

2012 WATER WATCH

Keeping an Eye on Water Resources

District-Wide Conditions for March 12, 2012

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is issuing the following briefing:

March is historically the start of the driest time of year in South Florida, when increases in temperature and evapotranspiration rates reduce water resources at a faster pace. Rainfall over the past week provided a short-term reprieve from declining water levels, allowing water supplies to remain at adequate levels.

However, the 16-county region remains in a below-average dry season. A drier-than-normal dry season is expected to continue with the waning effects of the La Niña weather pattern, indicating a potential return to water shortage conditions in the coming weeks. As a result, the region remains under a water shortage warning.

Lake Okeechobee Levels

Today	12.85 feet
Historical Average for Today	14.47 feet
This Date One Year Ago	11.93 feet
One Month Ago	13.22 feet
One Week Ago	12.93 feet

Water Levels in Key Locations (as of March 12, 2012)

LOCATION	WATER LEVEL	ONE WEEK AGO	HISTORICAL AVERAGE FOR TODAY
Lake Istokpoga	39.18 feet	39.22 feet	38.92 feet
WCA-1	16.09 feet	16.03 feet	15.50 feet
WCA-2	11.24 feet	11.30 feet	11.24 feet
WCA-3	9.68* feet	9.72 feet	9.25 feet
Lake Kissimmee	50.11 feet	50.45 feet	50.20 feet
For a map of dry season rainfall totals since Nov. 1 in all District basins, click here .			

*As of March 11, 2012

Water Conservation Measures

- South Florida is under the District's Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule that limits residential and business landscape irrigation to two or three days per week based on location.

- Some city and county governments have adopted local ordinances that differ from the District rule and may further limit landscape irrigation. To determine watering days and times in your area, contact your local government or visit www.sfwmd.gov/2days.
- Note: Customers of the West Palm Beach and Lake Worth utilities remain under local orders that limit landscape irrigation to one day per week.
- Permitted water users such as nurseries, agriculture, golf courses and utilities are required to continue following the water use conditions in their permits.
 - Copies of water use permits can be found in the Application/Permit records search online at www.sfwmd.gov/ePermitting.
- For information about water conservation, visit www.savewaterfl.com.
- Information about current weather and water conditions can be found at www.sfwmd.gov/waterwatch.

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Media inquiries can be directed to:

Rochelle Gilken

South Florida Water Management District

Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cellular: (561) 670-1890