Water district limits lawn irrigation to one day a week

BROOKSVILLE, FL — The Southwest Florida Water Management District executive director recently declared a water shortage and restricted lawn watering to one day a week in the 16 counties in the district, including the portion of Marion County west of Interstate 75, according to the Star-Banner in Ocala, FL.

The restrictions will be in effect from Jan. 16 until July 31, unless rescinded or modified. The limits are being imposed because of low rainfall levels, which are affecting river flows and surface and groundwater levels.

As of Dec. 31, the districtwide average rainfall deficit is about 11.6 in.

“Our rivers are clearly being impacted like that of our lakes and groundwater system,” said David Moore, SWFWMD’s executive director. “We are very early in our typical dry season. Conditions are already low. We are asking for everyone’s assistance in these six to seven months we anticipate this water shortage condition. We are asking the general public to really try to conserve as we move forward to this dry season.”

Horitculture degree from UI

URBANA, IL — In fall 2006, the University of Illinois began partnering with Chicago area community and city colleges to offer a bachelor’s degree in horticulture. Students who have completed an associate degree can complete their final two years of coursework and earn a bachelor’s degree from U of I at Urbana-Champaign — without relocating.

For information, call 800-252-1360 or visit www.nres.uiuc.edu.

Minnesota Expo biggest ever

MINNEAPOLIS — The Minnesota Green Expo is one of the fastest-growing green industry trade shows and educational conferences in the U.S. The expo hosted 8,004 registered attendees Jan. 3-5.

The show is presented annually by the Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association and the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Foundation.