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## **SRWMD BOARD DECLARES APRIL AS WATER CONSERVATION MONTH**

LIVE OAK, FL, March 15, 2012 – The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) governing board has joined with other agencies and local governments throughout Florida in designating April as Water Conservation Month.

The proclamation, adopted by the board earlier this week, calls upon residents, businesses and visitors to protect our precious water resources by practicing and promoting conservation measures both indoors and outdoors.

“We’re asking the public to water as little as possible,” said Jon Dinges, District director of Water Supply and Resource Management.

A long-term rainfall deficit, declining river and lake levels, and record low groundwater levels have prompted the District to call for increased conservation.

Landscape irrigation accounts for the largest percentage of household water use in Florida therefore, the greatest amount of water savings can be achieved by reducing outdoor irrigation and following other Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principles.

“We strongly encourage the use of Florida Friendly Landscaping™ and skipping irrigation days when it rains near the time you plan to irrigate,” said Dinges.

Although the mandatory, year-round landscape irrigation rule allows lawn and landscape watering two days per week during Daylight Saving Time (but not between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.) residents are urged to water as little as possible.

Ways to save water indoors include checking for leaks; installing low-flow, water efficient showerheads, faucets and toilets; and purchasing water-efficient appliances such as clothes washers and dishwashers when shopping for new ones.

For information about the water conservation rule, visit [www.mysuwanneeriver.com](http://www.mysuwanneeriver.com). Visit [www.floridayards.org](http://www.floridayards.org) for information about Florida-Friendly Landscaping™.

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