



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Randy Smith

South Florida Water Management District

Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cellular: (561) 389-3386

www.sfwmd.gov/news

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Groups Recognize SFWMD for Excellence in Budgeting, Procurement

West Palm Beach, FL – The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has been recognized by two organizations for its effort to present clear and concise public budget documents and for procurement practices that lead to responsible use of tax dollars.

For the 19th consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has recognized the District with its *Distinguished Budget Presentation Award* for the agency's 2010-2011 annual budget. The award is the highest form of professional recognition in governmental budgeting and the highest honor bestowed by the GFOA.

The District was also awarded the 16th Annual *Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award* for 2011 from the National Procurement Institute (NPI), Inc. The award recognizes organizational excellence in procurement by measuring innovation, professionalism, e-procurement, productivity and leadership.

To receive the *Distinguished Budget Presentation Award*, a government agency must demonstrate that it follows nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. A judging panel determined the District's 2010-2011 annual budget document was proficient as a policy statement, financial plan, operations guide and communications tool.

To receive the *Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award*, the entity obtains a high score on a rating of standardized criteria. For 2011, there were 177 successful applications, including 41 counties, 57 cities, 20 higher education agencies, 17 school districts, 26 special districts and 16 state agencies.

"We take pride as public administrative professionals in the recognition from our peers throughout the United States and Canada," said Doug Bergstrom, SFWMD Director of the Administrative Services Division. "Clear budget documentation and prudent business and procurement practices are vital to responsible stewardship of public resources."

With offices in Chicago and Washington, D.C., the GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,400 government finance professionals throughout North America. The GFOA's *Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program* is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.

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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.