

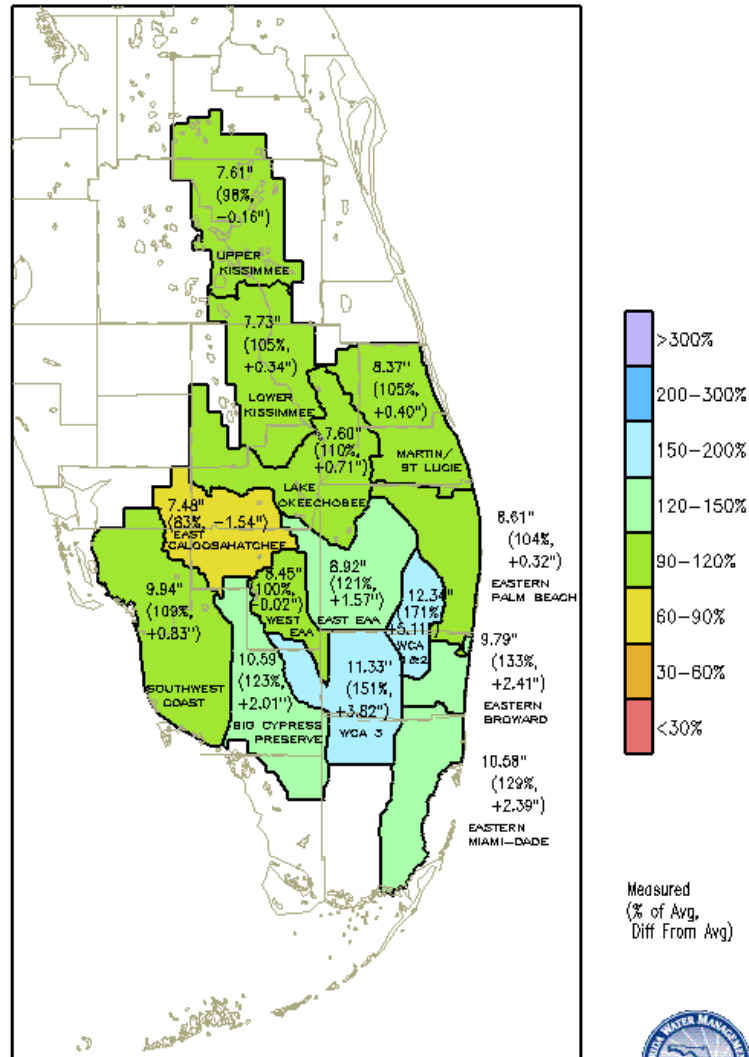


NEWS RELEASE

September 2, 2016

August Rainfall Above Average for South Florida *Rainfall adds to one of wettest periods on record*

SFWMD Rainfall
02-AUG-2016 to 01-SEP-2016



DISTRICT-WIDE: 9.04" (113%, +1.06")

GRADS: COLA/ICES

2016-09-01-14:02

(Click on the map to enlarge and see August rainfall totals.)

West Palm Beach, FL - After a July that was well below average across South Florida, rainfall associated with a tropical depression at the end of the month led to slightly above average rainfall in August for the region. A total of 9.04 inches of rain fell District-wide, representing 113 percent of average, or 1.06 inches above average.

The wettest parts of the District's 16-county region were the Water Conservation Areas, Big Cypress National Preserve and the eastern urban areas of Broward and Miami-Dade counties. Those basins received between 121 percent and 171 percent of their average rainfall for August. Water Conservation Areas 1 and 2 in particular were more than five inches above their average rainfall for the month.

The East Caloosahatchee Basin was the only basin significantly below average for August, experiencing just 83 percent of its normal rainfall or 1.54 inches below average.

The region has experienced unprecedented rainfall District-wide since last November, according to District meteorologists. The period between November 2015 and the end of August has been the second wettest since the District was created in 1949. The average annual rainfall for 12 months is approximately 52 inches. In the 10 months since November, 52.54 inches of rain have already fallen.

In particular, the District has experienced 10 "big rain days," defined as a day with more than 1 inch of rainfall, so far this year. That ties 1995 for the most big rain days. The District typically averages 5.5 such days per year.

Other rainfall totals included:

- Lake Okeechobee recorded 7.06 inches of direct rainfall, representing 110 percent of average, or 0.71 inches above average.
- Martin and St. Lucie counties received 8.37 inches of rain, representing 105 percent of average, or 0.4 inches above average.
- Water Conservation Area 3 received 11.33 inches of rain, representing 151 percent of average, or 3.82 inches above average.
- Eastern Broward County received 9.79 inches of rain, representing 133 percent of average, or 2.41 inches above average.
- Eastern Miami-Dade County received 10.58 inches of rain, representing 129 percent of average, or 2.39 inches above average.
- The Upper and Lower Kissimmee basins experienced about average rainfall. The Upper Kissimmee basin received 7.61 inches of rain, representing 98 percent of average, or 0.16 inches below average. The Lower Kissimmee basin received 7.73 inches of rainfall, representing 105 percent of average, or 0.34 inches above average.

South Florida Wet Season Facts

On average, South Florida's wet season begins around May 20 and ends around Oct. 13, lasting for about 21 weeks.

- Typically, about two-thirds of annual rains fall during the wet season, or approximately 35 inches out of 52 inches.
- June is usually South Florida's wettest month.
- The wet season has three general phases:
 - Memorial Day weekend through July 4 weekend, which are typically the wettest six weeks of the year.
 - Early July through mid-August, which are hotter and often drier.

- Late August through October, which are characterized by highly variable rainfall mainly due to tropical activity and cold fronts.

More information is available at:

- [SFWMD Weather/Rainfall Data](#)

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The South Florida Water Management District is a regional governmental agency that manages the water resources in the southern part of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. Our mission is to protect South Florida's water resources by balancing and improving flood control, water supply, water quality and natural systems.

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