



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

September 5, 2013

CONTACT:

Randy Smith

South Florida Water Management District

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

www.sfwmd.gov/news

follow us on 

SFWMD Welcomes New Executive Director Blake C. Guillory

Professional engineer also led the Southwest Florida Water Management District

West Palm Beach, FL – With 26 years of water resource experience in the public and private sectors, Blake C. Guillory began work today as the Executive Director of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD).

“Managing water resources for millions of South Floridians and the famed *River of Grass* requires a rare set of skills and knowledge,” said SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Daniel O’Keefe. “Blake has the right experience and qualifications to get the job done, and we look forward to his leadership.”

As head of the state’s largest water management agency, Guillory will lead the District in carrying out its mission to balance and improve water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply across a region that encompasses 7.7 million people in 16 counties.

This vast area from Orlando to the Florida Keys includes some of Florida’s most treasured natural areas such as the Everglades, Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay, the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers and estuaries and Big Cypress National Preserve.

Among the director’s duties are several mission-critical priorities, including:

- Maintaining one of the largest flood control systems in the world
- Expanding water storage and restoring more natural flows to the Everglades
- Implementing landmark restoration strategies to improve water quality
- Working with utilities and stakeholders on long-term water supply plans

Background:

Guillory, a registered professional engineer, joined the SFWMD following two years as executive director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District, headquartered in Brooksville.



(Click on the picture for a larger version.)

Prior to his public service, Guillory was vice president for Brown and Caldwell, a national consulting firm providing water supply, wastewater, stormwater, infrastructure and environmental science expertise. He also served as vice president and water resources division manager for PBS&J, now Atkins North America.

Guillory holds the designation of Diplomate, Water Resources Engineer (D. WRE) from the American Academy of Water Resources Engineers and is a member of several professional organizations, including:

- Florida Stormwater Association
- Florida Floodplain Managers Association
- Florida Engineering Society
- Florida Water Environment Association
- American Water Works Association
- American Water Resources Association
- American Society of Civil Engineers

His degrees include a Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M University, along with both a Master of Civil Engineering and a Master of Business Administration from the University of South Florida.

#

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.