

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

October 19, 2009

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SFWMD Recognized for Excellence in Procurement

West Palm Beach, FL — The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has been recognized by a group of professional procurement organizations, headed by the National Purchasing Institute, with the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement award for work done during 2008.

"The District places great importance on how well we interact with the business community and how carefully we protect taxpayers' investment," said SFWMD Governing Board member Charles Dauray. "It is an honor to know that respected organizations within the procurement field believe we have achieved a level of excellence."

The award program is designed to measure innovation, professionalism, eprocurement, productivity and leadership attributes. Procurement practices at the District that contributed to the award include:

- Creation of a procurement ethics policy
- Web-based direction on how to do business with the District
- Formal satisfaction surveys of both internal and external customers
- Web postings of all procurement activities
- Online registration of vendors
- Professional certification of procurement staff
- Continuous training opportunities for internal customers and regular businessto-business meetings with external customers

"The procurement professionals of the District constantly strive to meet our constituents' high expectations," said SFWMD Executive Director Carol Ann Wehle. "This award represents a significant accomplishment by this agency and its leadership team, and we are proud to have such talented professionals upholding the public's trust in administering our procurement efforts."

The South Florida Water Management District is one of 220 special districts in the United States to receive the award in 2009. The District has now been recognized with the award four times.

In addition to the National Purchasing Institute, the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement award is sponsored by the California Association of Public Purchasing Officers, the Florida Association of Public Purchasing Officers, the Institute of Supply Management, the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, the National Association of State Procurement Officials, the National Association of Educational Procurement and the Texas Public Purchasing Association.

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About the South Florida Water Management District — <u>Celebrating 60 Years (1949-2009)</u>

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.