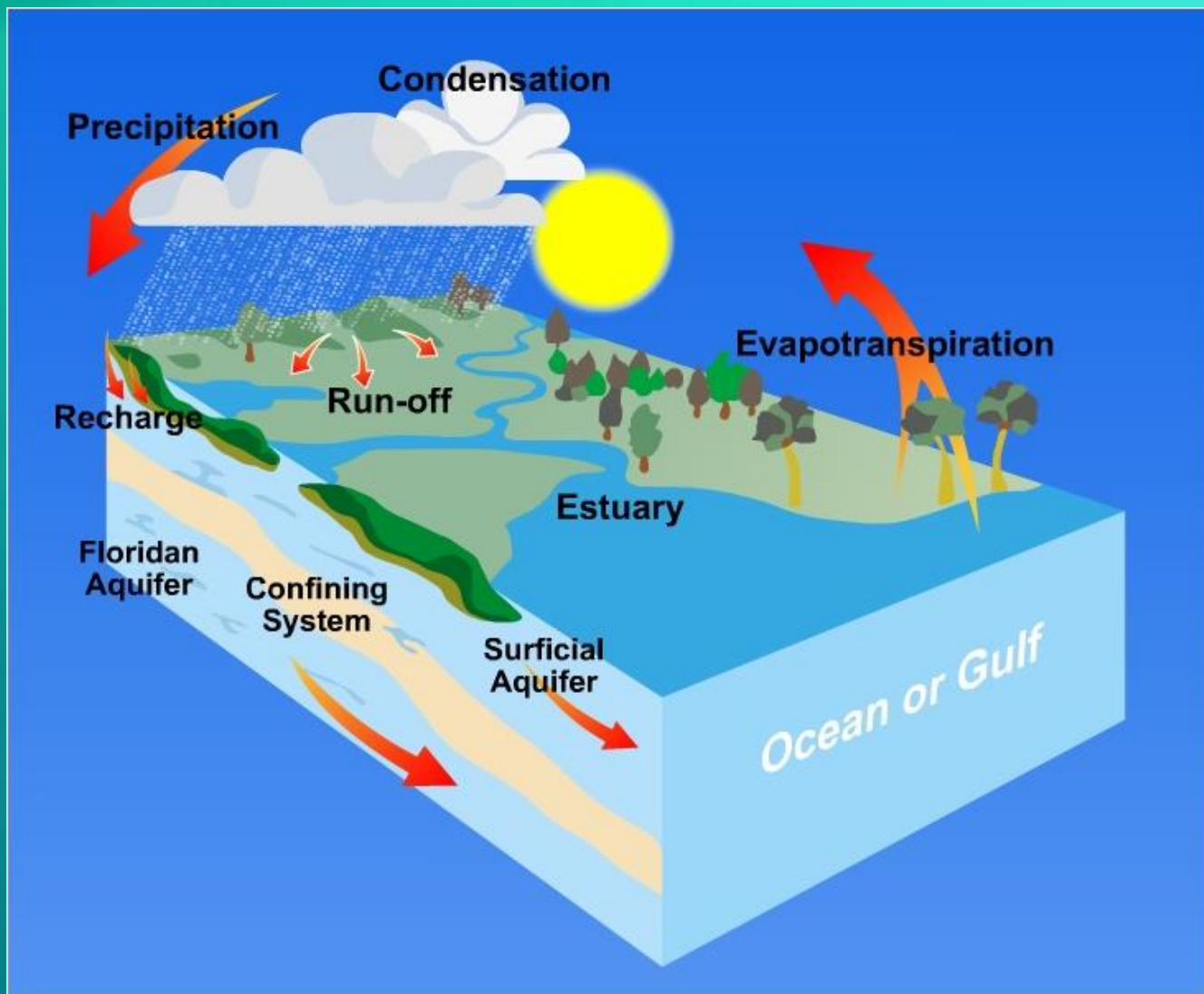


CONSERVE



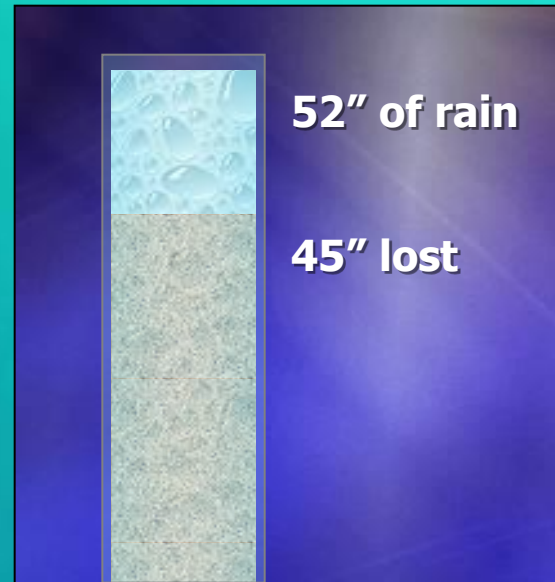
# Our Water Supply Comes From Rain



CONSERVE

## Most Rainfall is “lost”

- Average of 52 inches of rain per year
- Almost 45 inches “lost” to evaporation and transpiration



## Two Seasons: Wet ...

**70% of annual rain falls during summer**

- Replenishes lakes and underground aquifers





## Two Seasons: ... Dry

### Highest demands during dry winter/spring

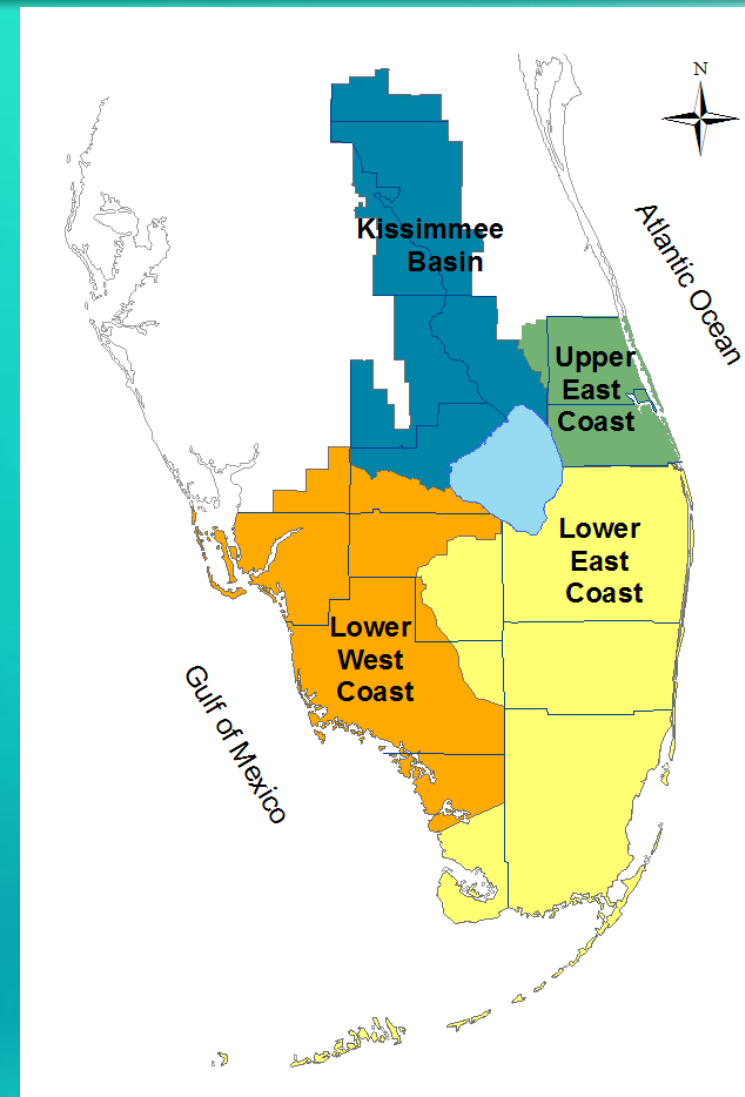
- **Tourists**
- **Seasonal Residents**
- **Food Crops**



# Water Supply Planning for the Future

We work with local governments to identify future water needs and sources within four regions

- Traditional sources are limited
- Alternative sources include aquifer storage & recovery, desalination and reclaimed water



# The Economical Alternative is Conservation



## Water Conservation

- Less expensive than developing new sources
- Reduces stress on natural systems
- Easy to implement
- Environmentally responsible





# Benefits of Year-Round Conservation

- Reduces wasteful water use
- Saves money
- Helps stretch wet season water supplies through drier months
- Reduces severity of potential water shortages





# A Comprehensive Approach – Key Strategies

- A call for governments and large users to lead by example
- Increased education and social marketing
- Year-round landscape irrigation measures
- Adopting and incorporating Florida-friendly landscaping
- Retrofitting of water-guzzling fixtures and appliances



# SFWMD - Leading by Example

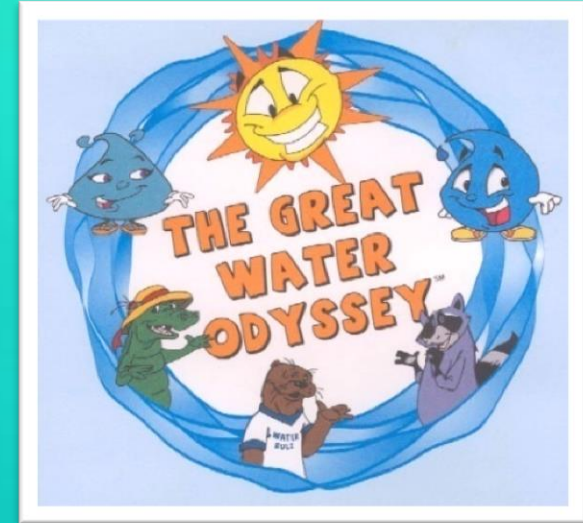


- **Conducting extensive indoor and outdoor water usage audits**
- **Installed dual-flush toilets and waterless urinals**
- **Landscaping exceeds native planting and irrigation efficiency requirements**



# Education and Marketing Initiatives

- School-based curriculum and education programs
- Public information
- Professional development



# Year-Round Irrigation Measures

- SFWMD year-round landscape irrigation conservation measures are now in effect
- Local governments may have ordinances in place that differ – always check!
- Regional or local water shortages may prompt emergency water use restrictions

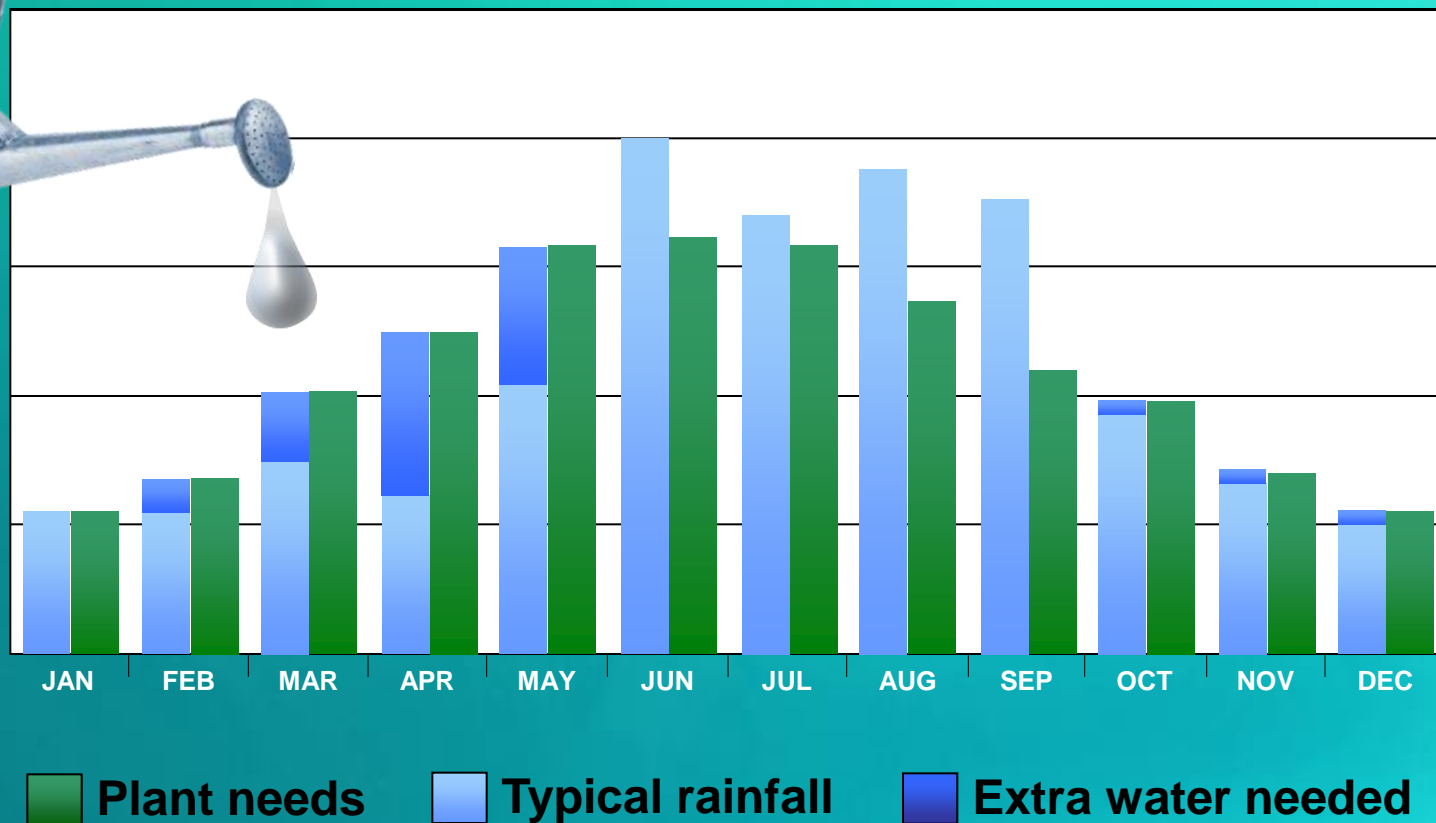
*Follow YOUR  
local  
Ordinance*





# How Much Water Does Your Lawn Really Need?

Seasonal rainfall typically provides enough water, except during height of dry season



CONSERVATION

# What a Waste!

- **Watering your lawn every other day for 15-30 minutes adds up to 7 feet of water per year MORE than what your grass needs to stay green and healthy**



## How to Prevent Overwatering



- **Set automatic timer based on seasonal plant needs**
- **Use a rain or soil moisture sensor**
- **Use micro-irrigation or any other low-volume method whenever possible**
- **Be sure to comply with any year-round ordinances or water shortage restrictions**



## Other Lawn Care Tips

- ✓ Water only areas that show signs of stress
- ✓ Water early in the day – best before sunrise
- ✓ Water deeply = longer roots
- ✓ Keep mower blades sharp and raise the blade
- ✓ Don't fertilize until summer rains
- ✓ Use Florida-friendly landscaping



# Florida-Friendly Landscaping

## Nine principles:

- Right plant, right place
- Water efficiently
- Fertilize appropriately
- Mulch
- Attract wildlife
- Manage yard pests responsibly
- Recycle
- Reduce stormwater runoff
- Protect the waterfront



  
**Florida Yards.org**

# Retrofit Water-Guzzlers



## Fix that Leak

- One drop per second from a leaky faucet = 3,150 gallons per year!
- 10,000 homes = 31.5 million gallons!!!

## Replace old fixtures & appliances

- Install low-flow toilets
- Replace old showerheads
- Add aerators to faucets
- Use more efficient dishwashers & washing machines

## Change Your Habits, too!



### Little things can make a big difference

- Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth or rinsing vegetables
- Take shorter showers
- Don't use toilet as a waste basket
- Wash full laundry and dish loads



# Additional Ways to Be Green & Save Water



- Check out EPA's WaterSense website to find information on appliances and products that use less water
- When traveling in Florida, stay in WaterCHAMP or Green Lodging designated hotels





# It's Up to YOU!



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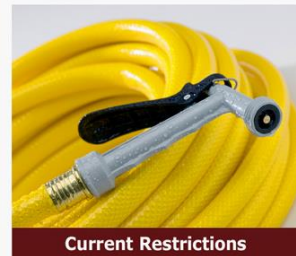
**In the News ▶**  
SFWMD awards \$400,000 to save water



**Tell Us What You Think ▶**  
Comment on year-round irrigation limits.

### Conservation Tip for August

If you have an automatic sprinkler system, consider installing a rainfall or soil moisture sensor. Rainfall sensors prevent your system from watering in the rain, while soil moisture sensors allow watering only when the soil beneath the surface really needs it.



Current Restrictions



YardSmart Landscaping



More Water-Saving Tips