

WATER WATCH

Keeping an Eye on Water Resources

District-Wide Conditions for December 16, 2015

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

December is already the wettest December on record in Miami-Dade County, since District record keeping began in 1932. Nearly all of South Florida has experienced above-average rainfall so far this month.

Most of Miami-Dade's record 9.82 inches of rain through Tuesday fell on December 3 and 5, with about 3.5 inches on each of those days. This total amount is more than 10 times the average amount for the basin in the first half of December.

Rainfall estimates also show spots within agricultural areas of South Dade received from 12 to 16 inches in one week. The District continues flood control operations to move remaining excess stormwater as efficiently and safely as possible.

Nearly all areas of the District received significantly above-average rain to date in December. A total of 3.08 inches has fallen District-wide as of Tuesday, representing 361 percent of average, or 2.23 inches above average. The Upper Kissimmee Basin was the lone exception, with a slightly below-average first half of December.

Even with this rainfall, water levels outside of Miami-Dade are being maintained at dry season levels for water supply.

Water Levels in Key Locations (Dec. 16)		
Location	Today's level (NGVD29)	Water Supply Floor
Water Conservation Area-1	17.35 feet	14.00 feet
Water Conservation Area-2A	12.95 feet	10.50 feet
Water Conservation Area-3A	10.61 feet	7.50 feet

Water Conservation is Essential

- South Florida is under the District's Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule, which 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.
- 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.
- For tips and information about water conservation, visit www.sfwmd.gov/conserve.

Lake Okeechobee Operations

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages Lake Okeechobee water levels based on its regulation schedule.
- The most recent Operational Position Statement is available at www.sfwmd.gov/opsreports.

Lake Okeechobee Levels	
Today (Dec. 16)	14.79 feet
This Date One Year Ago	15.35 feet

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