

# What is BISCAYNE BAY WATER WATCH?

Biscayne Bay Water Watch is a Citizen-Science Water Monitoring Program run by the UF/IFAS Sea Grant Extension Program in Miami-Dade County. We partner with local organizations and residents to monitor water quality throughout Biscayne Bay and surrounding waters.

The goal of Biscayne Bay Water Watch is to garner attention to the health of Biscayne Bay and to promote awareness about the importance of water quality to our local environment and economy.

## How you can participate:

### Volunteer with BBWW:

Volunteer partners are wanted to adopt water monitoring sites.

Volunteer expectations:

- Volunteers will participate in water sampling training and collect monthly samples and data for a minimum of one year.

Participants will receive:

- Sampling equipment
- Training book and data sheets
- Water quality data and program updates
- Biscayne Bay fact sheets
- Volunteer networking opportunities

### Sponsor a monitoring site:

- Can't adopt a site but want to help – consider sponsoring a water monitoring location to help us extend our water sampling network. Laboratory analysis for our samples costs \$1800 a year/site.
- Contact Biscayne Bay Water Watch for more information at:  
lkrimsky@ufl.edu or 305-421-4017

### Make a donation:

- Donations are always accepted at:  
[www.uff.ufl.edu/appeals/SeaGrant](http://www.uff.ufl.edu/appeals/SeaGrant)

# BISCAYNE BAY WATER WATCH

A Citizen-Science Water  
Monitoring Program



BISCAYNE BAY  
WATER WATCH





BBWW volunteer taking salinity measurements

## What does Biscayne Bay Water Watch do?

**Biscayne Bay Water Watch (BBWW)** is a community-based volunteer water monitoring program developed and managed by the UF/IFAS Sea Grant Extension Program in Miami-Dade County. With the help of our volunteers, we collect data at designated sites within Biscayne Bay and surrounding waters to help resource managers monitor for algal blooms.

## How does it work?

BBWW volunteers adopt water monitoring locations and are trained to collect monthly data and water samples at their adopted locations. This information is used by resource managers to:

- Identify emergent or existing algal blooms.
- Identify changes and trends in water quality over time.
- Assess the health and status of Biscayne Bay.

## About Biscayne Bay

Biscayne Bay is a subtropical estuary that extends approximately 55 miles along the entire east coast of Miami-Dade County. Compared to other Florida waters, Biscayne Bay has excellent water clarity and supports extensive seagrass habitat, hardbottom communities, soft and hard corals, economically-vital fisheries populations and a variety of endangered and threatened species.

Biscayne Bay contributes about 10 percent to Miami-Dade's total economy each year.

Activities related to Biscayne Bay generate **\$12.7 billion** in economic output, **\$6.3 billion** in incomes, **138,000 jobs**, and **\$627 million** in tax revenue to the local economy annually.

Over the past decade several algal blooms have threatened the quality, health and beauty of the Bay, impacting its marine life and over 10,000 acres of bay bottom habitat. These events suggest that the Bay may not be as resilient as it once was. BBWW is helping to monitor the health and water quality of the Biscayne Bay to support a better future for our waters.



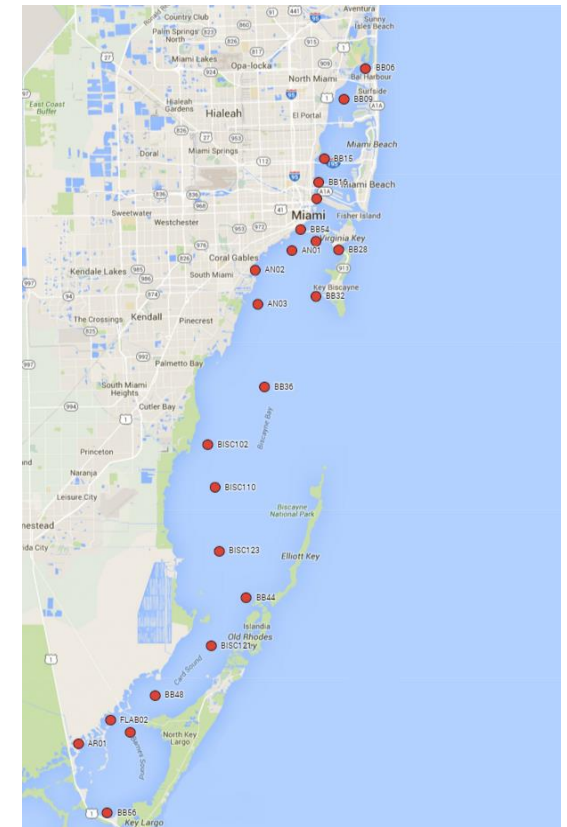
Mangrove in Biscayne Bay  
Image courtesy of Evan D'Alessandro

## Contact Us

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[www.biscaynebaywaterwatch.org](http://www.biscaynebaywaterwatch.org)



Map of Biscayne Bay Water Watch water monitoring sites