

# **DEP Southeast District Monroe County Transfer Frequently Asked Questions**



## WHAT ARE THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S (DEP) SIX REGULATORY DISTRICTS?

DEP has <u>six district offices</u> located regionally throughout the state. The district offices review permit applications, conduct inspections of permitted facilities, respond to reports of environmental damage, and conduct compliance assistance and enforcement activities.

- Northwest District in Pensacola.
- Northeast District in Jacksonville.
- Central District in Orlando.
- Southwest District in Temple Terrace.
- South District in Fort Myers.
- Southeast District in West Palm Beach.

#### WHICH DISTRICT IS MONROE COUNTY IN?

Monroe County is part of the Southeast District. DEP's Southeast District Office is centrally located in West Palm Beach with a branch office in Marathon. It includes a total of eight counties: Broward, Indian River, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie.

Previously, Monroe County was part of DEP's South District.

## WHY DID MONROE COUNTY RECENTLY TRANSFER FROM THE SOUTH DISTRICT TO THE SOUTHEAST DISTRICT?

DEP's Southeast District encompasses a variety of initiatives that overlap in regions throughout Monroe County and the Florida Keys, including Florida's Coral Reef Task Force; parks, greenways and trails; participation in the South Florida Regional Planning Council and other regional planning groups; and continued utilization of regional coastal resilience grant funding.

## WILL THERE STILL BE A DEP BRANCH OFFICE IN MARATHON?

Yes. DEP's Marathon Branch Office will maintain its current operations, including administering DEP's regulatory programs in Monroe County.

Please visit <u>DEP's Marathon Branch Office webpage</u> for the Marathon Branch Office's contact information and additional resources surrounding their Submerged Lands & Environmental Resource Program, Office of Emergency Response, Division of Waste and Air Resources, and Wastewater Program.

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE PROGRAM PERMIT FOR A DOCK, MANGROVE TRIMMING OR OTHER ACTIVITIES IF I AM IN MONROE COUNTY?

All applications for Environmental Resource Program permits can be submitted electronically through <u>DEP's Business Portal</u>. Electronic applications will be automatically routed to the appropriate authority based on the site location and proposed activities.

Potential applicants are encouraged to schedule a pre-application meeting to expedite the permit review process.

If If you have questions or issues with an application, please email <u>SED\_Permitting@FloridaDEP.go</u>v or call 561-681-6600.

## HOW DO I REQUEST A PRE-APPLICATION MEETING IF I AM IN MONROE COUNTY?

To request a pre-application meeting, please fill out the request form.

If you have questions or issues submitting a <u>request to schedule a pre-application meeting</u>, please email <u>SED Permitting@FloridaDEP.gov</u> or call 561-681-6600.

# IF I HAVE AN ONGOING PERMITTING PROJECT OR COMPLIANCE CASE WITH THE SOUTH DISTRICT, WILL IT BE TRANSFERRED TO THE SOUTHEAST DISTRICT?

Depending on the date and status of the case or project application, some ongoing activities will be retained by the South District. Should the DEP case manager or processor change, the applicant, property owner or facility will receive an email to the email address we have on file notifying them of any changes.

#### HOW CAN I REPORT AN ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME OR CONCERN IN MONROE COUNTY?

DEP appreciates all citizen reports or concerns of pollution. DEP encourages the general public to file complaints or concerns directly to the <u>appropriate geographical district office</u> or to contact the State Watch Office (1-800-320-0519). For Monroe County, citizen reports should be sent to DEP's Southeast District Office. If possible, please provide videos/ images of the alleged activities.

- Report any petroleum or chemical spills to the State Watch Office at 800-320-0519.
- Report spills in surface waters and sunken vessels causing sheens to the National Response Center at 800-424-8802.
- Report of potential harmful algal blooms at ReportAlgalBloom.com.
- Report other citizen reports or concerns of pollution in Monroe County to <u>DEP's Southeast</u> District Office.

### **HOW DO I CONTACT MY LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICE?**

General questions or concerns can be directed to the appropriate regional contact for your county.

- Marathon Branch Office: 305-289-7070; <u>Katie.Teyshak@FloridaDEP.gov</u>. (Includes Monroe County)
- Southeast District Office: 561-681-6600; <u>Southeast.District@FloridaDEP.gov</u>.
  (Includes Broward, Indian River, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie counties.)
- South District Office 239-344-5600; <u>SouthDistrict@FloridaDEP.gov</u>.

