



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **SFWMD Employees Raise \$44,722 for Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation**

*More than 450 employees, family and friends participated in the 2011 Komen South Florida Race for the Cure*



*(Click on the picture for a larger version.)*

**West Palm Beach, FL** — In a show of support for breast cancer awareness, 459 South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) employees, family members and friends participated in the Komen South Florida Race for the Cure and raised \$44,722 — almost double what was raised last year. For the eighth consecutive year, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation recognized the District for having the largest team representing a governmental entity.

At the SFWMD Governing Board meeting, a check was presented on behalf of the District team to the Komen Foundation with the hope that continued dedication to research, treatment and awareness will help women overcome the disease.

The District's team started when Kathie Morris, a finance manager at the SFWMD, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2002. To show support for Kathie, co-worker and

friend Claudia Kugler organized the first cancer support group among District employees, then dubbed "Kathie's Friends," to participate in the 2003 race. Ironically, Claudia herself was diagnosed with breast cancer less than two months later.

The medical battles Kathie and Claudia fought inspired other employees, family members, friends and survivors to join the fight against breast cancer. Over nine years, participation in the race, as well as other fundraising activities, has raised almost \$175,000.

For more information on the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, visit [www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org).

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### **About the South Florida Water Management District**

*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.*