south florida water MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 2011 WATER WATCH Keeping an Eye on Water Resources

District-Wide Conditions for December 12, 2011

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

South Florida's dry season started with below-average rainfall over the last six weeks. Water supplies remain stable from Orlando to the Florida Keys, with key water basins holding steady with levels near normal for this time of year.

Below-average rainfall is expected over the next few months, indicating a potential return to water shortage conditions in the late spring. As a result, the 16-county region remains under a water shortage warning.

Today	13.77 feet
Historical Average for Today	14.74 feet
This Date One Year Ago	12.67 feet
One Month Ago	13.79 feet
One Week Ago	13.75 feet

Lake Okeechobee Levels

Water Levels in Key Locations (as of December 12, 2011)

LOCATION	WATER LEVEL	HISTORICAL AVERAGE FOR TODAY	THIS DATE LAST YEAR
Lake Istokpoga	39.49 feet	39.10 feet	38.72 feet
WCA-1	16.55 feet	16.16 feet	16.45 feet
WCA-2	13.11 feet	12.62 feet	12.18 feet
WCA-3	10.68 feet	10.09 feet	9.71 feet
Lake Kissimmee	51.85 feet	51.13 feet	50.14 feet
For a map of dry season rainfall totals since Nov. 1 in all District basins, click here.			

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 <u>www.sfwmd.gov/2days</u>.

- 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 <u>www.sfwmd.gov/ePermitting</u>.
- For information about water conservation, visit <u>www.savewaterfl.com</u>.
- Information about current weather and water conditions can be found at <u>www.sfwmd.gov/waterwatch</u>.

#

Media inquiries can be directed to: Randy Smith South Florida Water Management District

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