



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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Opportunities with SFWMD Await Small Businesses

Open houses to provide information on Small Business Enterprise Program

West Palm Beach, FL – The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is hosting a series of open house events for small businesses interested in learning about the District's procurement process and its Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program.

The open house, entitled "How to do Business with the District," will give small business owners and executives the opportunity to interact with contract specialists and purchasing agents during one-on-one sessions. Each event will be held from **9 a.m. to noon** at the following locations:

- **March 31:** West Palm Beach Field Station, 801 Sansbury Way, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411
- **April 28:** Fort Lauderdale Field Station, 2535 Davie Road, Davie, FL 33317
- **May 26:** Miami Field Station, 9001 NW 58th Street, Miami, FL 33178
- **June 30:** Big Cypress Basin Service Center, Poinciana Professional Park, 2640 Golden Gate Parkway, Naples, FL 34105

The District started the SBE Program in 2006 to spur economic development and support small businesses' growth and expansion in the marketplace. Since its inception, the Program has certified more than 1,500 small businesses throughout Florida.

The SBE Program gives small businesses additional preferences during the District's solicitation process. The rule that created the Program includes provisions for bid equalization, sheltered markets, points for SBE participation in proposals and SBE subcontract participation goals. A participating firm must be certified by the District and demonstrate that its three-year average gross receipts, together with those of its affiliates, do not exceed \$13 million for construction, \$5 million for commodities and \$6 million for services.

To learn more about the SBE Program or to search a directory of SBE-certified businesses, please visit www.sfwmd.gov/sbe. For more information on the open house or to register, please call (866) 922-8923.

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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.