



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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Conserve Water...and Give Thanks

Enjoy friends, family and food without gobbling extra water

Five Ways to Save Water This Weekend



- ❖ **Defrost frozen foods in the refrigerator the night before they are needed instead of running hot water over them the same day.**
- ❖ **Rinse vegetables and fruits in a sink or pan filled with water instead of under running water. As an added bonus, use this water on houseplants.**
- ❖ **Select the proper size pans for cooking. Large pans require more cooking water than may be necessary.**
- ❖ **Scrape food scraps into the garbage can or a composting bin, rather than rinsing them into the sink's garbage disposal.**
- ❖ **Run the dishwasher only when you have a full load of dishes.**

West Palm Beach, FL — At the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful for South Florida's water resources and encourage a year-round ethic of conservation.

Thanksgiving falls in the early part of the dry season, which typically lasts from October until May. With many months of the dry season still ahead, this is the ideal time to remind people to conserve water both indoors and outside the home. During the dry season, reduced rainfall levels have the potential to strain the water supply — even coming on the heels of a wet summer.

During the holiday season, water is typically used at every step of the big meal — from defrosting to cooking to cleaning up after the feast. The amount of water used indoors can escalate with the preparation and clean-up process for large meals and gatherings.

If every American household reduced water use by 10 gallons on just Thanksgiving Day, it would save more than 1 billion gallons of water, as well as save energy or materials used to pump, heat and treat tap water.

For more information on saving water year-round, visit www.savewaterfl.com.

For information on the Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule currently in effect, please visit www.sfwmd.gov/2days.

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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.