



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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Children's Services Council Earns Water Conservation Certification
SFWMD administers Water Star Program in South Florida



West Palm Beach, FL — Using practices and hardware that conserve water at its Boynton Beach headquarters, the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County has earned a Florida Water StarSM Commercial certification from the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD).

"I commend the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach for their work with children and commitment to saving water," said Terrie Bates, SFWMD Director of Water Resources. "Every home and business that conserves makes a difference in protecting South Florida's water resources."

Florida Water Star is a statewide certification program to encourage water savings in homes and commercial buildings. Certification is achieved by implementing water-efficient appliances, plumbing fixtures, irrigation systems and landscapes.

The program was initiated within the SFWMD in 2010 for the South Florida region by training and working with certifiers to confirm that the water-saving criteria are met. Approximately 18 commercial facilities and more than 1,100 Water Star-certified homes are now found across the state.

To earn the certification, the Children's Services Council implemented a host of water-saving features, including:

- Installing water efficient fixtures, including toilets and faucets
- Installing Florida-Friendly landscaping

- Building a water-efficient irrigation system

A trained certifier verified the work was completed at the 106,000-square-foot facility on High Ridge Road, where the council and a mix of social service, law enforcement and government agencies reside. The office building houses about 230 people.

Through its Water Star program, the District has achieved several conservation-related milestones, including:

- The first commercial Water Star building in South Florida: a new fire station in Martin County.
- The first certified home in a planned 3,000-home development built by Lennar Home Builders in Orange County. When complete, Champions Gate West would be the largest group of homes to be certified as Water Star in Florida.
- A Water Star-certified laboratory: the Vaccine and Gene Therapy Institute of Florida in Port St. Lucie.



From left: Robert Wanvestraut, SFWMD, Michael Modica, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, Lawrence Clark, Sustainable Performance Solutions

For More Information:

- Tips on how to save water are available at www.savewaterfl.com.
- For a calendar of workshops for industry professionals on designing, building and certifying Florida Water Star projects, [click here](#).

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About Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County

Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County provides leadership, funding, services and research on behalf of the county's children so they grow up healthy, safe and strong. To learn more, visit www.cscpb.org.

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.