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Pollution both by individuals and industries also has contributed to the decrease in the fresh water supply.

Despite strict pollution laws, the county's health department warns against bodily contact with any inland waterways.

"Wastewater is dumped into the canals and stormwater runoff carrying pesticides, chemicals and animal droppings also enters canals and lakes. In most cases there is not enough fresh water to dilute the wastewater," said Tom Mueller, a sanitary engineer with the department's environmental division.

Mueller said bacteria counts are taken monthly in the waterways, but "one day the bacteria count could be normal and the next day it could be different. Bodily contact with inland canals poses a risk, especially with hepatitis."

Winn warns that even with all the in-depth planning, a water shortage similar to Southern California's could occur here if the state experienced a drought lasting more than a year.

"The California shortage occurred from a lack of rainfall, not inadequate planning," Winn said.

WATER USE MAY TRIPLE

WEST PALM BEACH — Southeast Florida residents must be willing to make financial and environmental tradeoffs to ensure themselves an adequate supply of fresh water for the future.

The first draft of the South Florida Water Management District water use plan explained several water storage alternatives and costs — both to the consumer and to the environment.

Although no specific recommendations were made, staff members indicated increased water storage in Lake Okeechobee, back-pumping water from coastal area canals to conservation areas, and increased wellfield development are the most viable alternatives.

The district is responsible for water control and management of 16 South Florida counties, including Broward and Palm Beach.

By the year 2020 the district has predicted fresh water consumption will triple from its current rate, requiring 1.6 billion gallons of water to be pumped daily to individuals, industries and farmers.

All of the area's fresh water is stored in Lake Okeechobee, three conservation areas covering 50 per cent of the original Everglades, and the Biscayne aquifer. District officials said these areas won't be able to store the additional water in future years unless some structural changes are made.



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Because Florida depends solely on 60 inches of rainfall annually for its fresh water supply, the only way to prevent a drought similar to southern California's is to build adequate storage facilities now, the report stated.

Pete Rhodes, deputy director of resource planning, said desalination — purifying brackish water in the aquifer — and deepwell injection — forcing fresh water into the aquifer for temporary storage — also are viable solutions.

The draft indicates that controlling the amount and periods of rainfall by cloud seeding is not being considered because of various economic and legal problems. Use of recycled wastewater for anything except irrigation purposes also was ruled out.

The plan in final form will be presented to the state Department of Environmental Regulation in October to be forwarded to the State Legislature.

Golf Turf Symposium

The 14th Annual Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium will be held in Milwaukee on October 24 and 25, at the Marc Plaza Hotel, 509 W. Wisconsin Avenue. **Please note the hotel change.**

The subject is "Better Golf Turf Through Research", and will be centered around nationwide research reports. Speakers will illustrate the benefits gained from past research as well as projects underway now.

For further information contact Bob Welch, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, 735 North Water Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, (414) 278-2036.

Happy Birthday Ray



Ray Gerber, Editor of The BULL SHEET, Official Bulletin of the Midwest GCSA, recently celebrated his 80th Birthday. Our congratulations Ray and we wish you many more happy and healthy years.