



January 11, 2010

Broward County Commission
115 S. Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Broward County Commissioners,

We write to you in order to express the support of Audubon of Florida and South Florida Audubon Society (collectively "Audubon") for Broward County's proposal to adopt a two day-a-week landscape irrigation ordinance. Audubon advocates for strong water conservation rules throughout Florida, and we applaud Broward County for taking a leadership role to conserve important fresh water resources through two-day-a-week landscape irrigation.

Water conservation is essential to maximize south Florida's water supply and protect water needed to thoroughly hydrate the Everglades, home to over 60 federally threatened and endangered species. Similarly, achieving plentiful clean freshwater and more natural flows of freshwater in the natural environment will aid south Florida in combating salt water intrusion due to sea level rise and will nourish a more resilient ecosystem that is a buffer against storms and storm surges, both consequences of climate change.

As a result of recent volatile weather patterns, south Florida has been under two-day-a-week landscape irrigation restrictions for more than two and a half years. Our communities have adapted and we believe it is time to make these restrictions permanent conservation measures. The reduction of wasteful water use will protect water critically needed by our communities and the Everglades.

Audubon applauds your proactive conservation initiatives, such as Naturescape Broward and Water Matters and we ask that you vote in favor of the proposed two-day-a-week landscape irrigation ordinance.

Sincerely,

Signatures waived to expedite delivery

Jacquie Weisblum
Everglades Team Leader
Audubon of Florida

Doug Young
President
South Florida Audubon Society