

The following *Seven Fast Facts* will help get property owners started on becoming informed partners in providing flood control

**Fast Fact 1** The association or neighborhood drainage system is always operating. Stormwater continually discharges from lake systems until the designed water elevation is achieved.

**Fast Fact 2** The association cannot open its discharge control structure without authorization from LWDD. Doing so can put the community in jeopardy because canal water may back-flow into lake systems.

**Fast Fact 3** LWDD authorization to open a discharge control structure is only given under emergency conditions and when LWDD canals can accept the additional increase of stormwater.

**Fast Fact 4** Severe flooding most often occurs in older communities without modern stormwater systems, neighborhoods with poor maintenance practices and when rainfall exceeds the drainage design.

**Fast Fact 5** The association or neighborhood drainage system discharges into LWDD canals which discharge into South Florida Water Management District canals. These 3 groups work together to capture and hold stormwater and coordinate discharges at safe and appropriate times.

**Fast Fact 6** Potential rainfall affects within LWDD:

- 5 to 6 inches of rainfall in a 24-hour period, expect standing water in yards, swales and ditches. Crowns of community road should remain dry and passable.
- 7 to 9 inches of rainfall in a 72-hour period, expect community swales, roads, lawns and driveways, including garages to flood as designed. Finished floors of homes should remain dry.
- 15 to 23 inches or more of rainfall in a 72-hour period, expect that some houses and businesses may experience finished floor flooding.

**Fast Fact 7** Property owners can help. Avoid placing trash bags or landscape debris in swale areas or on top of storm drains. Do not throw trash into lakes or canals which can cause blockages. Never plant or place encroachments in the canal right-of-way which can restrict access and cause delays for emergency response.

Increase your knowledge about community flood protection. Visit [www.lwdd.net](http://www.lwdd.net) or email your questions to [info@lwdd.net](mailto:info@lwdd.net).

