



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACTS:

Randy Smith

South Florida Water Management District
Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cellular: (561) 389-3386

Gabe Margasak

South Florida Water Management District
Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cellular: (561) 670-1245

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SFWMD Monitoring Tropical Storm Emily *Residents are asked to review their storm plans and supplies*

West Palm Beach, FL – While it is too early to determine if Tropical Storm Emily will impact the region, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is closely monitoring the latest weather forecasts and will provide updates as necessary.

The District is prepared, if necessary, to maximize storage of stormwater runoff in order to reduce flooding wherever possible. Water control structures can open as needed to lower regional canals, enhancing the ability of local drainage facilities to route excess runoff into the District canal system.

Along with pre-storm preparations, the District employs a routine maintenance program to ensure the regional flood control system operates at its full potential. The program includes routine inspection and maintenance of water control structures, clearing canals of debris and exotic vegetation, strengthening canal banks and other improvements.

Even with these precautions, complete flood protection is not possible in South Florida given the potential for extreme rainfall from storm events.

Residents are urged to review their emergency plans and supplies. Experience has shown that when people are adequately prepared, it is more likely they will be safer and rebound more quickly than those who do not take action ahead of time. Having essential supplies for at least three days can ensure that basic needs are met immediately following a storm. Tips for emergency preparedness are available at www.floridadisaster.org.

For weather and emergency management updates from the District, follow the agency's Twitter feed: [@SFWMD](https://twitter.com/SFWMD).

Useful Storm Links:

- [Radar & Satellite Images](#)
- [Hurricane Tracking/Tropical Storm Forecast](#)
- [Hurricane and Storm Models](#)

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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.