

2013 WATER WATCH

Keeping an Eye on Water Resources

District-Wide Conditions for March 19, 2013

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

Some locally heavy rain fell over the southern interior of the District this week, providing a helpful soaking after three weeks of scant rainfall. However, the District has averaged only half an inch of rainfall so far this month.

The driest stretch of the dry season typically begins in March, and water levels across the region have been declining. Water levels are expected to continue falling through the spring as warmer temperatures accelerate evapotranspiration rates. However, water levels remain adequate for this time of year.

Year-round water conservation is key to reducing demand on freshwater sources. The District is storing as much water as possible and maintaining canals at seasonally appropriate levels.

For more information:

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

Lake Okeechobee Levels

Today	13.94 feet
Historical Average for Today	14.41 feet
This Date One Year Ago	12.79 feet
One Month Ago	14.42 feet
One Week Ago	14.08 feet

Water Levels in Key Locations

LOCATION	CURRENT WATER LEVEL	ONE MONTH AGO	HISTORICAL AVERAGE FOR TODAY
Lake Istokpoga	38.92 feet	39.38 feet	38.88 feet
WCA-1	16.25 feet	16.54 feet	15.49 feet
WCA-2	10.18 feet*	11.41 feet	11.18 feet
WCA-3	9.43 feet	9.78 feet	9.19 feet
Lake Kissimmee	49.67 feet	50.40 feet	50.15 feet
For a map of dry season rainfall totals in all District basins, click here .			

* The canal level in WCA-2 is 10.18 feet, while the interior marsh water level remains at 11.55 feet.

Other Actions

Navigation

- All Kissimmee River navigation locks are operational and available for boat traffic.
- The S-193 Lock, located on Taylor Creek on the north shore of Lake Okeechobee, reopened to boaters earlier this month after a complete overhaul.

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.
 - To determine watering days and times in your area, contact your local government or visit www.sfwmd.gov/2days.
- Permitted water users such as nurseries, agriculture, golf courses and utilities should continue following the water use conditions in their permits.
 - Permit details can be found in the Application/Permit records search online at www.sfwmd.gov/ePermitting.
- For information about water conservation, visit www.savewaterfl.com.

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