



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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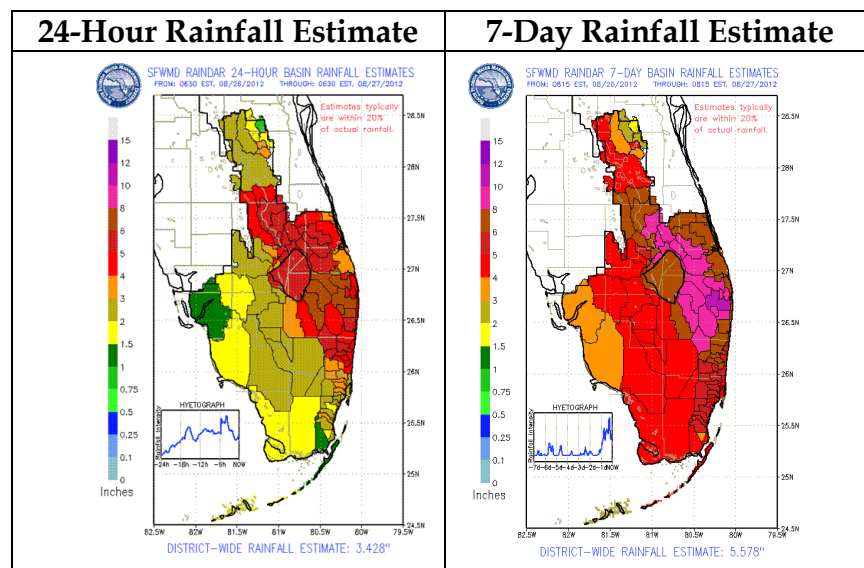
South Florida Water Management District

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SFWMD Regional Flood Control System Operating at Full Capacity *Water managers assessing Tropical Storm Isaac impacts, in recovery operations*



(Click on the maps for larger versions)

West Palm Beach, FL – The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has begun recovery operations from Tropical Storm Isaac and continues to operate the region’s flood control system to reduce flooding where possible.

The storm produced heavy rainfall across South Florida, with some areas receiving as much as 12 inches of rain. As a result, some communities experienced localized flooding and high water in lakes, swales and on roadways.

Additional rainfall of up to 4 inches is expected throughout the day in some areas of the region from trailing storm feeder bands. This is on top of District-wide 7-day average rainfall totals of 5.57 inches, including more than 10 inches of rain in Palm Beach County and significant rainfall on the lower east coast and areas surrounding Lake Okeechobee.

“The District is operating the regional flood control system at full capacity to move water as efficiently as possible,” said Susan Sylvester, SFWMD Chief of the Water Control Operations Bureau. “The regional system has responded well, even as we are still seeing rainfall from this storm. It will take some time for the system to recover.”

Overnight Rainfall

The District-wide rainfall average was 3.5 inches during a 24-hour period that ended at 6:30 a.m. today, with the heaviest rain concentrated in Palm Beach and Broward counties. An intense period of rain during a 3-hour span overnight Sunday and into early Monday morning left several local areas with up to 10 inches of rain and localized flooding.

Significant rainfall was recorded in the following areas:

- Wellington and the Acreage, Palm Beach County – 6 to 8 inches
- Canal Point near Lake Okeechobee - 9.50 inches
- Sunrise, Broward County - 6.39 inches
- Homestead, Miami-Dade County – 5.54 inches
- Eastern Caloosahatchee, Lee County – 2 to 3 inches
- Eastern Collier County – 3 inches
- South Golden Gate Estates , Collier County- 3.07 inches

In addition to its pre-storm activities, the District has taken the following actions:

- Dispatched rapid response assessment teams to provide real-time ground information, supplementing automated data gauges and field crews
- Focusing resources on areas receiving the heaviest rainfall – Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties
- Moving water away from populated regions through the canal system to areas that have storage and to tide
- Continuing coordination with county officials and drainage districts to enhance the ability of local drainage facilities to route excess runoff into the District canal system

The District continues coordinating information with the state Emergency Operations Center as well as federal and local partners. The District will continue to closely monitor conditions around the clock.

Useful Storm Links:

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

To report flooding or damaged or blocked water control structures, call the SFWMD Citizen Information Line toll-free at (877) 429-1294.

For updates in case of an emergency, residents and visitors can follow the District's Twitter feed ([@SFWMD](#)) and its list of weather and emergency management tweeters related to South Florida ([@SFWMD/emermanagement](#)).

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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.