

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD ORDER

Order Number: 26-002
Date Approved: March 10, 2026
Subject: Phase II Water Shortage Order
Approval:



Virginia Johns, Chair

Charles Keith, Secretary/Treasurer

PHASE II WATER SHORTAGE ORDER

The Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District (District), during a scheduled workshop held on February 10, 2026, in Live Oak, Florida, received information from District staff regarding hydrologic conditions and the District's water shortage declaration process. The Governing Board, being fully apprised of the matter, issues this document containing the following findings of fact and resolutions:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At its January 13, 2026, meeting, the District's Governing Board declared a Water Shortage Advisory, pursuant to the provisions of 408-21, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), to remain in effect until July, 31, 2026.
2. The District's Water Shortage Plan (Plan), adopted as Chapter 40B-21 of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) provides that the District will evaluate and monitor water conditions within the District and compare current data to historical data to determine whether estimated present and available water supplies are sufficient.
3. The purposes of the plan are to protect the water resources of the District from serious harm; to assure equitable distribution of available water resources among all water users during times of shortage; to provide advanced knowledge; and promote greater security for water use permittees.
4. The District currently maintains year-round lawn and landscape irrigation measures based on a twice-yearly updated irrigation schedule, and this schedule can be modified pursuant to a water shortage order.
5. The District has entered into Interagency Agreements with St. Johns River Water Management District and Southwest Florida Water Management District to coordinate year-round water conservation and water shortage measures to ensure consistent implementation in Alachua and Levy counties.
6. All counties and cities throughout the District have adopted year-round water conservation measures and water shortage ordinances.