



An Equal Opportunity Employer

Southwest Florida Water Management District

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WaterMatters.org

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Brian J. Armstrong, P.G.
Executive Director

June 1, 2017

SUBJECT: Declaration of "Modified Phase III" Water Shortage in All Counties

Dear Water Use Permit Holder:

On May 23, 2017, the Southwest Florida Water Management District's (District) Governing Board issued the Second Modification to Water Shortage Order No. SWF 2017-014, which elevated the existing water shortage declaration for all 16 counties within the District's jurisdiction due to the continuing drought conditions.

Accordingly, as of June 5, 2017, all portions of the 16 counties located within the Southwest Florida Water Management District will be under a "Modified Phase III" Water Shortage Order, with two notable exceptions. In Marion County, by agreement with the St. Johns River Water Management District, this order is limited to the city of Dunnellon and the area encompassed by The Villages, whereas the rest of unincorporated Marion County and the city of Ocala follow restrictions established by St. Johns. Similarly, by agreement with the Suwanee River Water Management District, unincorporated Levy County follows restrictions established by Suwanee. The Order will remain in effect until August 1, 2017.

"Phase III" restrictions reduce the watering schedule from twice-per-week to only once-per-week and from a maximum of 18 hours to only 14. These changes apply to all lawn and landscapes, including any supplied by your permitted withdrawals. "Phase III" also limits non-commercial car washing to just one time per week (on the property's watering day). The rest of the order, as modified, currently references standard Phase II provisions but authorizes the Executive Director to impose more Phase III provisions if necessary.

Please be aware of the following items included as part of this "Modified Phase III" Water Shortage Order:

- Homeowner associations and other entities are not allowed to require sod replacement, pressure washing, or other aesthetic actions that would increase water use.
- Water utilities are required to take certain education, enforcement, and efficiency actions (for details, please see the fact sheet on the restrictions page at WaterMatters.org).
- Agricultural irrigation and golf course or other athletic play surface irrigation (even if allowed under a Water Use Permit) is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., with exemptions for micro-irrigation, center pivot, crop and tee/green protection, and other appropriate purposes.
- Permitted uses (agricultural, commercial and industrial operations, golf course and other athletic play surfaces, etc.) generally are able to follow water conservation plans and other permit requirements.

The District is required by state law to monitor and respond to droughts and other regional water shortage events. For current conditions or a copy of the new order, please visit WaterMatters.org. If you have any questions about the new order, please contact water.restrictions@watermatters.org or call 1-800-848-0499 during normal business hours.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Armstrong, P.G.
Executive Director