



**SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

December 14, 2009

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[www.sfwmd.gov/news](http://www.sfwmd.gov/news)

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## **SFWMD Lets the Carp Out**

*Hungry grass carp fish help clear flood control canals of invasive plants*



**WHAT:**

As part of a committed nuisance aquatic vegetation management program, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is set to release nearly 21,000 grass carp to eat canal-clogging plants.

Though the carp are Arkansas fish-farm natives, they are far from dangerous exotic species such as the Burmese python that have invaded South Florida. These effective biological controls are sterile and do not breed. They can focus all their energies on eating hydrilla, a rapidly growing invasive plant that slows water flow and can clog structures in SFWMD canals that must be kept clear for flood control purposes.

For more information about [grass carp](#), visit the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, December 16, 2009

**TIME:** 9:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** SFWMD Homestead Field Station  
2195 NE 8th Street  
Homestead, FL 33033

[Click here to see a map](#)

# # #

**About the South Florida Water Management District – [Celebrating 60 Years \(1949-2009\)](#)**

*The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.*