

# WATER WATCH

*Keeping an Eye on Water Resources*

## District-Wide Conditions for December 15, 2014

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is issuing the following briefing:

Most of the South Florida Water Management District saw little rainfall during the past 7 days. Water supply demands continue to increase across the District, as is typical during the dry season. Regional water storage areas such as the Water Conservation Areas (WCAs) continue receding but levels are adequate at this time.

Lake Okeechobee, however, remains above its historical average for this time of year, and the impacts of a potential El Niño and other climate factors are still unknown. Because of this uncertainty, water managers are maximizing movement of water south from the lake for cleaning in the Stormwater Treatment Areas and delivery to the WCAs.

The dry season typically runs from mid-October to mid-May with about 18 inches of rain on average.

Water Levels in Key Locations (December 15)		
Location	Today's level	Water Supply Floor
WCA-1	16.94 feet	14.00 feet
WCA-2A	12.24 feet	10.50 feet
WCA-3A	10.21 feet	7.50 feet

### Water Conservation

- South Florida is under the District's Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule that limits residential and business landscape irrigation to two or three days per week.
  - To determine watering days and times in your area, contact your local government or visit [www.sfwmd.gov/2days](http://www.sfwmd.gov/2days).
- Permitted water users such as nurseries, agriculture, golf courses and utilities can find water use conditions in their permits online at [www.sfwmd.gov/ePermitting](http://www.sfwmd.gov/ePermitting).
- For tips and information about water conservation, visit [www.savewaterfl.com](http://www.savewaterfl.com).

### Lake Okeechobee Operations

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages Lake Okeechobee water levels based on its regulation schedule and the best available science and data provided by its staff and a variety of partners, including SFWMD.
  - SFWMD makes an operational recommendation each week based on conditions. The most recent Operational Position Statement is available at [www.sfwmd.gov/opsreports](http://www.sfwmd.gov/opsreports).

Lake Okeechobee Levels	
Today (Dec. 15)	15.37 feet
Historical Average for Today	14.73 feet
This Date One Year Ago	14.44 feet

### Moving Water South

- For weekly updates on the volumes of water being moved south by SFWMD operations, visit [www.sfwmd.gov/movingwatersouth](http://www.sfwmd.gov/movingwatersouth).

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