



Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority

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For Immediate Release

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Dry Season Update

Key West— Dry Season began December 1st and the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority may implement several measures to reduce demand on the freshwater Biscayne Aquifer.

The FCAA is able to blend a small amount of treated water from the more brackish Floridan Aquifer with the primary freshwater supply from the Biscayne Aquifer. The blended water meets or exceeds all state and federal requirements for drinking water and customers should not notice any difference in taste or clarity.

“Our peak demand time of year coincides with our dry season. Blending up to five percent of our water supply helps preserve the integrity of our fresh water aquifer without impairing the high quality of our drinking water,” said FCAA Executive Director Jim Reynolds.

The blending helps the FCAA keep withdrawals from the Biscayne Aquifer to an average of 17 million gallons per day during the 6 month dry season as permitted by the South Florida Water Management District. The District is responsible for the water supply throughout the region.

Customers can help reduce demand on the Biscayne Aquifer by implementing simple conservation measures of their own. Limiting irrigation in accordance with current two day per week restrictions, fixing small leaks and installing low flow water fixtures are just a few techniques that can save this valuable resource. An added benefit is lower monthly water and wastewater bills.

The FCAA has a toilet retrofit program that offers \$100 for each older, inefficient toilet that customers replace with a newer 1.28 or less gallon per flush high efficiency model. Dual flush toilets are eligible for a \$200 rebate. Please visit the www.fkaa.com or our area offices in Tavernier, Marathon or Key West for an application and complete program information.

For more information on what you can do to conserve water, or to schedule a presentation on our water supply and conservation strategies, please contact Colleen Tagle, ctagle@fkaa.com or call 305.295.2176.

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