

WATER WATCH

Keeping an Eye on Water Resources

District-Wide Conditions for July 17, 2015

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

Eastern Miami-Dade and Broward counties remain in extreme drought conditions, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Much of the east coast is experiencing moderate to severe drought conditions.

Widespread moderate rainfall during the past three days fell on most of the areas of the District in drought conditions along the east coast. However, overall wet season rainfall still remains significantly below average across much of the South Florida Water Management District.

Water conservation remains critical to help protect the regional water supply as levels continue to decline in some areas.

Water Levels in Key Locations (July 17)		
Location	Today's level (NGVD29)	Water Supply Floor
WCA-1	14.49 feet	14.00 feet
WCA-2A	11.77 feet	10.50 feet
WCA-3A	8.71 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 and the best available science and data provided by its staff and a variety of partners, including SFWMD.
- Corps water managers prefer to maintain water levels between 12.5 feet and 15.5 feet to help balance competing demands such as public safety, water supply and environmental health.
 - SFWMD makes an operational recommendation each week based on conditions. The most recent Operational Position Statement is available at www.sfwmd.gov/opsreports.

Lake Okeechobee Levels	
Today (July 17)	11.98 feet
This Date One Year Ago	13.51 feet

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