

6. All counties and cities throughout the District have adopted year-round water conservation measures and water shortage ordinances.
7. As of June 29, 2026, hydrologic conditions indicate that there is an increased likelihood that there will be insufficient water to meet the estimated user demands or to protect the water resource from serious harm in all counties within the District, as well as in unincorporated areas of Alachua and Levy counties within other water management District boundaries, in accordance with interagency agreements in place. Surface water conditions range from normal to much below normal, Upper Floridan Aquifer levels are just above the 10th percentile, and rainfall in each District County is deficient.
8. Drought indicators are summarized as follows:

Rainfall

- For the period June 29, 2025, through June 28, 2026, for the fourteen counties within the District, there was an average rainfall deficit of approximately 18 inches based on records beginning in 1932.
- The 12-month rainfall ending June 28, 2026, is in the lowest 5 percentile on average of all 12-month periods, with all 14 counties showing below 5 percent of all 12-month periods.

Groundwater Conditions

- Of the 92 long-term upper Floridan monitoring wells polled on June 27, 2026, fifty-two had levels in the lowest 10 percent of all records, considered extremely low. Thirty-four other wells had levels at the lowest 25 percent of all records.

Surface water Conditions

- The Suwannee River at Branford gage monitors flow contributed by 79 percent of the 9,973- square mile Suwannee River drainage area and has continuous records since 1931. The average flow rate on June 28, 2026, was in the lowest 25 percent of all 7-day and lowest 10 percent of all 8-week average flows.
- The Santa Fe River near Fort White gage monitors flow contributed by 74 percent of the 1,374-square mile Santa Fe River drainage area and has continuous records since 1927. The average flow rate on June 28, 2026, was in the lowest 5 percent of all 7-day and 8-week average flows.
- The Econfina River near Perry was in the lowest 40 percent of all 7-day and lowest 10 percent of all 8-week average flows as of June 28, 2026.
- The Steinhatchee River near Cross City was in the lowest 15 percent of all 7-day and lowest 10 percent of all 8-week flows ending June 28, 2026.
- As of June 28, 2026, flow was recorded below the 10th percentile in the upper Santa Fe River basin at Worthington Springs and near Graham, while the New River was below the 25th percentile of historic flow records based on USGS statistics.

Drought Indices

- As of June 25, 2026, the U.S. Drought Monitor for Florida designates the District within the Moderate Drought (D1), Severe Drought (D2), or Extreme Drought (D3) categories. Drought impacts in neighboring water management districts are equally intense and have prompted both Southwest Florida Water Management District and St. Johns Water Management District to issue Phase III Water Shortage Orders for all or parts of their respective coverage areas. The U.S. Drought Monitor monthly outlook for June 2026 shows drought remains but improves within the District.