

# 2012 WATER WATCH

*Keeping an Eye on Water Resources*

## District-Wide Conditions for June 4, 2012

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

An early start to the wet season provided a significant boost to water supplies in most areas of the 16-county region. May's rainfall District-wide was 6.17 inches, or 160 percent of the historical average. Rainfall in the Kissimmee region was near normal in May, while the highest rainfall totals occurred in eastern Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties, along with the Water Conservation Areas.

Residents are encouraged to prepare for the summer rainy season, and also continue conserving water to protect resources over the long term.

### Lake Okeechobee Levels

<b>Today</b>	<b>11.70</b> feet
<b>Historical Average for Today</b>	<b>13.12</b> feet
<b>This Date One Year Ago</b>	<b>9.96</b> feet
<b>One Month Ago</b>	<b>11.66</b> feet
<b>One Week Ago</b>	<b>11.73</b> feet

### Water Levels in Key Locations

LOCATION	WATER LEVEL	ONE WEEK AGO	HISTORICAL AVERAGE FOR TODAY
Lake Istokpoga	38.16 feet	37.94 feet	37.88 feet
WCA-1	16.37 feet	16.28 feet	14.60 feet
WCA-2	11.44 feet	11.61 feet	10.97 feet
WCA-3	10.05 feet	9.78 feet	8.82 feet
Lake Kissimmee	48.89 feet	48.94 feet	49.22 feet
For a map of recent rainfall totals since Feb. 1 in all District basins, <a href="#">click here</a> .			

### 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](http://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](http://www.sfwmd.gov/ePermitting).
- For information about water conservation, visit [www.savewaterfl.com](http://www.savewaterfl.com).
- Information about current weather and water conditions can be found at [www.sfwmd.gov/waterwatch](http://www.sfwmd.gov/waterwatch).

## **Other Actions**

### **Lake Okeechobee releases**

- Consistent with Lake Okeechobee Adaptive Protocols, the District recommended that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers initiate a 10-day environmental water supply release to the Caloosahatchee River from Lake Okeechobee from May 26 to June 5. That release is under way. The District also recommended another 10-day release beginning tomorrow.

### **Navigation**

- Starting April 16, the following locks on the north shore of Lake Okeechobee were closed due to lake levels falling below 12 feet NGVD:
  - S-135 at J&S Fish Camp in Martin County
  - G-36 at Henry Creek in Okeechobee County
  - S-127 at Buckhead Ridge in Glades County
  - S-131 at Lakeport in Glades County
- The S-193 Lock, located on Taylor Creek on the north shore of Lake Okeechobee, is closed due to ongoing renovation work to refurbish the lock and ensure decades of reliable service.

# # #

### **Media inquiries can be directed to:**

#### **Randy Smith**

South Florida Water Management District

Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cellular: (561) 389-3386