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Watering Restrictions

Summary of landscape watering restrictions and exceptions

“Landscape irrigation” means the outside watering of plants in a landscape such as shrubbery, trees, lawns, grass, groundcovers, plants, vines, gardens and other such flora that are situated in such diverse locations as residential areas, public, commercial and industrial establishments, and public medians and right-of way. “Landscape irrigation” does not include agricultural crops, nursery plants, cemeteries, golf course greens, tees, fairways, primary roughs, and vegetation associated with intensive recreational areas, such as playgrounds, football, baseball and soccer fields.

Summary of the restrictions

- Irrigation is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- During Eastern Standard Time
 - **Irrigation is limited to no more than one (1) day per week on scheduled days.**
 1. Residential irrigation at odd numbered addresses or no addresses is allowed on Saturday.
 2. Residential irrigation at even numbered addresses is allowed on Sunday.
 3. Non-residential irrigation is allowed on Tuesday.
- During Daylight Savings Time
 - **Irrigation is limited to no more than two (2) days per week on scheduled days.**
 1. Residential irrigation at odd numbered addresses or no addresses is allowed on Wednesday and Saturday.
 2. Residential irrigation at Even numbered address is allowed on Thursday and Sunday.
 3. Non-residential irrigation is allowed on Tuesday and Friday.
- Irrigation is limited to no more than ¾ inch of water per zone per irrigation day.
- Irrigation is limited to no more than one hour per irrigation zone per irrigation day.
- Irrigation is limited to only that amount necessary to meet landscape needs.
- When reclaimed water is available for irrigation use, the use of private irrigation wells is not authorized.
- Irrigation limitations apply to water withdrawn from ground or surface water, from a private well or pump, or from a public or private utility.
- Irrigation limitations apply to all landscape irrigation not currently regulated by a consumptive use permit. Typically, this includes residential, commercial and industrial establishments.

- Persons irrigating with an automatic lawn irrigation system installed after May 1991 shall install, maintain and operate a rain sensor device or switch that overrides the system when adequate rainfall has occurred.

Exceptions to the restrictions

- Irrigation using a micro-spray, micro-jet, drip or bubbler irrigation system is allowed anytime.
- Irrigation of new landscape is allowed at any time of day on any day for the initial 30 days and every other day for the next 30 days for a total of one 60-day period, provided that the irrigation is limited to the minimum amount necessary for establishment.
- Watering in of chemicals, including insecticides, pesticides, fertilizers, fungicides and herbicides when required by law, the manufacturer, or best management practices, is allowed anytime within 24 hours of application. Watering in of chemicals may not exceed ¼ inch of water per application except as otherwise required by law, the manufacturer, or best management practices.
- Irrigation systems may be operated anytime for maintenance and repair purposes, not to exceed 20 minutes per hour per zone.
- Irrigation using a hand-held hose equipped with a spray nozzle that can be adjusted so water flows only as needed is allowed anytime.
- Discharge of water from a water-to-air air-conditioning unit or other water-dependent cooling system is not limited.
- The use of water from a reclaimed water system is allowed anytime. A reclaimed water system includes systems in which the primary source is reclaimed water, which may or may not be supplemented from another source during peak demand periods.
- The use of recycled water from wet detention treatment ponds for irrigation is allowed anytime provided the ponds are not augmented from any ground or off-site surface water, or public supply sources.

If additional irrigation is required

- A standard general permit is required to irrigate three days a week during daylight saving time and two days a week during Eastern Standard Time. To obtain a permit, applicants must demonstrate the need for an additional irrigation day, and submit a \$50 application fee.