



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Jacksonville District

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CORPS, SFWMD TO HOST 2 WORKSHOPS FOR PUBLIC INPUT ON THE FLORIDA KEYS WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. –The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Jacksonville District, and the South Florida Water Management District will hold two workshops in order to gather public input on the \$100 million Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements Program.

The first workshop will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2002 at the Marathon Government Center, in the EOC Meeting Room, 2798 Overseas Hwy, Marathon, Florida 33050.

The second workshop will be held on Wednesday, October 3, at the Key Largo Civic Club, 209 Ocean Bay Drive, Key Largo Florida 33037 (mile marker 99.4, behind the TIB Bank).

Both workshops will have an open house from 6:30 to 7 p.m., with the workshops beginning at 7 p.m. At each of the workshops, the Corps and Water Management District staff will describe the Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements Program and receive public comments on the program.

If there are any special needs for language translation, or sign language for anyone planning on attending one of these meetings, please contact Mr. Brice McKoy at 561-683-1577 ext. 17 or e-mail peter.b.mckoy@usace.army.mil by September 25, 2002 so arrangements can be made.

The Corps intends to prepare a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements Program involving the planning, design and construction of wastewater and stormwater treatment systems to improve water quality within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. This program is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (lead Federal agency) and the South Florida Water Management District (non-Federal sponsor).

Under authority of Public Law 106-554, Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2001, Section 109 and Conference Report H.R. 4577, the Corps is authorized to provide technical and financial assistance to carry out projects for the planning, design and construction of treatment works to improve the water quality of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The primary objective of the Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements Program is to improve wastewater and stormwater management practices throughout the Florida Keys and satisfy the existing and future needs of the community.

For more information, please contact Ms. Shelley Trulock, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at 904-232-3292 or Ms. Cecelia Weaver, South Florida Water Management District, at 305-853-3219 or the website www.evergladesplan.org

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