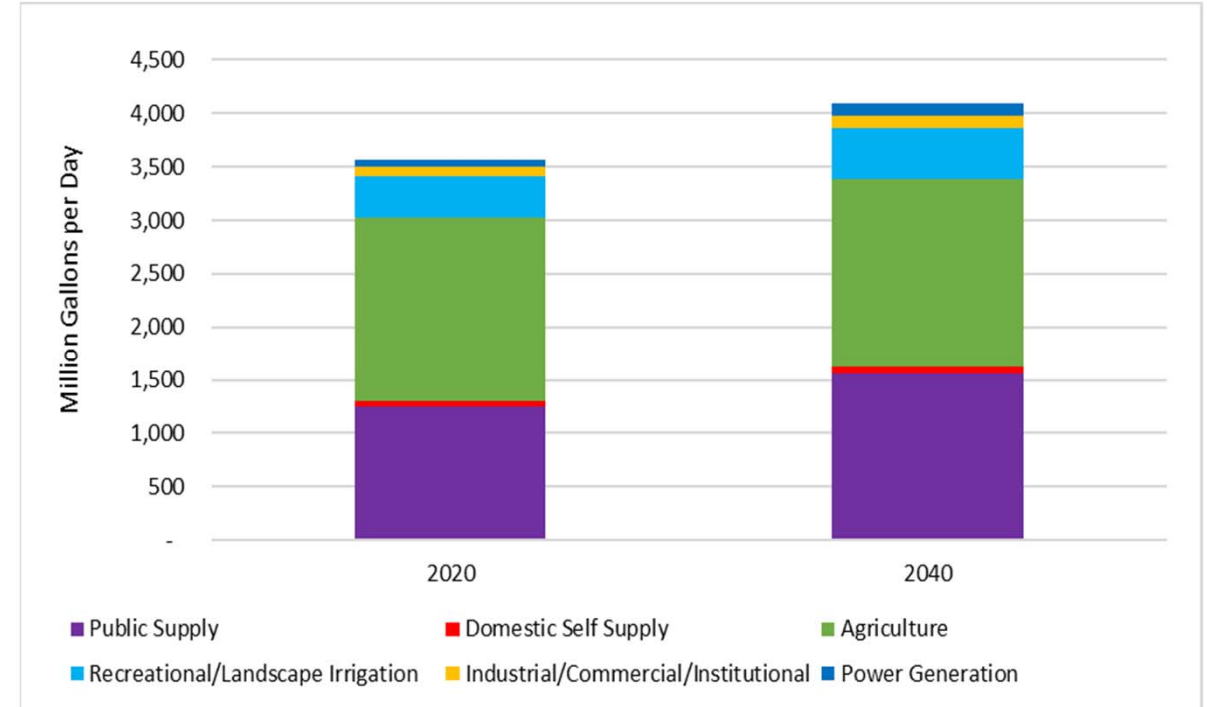
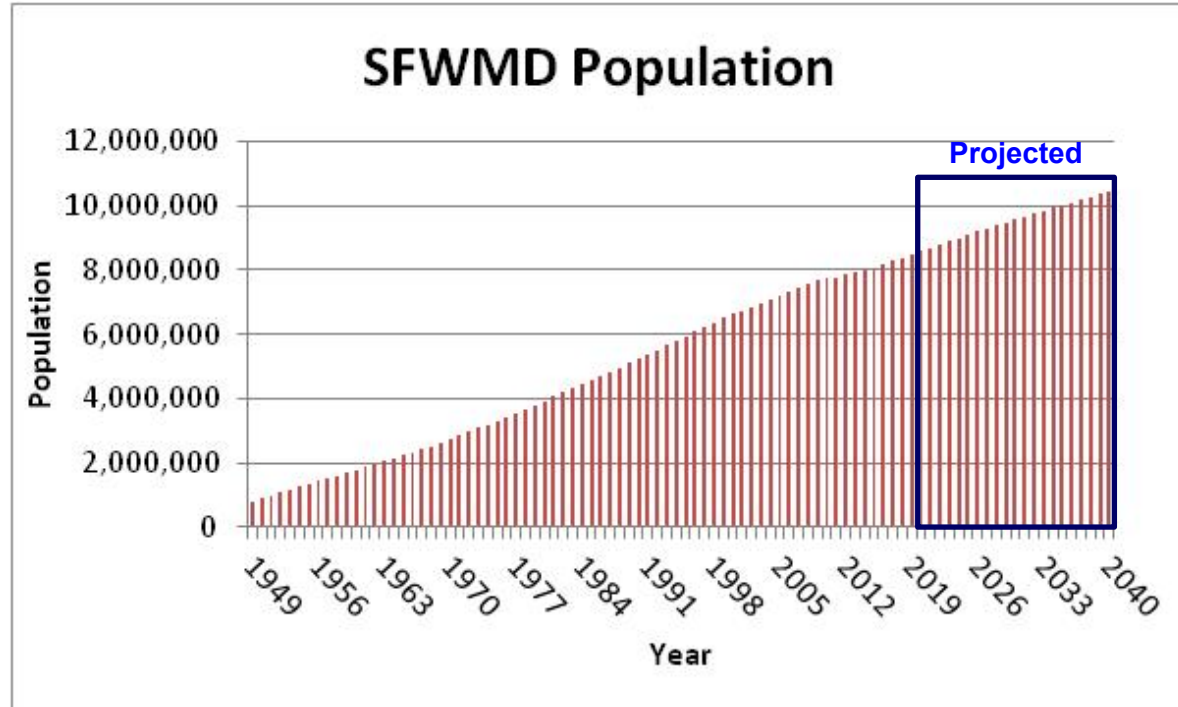


April is Water Conservation Month



**Jim Harmon, Section Leader
Water Supply Implementation
April 9, 2021**

Districtwide Population Growth and Demands



Water Consumption Consequences

Affects of Groundwater and Surface Water Depletion

- ◆ Threatens drinking water supply volumes
- ◆ Intrusion of saltwater
- ◆ Increases water shortage occurrences
- ◆ Negative impacts to wetlands, lake levels and spring flow



Lake Okeechobee: 2007



Lake Okeechobee: 2011

Options to Meeting Future Demands

Expand or add new supply sources (increasing capacity)

\$\$\$



Decrease demands through water conservation

\$

OR



Public Awareness

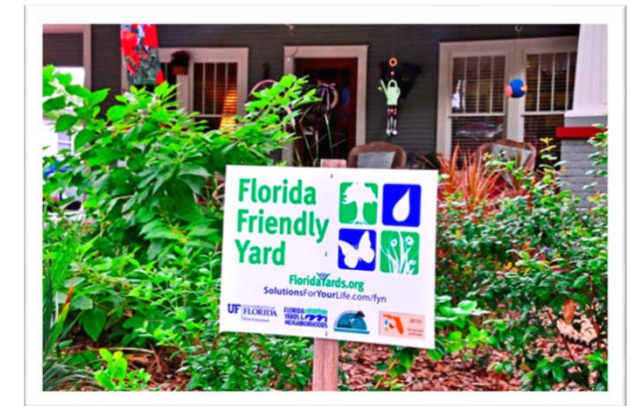
Be aware of your water use... Use it wisely

- ◆ Support the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association by proclaiming April as Water Conservation Month
- ◆ Local governments and other organizations issuing proclamations



Outdoor Water Conservation

- More than half of all public water supply is used for landscape (lawn) irrigation
- Rain shutoff device – required on all irrigation systems
- Advanced irrigation controllers
 - Soil moisture sensors
 - Weather station
- Irrigation system audits
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping™
- Follow local irrigation ordinances



Indoor Water Conservation

High-efficiency fixtures and appliances:

- Toilets (≤ 1.28 gallons/flush)
- Showerheads (≤ 2.0 gallons/minute)
- Faucets (≤ 1.5 gallons/minute)
- Dishwashers (saves 30% water)
- Washing machines (saves 33% water)



District Initiatives - Leading by Example

- ◆ Water Audits and Florida-Friendly Landscape certifications for District facilities
- ◆ Dedicated Senior Water Conservation Analyst
- ◆ Comprehensive Water Conservation Program
 - ◆ Voluntary & incentive-based initiatives
 - ◆ Regulatory initiatives
 - ◆ Education & outreach initiatives



District Initiatives - Year-round Irrigation Rule

- ◆ Chapter 40E-24, F.A.C.
 - ◆ Restricts irrigation to 2 or 3 days per week
 - ◆ Prohibits irrigation between 10 AM and 4 PM
- ◆ 155 local governments
 - ◆ 25 had acceptable ordinances
 - ◆ 17 have adopted new ordinances
 - ◆ 26 have ordinance adoption in progress
 - ◆ 44 are reviewing SFWMD model ordinances

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT'S MODEL WATER
CONSERVATION ORDINANCE FOR LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE [COUNTY/CITY], FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANDATORY YEAR-ROUND LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION CONSERVATION MEASURES RULE OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (40E-24, F.A.C.); PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE APPLICABILITY OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING THE LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION SCHEDULE; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS TO THE LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION SCHEDULE; PROVIDING FOR A REQUIREMENT TO OPERATE TECHNOLOGY THAT INHIBITS OR INTERRUPTS AN IRRIGATION SYSTEM DURING PERIODS OF SUFFICIENT MOISTURE; PROVIDING FOR VARIANCES FROM THE SPECIFIC DAY OF THE WEEK LIMITATIONS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



District Supported Programs

- ◆ Florida Water StarSM - voluntary certification program for new construction
- ◆ Water CHAMPSM - voluntary recognition program for hotel and lodging facilities
- ◆ Florida-Friendly Landscaping – voluntary recognition program for landscape
- ◆ Education and Outreach



Cost-Share Funding Program

- Local implementation of water saving hardware & technology
- 2020-2021 Cooperative Funding Program
 - 24 conservation projects
 - ~\$2.1 Million
 - Estimated 963 million gallons per year (2.64 mgd) saved



Education & Outreach (2020)

- Over 32,000 followers on the District's social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn)
- Over 9,600 website visitors to the District's water conservation webpage
- 600+ materials distributed
- 25 speaking engagements (Covid)
- Quarterly conservation coordinator meetings



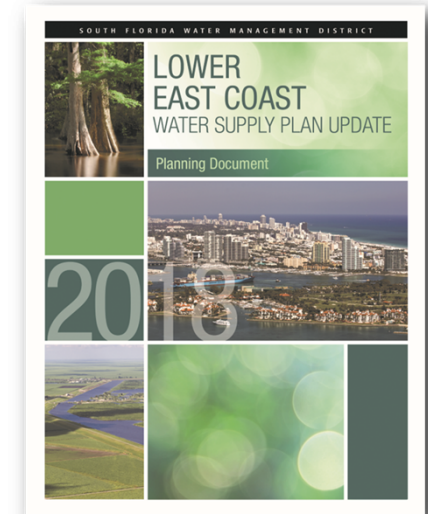
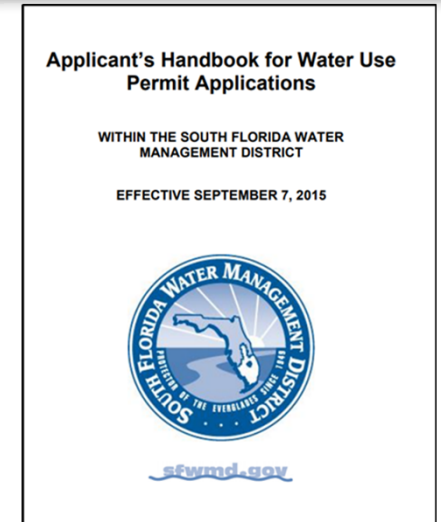
Water Use Permitting and Water Supply Planning

Water use permits require water conservation to prevent wasteful uses:

- 💧 Part of permit application process
- 💧 Tailored to water use type

District's regional water supply plans include:

- 💧 Conservation potential estimates
- 💧 Recommended activities by water use sector
- 💧 Description of District's conservation planning and program support



Simple Steps to

SAVE WATER

 Outdoors & In

TEST WITH TRACKS

Water your lawn and landscape only when it is actually needed, such as when footprints are left when you walk across the grass.

AVOID BUZZ CUTS

Cut your grass at the highest recommended height for your turf species or the highest setting on your lawn mower. Cut no more than one-third of the grass length at one time to encourage grass roots to grow deeper.



SPRINKLE WITH CARE

Apply moderate amounts of water to create a healthy, drought- and stress-tolerant lawn. For most Florida soils, applying no more than three-quarters of an inch of water per application is enough to wet the root zone. Position the sprinkler so that you water only the lawn and shrubs, not paved areas.



OUTDOORS

PLANT

FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LAWNS

Plant native or drought-tolerant vegetation that thrives in the native soil and local weather conditions. Go native, and resist the urge to water it and just let it go brown during the dry season. It will come back, as nature intended, when the rains come.



FERTILIZE RESPONSIBLY

Excessive nutrients flowing into our waterways do not only come from big industry or agriculture. The use of fertilizer and pesticides on our yards results in pollutants contaminating the waterways in stormwater runoff when it rains. Residents are encouraged not to use fertilizers or pesticides during the warmer months and to use them in the correct amounts during other times of the year.



INDOORS

NOZZLE THE NOSE OF YOUR HOSE

Equip hoses with automatic shutoff nozzles for car washing, hand watering, etc.



COLOR YOUR WATER

Detect a leaking toilet by adding a few drops of food coloring to the tank. If the tank is leaking, color will appear in the bowl within 30 minutes. Replace the bad parts or consider upgrading to water-efficient toilets. Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other such waste in a trash can rather than in the toilet.



CHECK YOUR WATER METER

Check for leaking pipes by reading your meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the readings are different, you have a leak.



TURN IT OFF

Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving.



LOAD IT UP

Set clothes washing machines that have variable settings for water volume at the minimum amount required per load. If load size cannot be set, operate the washer with full loads only.



TIME YOUR SHOWERS

By timing your showers to keep them under five minutes and installing low-flow shower heads, you can save water. The older the shower head, the more water it uses. New low-flow shower heads use only 2 gallons of water per minute or less. Older fixtures use as much as 5 gallons per minute.

What Citizens Can Do

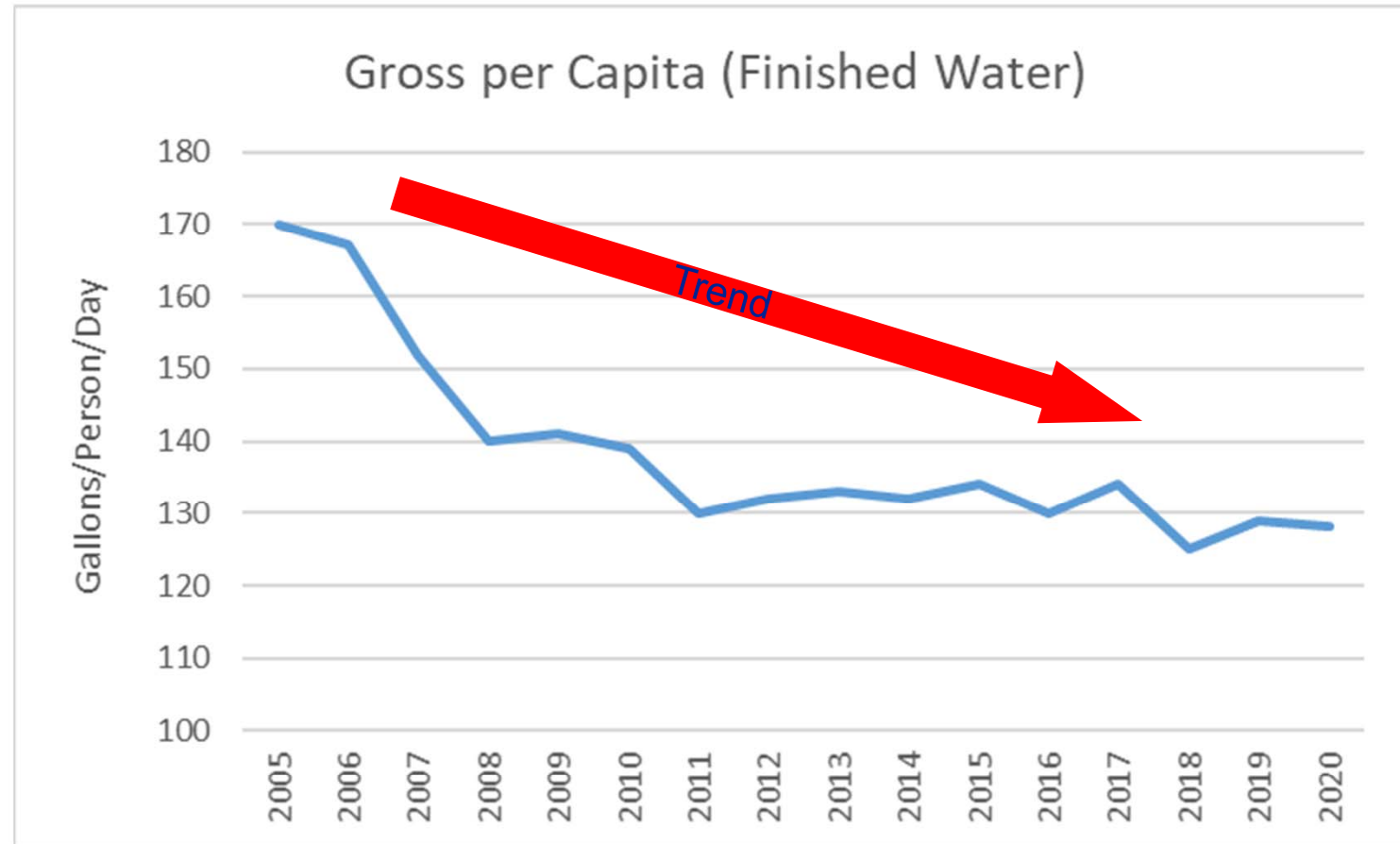
Irrigation

- Set your timer to only run 2-3 days per week; no irrigation 10 AM – 4 PM
- Repair leaks and do not irrigate sidewalks and driveways
- Use properly functioning rain-cancelling device(s)

Indoor

- Repair leaks (e.g., running toilet, dripping faucets)
- Replace older, inefficient fixtures and appliances
- Run only full loads of dishes and clothes

Is It Working?



Data Source: 1995-2010 USGS; 2011-2020 SFWMD

Conservation should be a way of life



“When the well is dry, we know the worth of water.”

Benjamin Franklin

Governing Board Resolution

A resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District proclaiming April as Water Conservation month.

