



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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SFWMD to Hold Conditions Briefing at Lake Okeechobee
Water conservation remains critical to protect regional water resources

Lake Okeechobee Watch



Today	Last week	Last month	Last year	Historic average
10.59 (feet)	10.72	11.47	14.64	13.29

(Click on the pictures for larger versions.)

WHAT: The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will hold a media briefing regarding low water levels at Lake Okeechobee, which serves as a backup water supply for South Florida.

A lack of rainfall, which has dropped the lake below 11 feet and more than two feet below its historic average for this time of year, has created several water management challenges.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 18

TIME: 11 a.m.

WHERE: Jaycee Park

Okeechobee, FL
[Click here for a map.](#)

WHO:

- Susan Sylvester, SFWMD Director of the Operations Control and Hydro Data Management Department, will speak on the low lake levels and the impact on regional water supplies and operational challenges.
- Pete Kwiatkowski, Director of the Resource Evaluation Division, will speak about the overall water shortage and the latest water shortage orders to protect regional water resources.

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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.