



**SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

February 8, 2011

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South Florida Water Management District

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## **Enjoy the Outdoors at Annual Everglades Day Festival**

*SFWMD will offer tours of a living Everglades lab and host a water conservation booth*

**WHAT:** Celebrate the natural beauty of the Everglades at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Everglades Day Festival, hosted by the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. The free event is open to families, who can enjoy and participate in nature walks, entertainment, wildlife presentations, canoeing and other interactive activities.

As part of the festival, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will provide guided tours of the Everglades living laboratory known as the Loxahatchee Impoundment Landscape Assessment (LILA). LILA is a working 80-acre model of the Everglades ecosystem on the grounds of the Refuge that gives experts an opportunity to research and apply restoration techniques on a small, controlled scale. The District will also be distributing water conservation materials at its booth during the event.

The District is one of more than 30 exhibitors from local clubs, nonprofit organizations and agencies participating in this year's event.

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 12, 2011

**TIME:** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**WHERE:** Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge  
10216 Lee Road  
Boynton Beach, FL 33473

From Interstate 95 or Florida's Turnpike, exit at Boynton Beach Boulevard and travel west to U.S. Highway 441/State Road 7. Turn left onto U.S. Highway 441/State Road 7 and travel two miles south to Lee Road. Turn right onto Lee Road and continue to the entrance gate.

**WHO:** The general public is welcome to attend this free event.

The festival is held in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Friends of the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, The Audubon Society of the Everglades, The Palm Beach Post, the Palm Beach County Cultural Council and the South Florida Water Management District.

**CONTACT:** For more information, please call 561-734-8303 or visit [www.fws.gov/loxahatchee](http://www.fws.gov/loxahatchee).

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**About the South Florida Water Management District**

*The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state’s five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.*