



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **SFWMD Governing Board Recognizes Water Conservation Month** *Conservation is essential for protecting and sustaining water resources*

**West Palm Beach, FL** – To reaffirm an ongoing commitment to water conservation, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board joined the [State of Florida](#) and more than 50 South Florida communities and organizations in recognizing April as Water Conservation Month.

“Water Conservation Month is an annual reminder that everyone has a role in protecting South Florida’s water resources,” said SFWMD Governing Board Chair Dan O’Keefe. “Reducing water use, not just in April but every month of the year, is essential to ensure a long-term, sustainable water supply.”

Water Conservation Month is recognized each April, which is historically the height of the dry season due to minimal rainfall and peak demand. At this time of year, limited rainfall, an increase in temperature and higher evapotranspiration rates result in a seasonal decline in regional water supplies across the District’s 16 counties.

Simple water conservation practices can include:

- Replacing aerators in kitchen and bathroom sinks with models rated for 1.5 gallons per minute or less
- Watering the lawn based on its actual needs
- Installing low-flow appliances, such as a dishwasher or energy-efficient washing machine
- Installing low-flow water fixtures, such as showerheads with the WaterSense logo

Throughout April, the District is participating in many community events and activities in an effort to encourage South Florida residents and visitors to conserve water. In addition, the District and the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association will host facility managers and conservation professionals at District headquarters in West Palm Beach tomorrow for the [Water Conservation Expo and Vendor Fair](#).

### **Water Conservation is a Year-Round Ethic**

While the District is not currently in a water shortage or drought, rainfall since November 1 has been about half of average. The District is closely monitoring regional water supplies during the remainder of the dry season, which typically lasts until late May.

When water shortage orders are not in place, the District follows Year-Round Water Conservation Measures that target outdoor irrigation, which accounts for up to half of the water used per person per day in South Florida. The Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule is just one of many initiatives implemented under the District's Comprehensive Water Conservation Program.

To determine watering days and times in your area, contact your local government or visit [www.sfwmd.gov/2days](http://www.sfwmd.gov/2days). For more information on ways to save water, visit [www.savewaterfl.com](http://www.savewaterfl.com).

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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.*