



NEWS RELEASE

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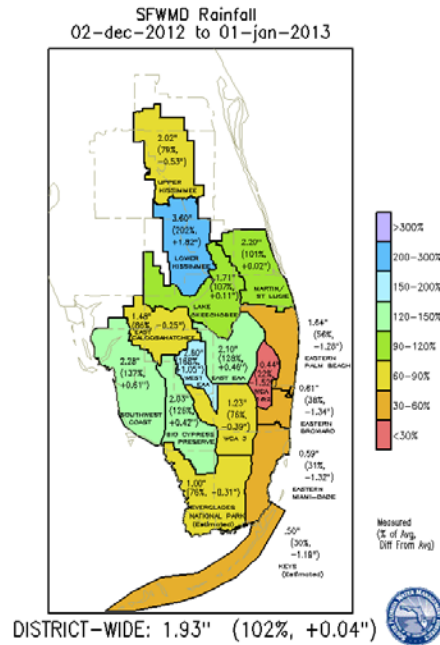
South Florida Water Management District

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December 2012 Rainfall Is Scattered Throughout South Florida *Mix of above and below average across the region*



(Click on the map for a larger version.)

West Palm Beach, FL – December proved to be a month of contrasts where rain fell across the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD).

Jupiter experienced a nearly 10-inch rainfall event on December 11, while Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties were more than an inch below average for the entire month. The Southwest Coast was slightly above average, while the East Caloosahatchee Basin was slightly below average.

“This variability of where the rain fell across the District shows the challenges we face in estimating where we will be later in the dry season,” said Susan Sylvester, SFWMD Chief of the Water Control Operations Bureau. “Fortunately, water levels in most areas remain well positioned at this point in the dry season.”

For the month, an average of 1.93 inches of rain fell across the District's 16 counties, representing 102 percent of average, or 0.04 inches above average.

The Lower Kissimmee Basin experienced the most rainfall for an entire basin, with 3.60 inches, representing 202 percent of average, or 1.82 inches above average. Eastern Miami-Dade County was among the driest areas, with 0.59 inches, representing 31 percent of average, or 1.32 inches below average.

Lake Okeechobee stood at 14.97 feet NGVD today, which is 0.23 inches above its average for this time of year. The lake stood at 15.08 feet NGVD a month ago.

For more information:

- [SFWMD Weather/Rainfall Data](#)
- [National Weather Service Dry Season Forecast](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Precipitation Forecast](#)

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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.

***Just the Facts:
South Florida's Dry Season***

- *November – May*
- *About 18 inches of rain is the average*
- *May and October are important transition months*
- *March, April and May have the highest evaporation rates and lowest rainfall*