



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

August 26, 2011

CONTACT:

Bill Graf

[Orlando Service Center](#)

South Florida Water Management District

Office: (407) 858-6100, ext. 3837

www.sfwmd.gov/news

follow us on [twitter](#)

Popular Lake Okeechobee Boat Ramp Reopens with Improved Access *A new surface at the Henry Creek Boat Ramp allows for a smooth launch*



(Click on the picture for a larger version.)

Okeechobee, FL – The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) opened the refurbished Henry Creek Boat Ramp today, improving access to Lake Okeechobee on public land.

Once just a slope of sand and shells, the 30-year-old boat ramp now has a surface of interlocking concrete blocks, 72 feet long by 10 feet wide. The new ramp is designed to allow for an easier and safer launch for the boating public.

New parking spaces were also added at the ramp, located in the Lake Okeechobee Rim Canal (L-47) in Okeechobee County.

The District is steadily increasing recreational access to public lands while continuing to manage them to support environmental restoration, water supply, water quality and flood control missions. At present, the District has opened 621,000 acres of land to the public. Many of these properties are in their natural state or have enhancements such as picnic tables, informational kiosks, campsites and hiking trails.

For more information on recreational opportunities throughout the District's 16-county region, visit www.sfwmd.gov/recreation.

#

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.