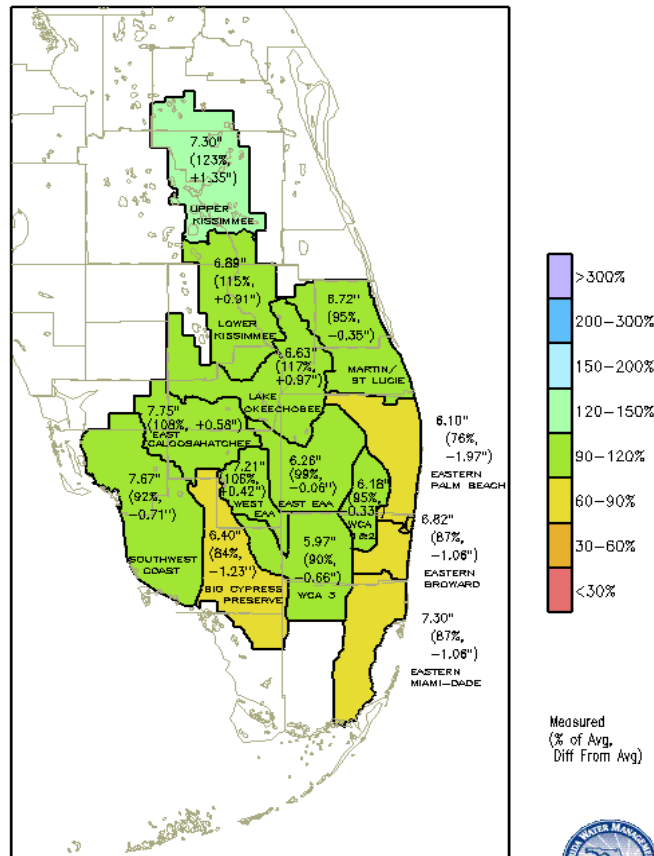


October 4, 2016

September Rainfall Average Across South Florida *SFWMD preparing for Hurricane Matthew*

SFWMD Rainfall
 02-SEP-2016 to 01-OCT-2016



DISTRICT-WIDE: 6.87" (99%, -0.10")

GRADS: COLA/IGES

2016-10-03-13:02

(Click on the image to see a larger version of the map.)

West Palm Beach, FL - After a month of average rainfall throughout South Florida in September, water managers are preparing for possible heavy rainfall this week as Hurricane Matthew approaches the region.

Water Managers are placing the district's flood control canals into their low operating range in anticipation of rainfall associated with Hurricane Matthew. These operations are being completed in the southern part of the system in the Homestead Miami-Dade area as well as in canals throughout Broward, Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie counties. Low range means water levels in the SFWMD canals are adjusted lower than would typically be maintained this time of year. This action creates more capacity to

accept local stormwater runoff from local drainage districts and city or county drainage systems.

All of this comes after a September where most basins throughout South Florida experienced at or below average rainfall for the month. A total of 6.87 inches fell Districtwide in September, representing 99 percent of the average rainfall for September or just 0.10 of an inch below average.

Southeasterly steering winds directed most of the rainfall inland to the western and northern basins. The one region that saw above average rainfall for September was the Upper Kissimmee basin, which experienced 7.3 inches of rainfall for the month. That represents 123 percent of average or about 1.35 inches above average. The eastern-most basins of Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties as well as the Big Cypress Preserve were all below average with eastern Palm Beach County being the driest. That region experienced 6.10 inches of rainfall, representing 76 percent of average or 1.97 inches below average.

Other rainfall totals included:

- Lake Okeechobee recorded 6.63 inches of direct rainfall, representing 117 percent of average, or 0.97 inches above average.
- Martin and St. Lucie counties received 6.72 inches of rain, representing 95 percent of average, or 0.35 inches below average.
- Water Conservation Area 3 received 5.97 inches of rain, representing 90 percent of average, or 0.33 inches below average.
- Eastern Broward County received 6.82 inches of rain, representing 87 percent of average, or 1.06 inches below average.
- Eastern Miami-Dade County received 7.30 inches of rain, representing 87 percent of average, or 1.06 inches above average.

South Florida Wet Season Facts

On average, South Florida's wet season begins around May 20 and ends around Oct. 13, lasting for about 21 weeks.

- Typically, about two-thirds of annual rains fall during the wet season, or approximately 35 inches out of 52 inches.
- June is usually South Florida's wettest month.
- The wet season has three general phases:
 - Memorial Day weekend through July 4 weekend, which are typically the wettest six weeks of the year.
 - Early July through mid-August, which are hotter and often drier.
 - Late August through October, which are characterized by highly variable rainfall mainly due to tropical activity and cold fronts.

More information is available at:

- [SFWMD Weather/Rainfall Data](#)

Media Contact:

Randy Smith | rrsmith@sfwmd.gov | Office: 561-682-2800 | Cell: 561-389-3386

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional governmental agency that manages the water resources in the southern part of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. Our mission is to protect South Florida's water resources by balancing and improving flood control, water supply, water quality and natural systems.

STAY CONNECTED

Follow us on  **twitter**

 Forward to a Friend

SFWMD Newsroom

South Florida Water Management District, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm
Beach, FL 33406

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by waternews@sfwmd.gov in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today