condominium associations. PACA assists members by educating them on common issues and finding solutions to shared problems. It also represents the interests of members before local, county and state government.

For further information about PACA, contact President Bill Parsons at (813) 991-6003 or visit the PACA website at: www.MyPACA.org.

-30-

Media coverage of this meeting is invited and welcomed.