

November 2011



just the FACTs

This fact sheet is provided as a reference to encourage a greater understanding of the various issues related to managing water in South Florida.



For more information on this subject, scan this QR code using a barcode reader app on your smartphone.



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South Florida Water Management District Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule

The South Florida Water Management District promotes water conservation for its many benefits in meeting the growing demands on South Florida's limited water supply. The District's Comprehensive Water Conservation Program, including a Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Conservation Measures Rule, is designed to accomplish a measurable change in water use and develop a lasting water conservation ethic. Measures in the program were developed with input from water users across the region over a series of public workshops.

Adopted by the SFWMD Governing Board in November 2009, District-wide Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Conservation Measures establish a two-day-a-week landscape watering schedule throughout the District, with a three-day-a-week provision for water users in some counties.

The District rule applies when the source of water for irrigation is a utility, lake, pond, canal or well. The use of low-volume irrigation methods – including micro-irrigation, container watering and hand-watering with a hose and automatic shut-off nozzle – is allowed anytime. Irrigation using reclaimed water and harvested rainwater also is allowed at anytime. The District may grant variances for users of "smart" irrigation technologies described in Senate Bill 494, passed by the Florida Legislature in 2009.

Some city and county governments have adopted local landscape irrigation ordinances that differ from the District rule. To determine watering days and times in your area, contact your local government or visit www.sfwmd.gov/2days and click on the county links.

2-Day-A-Week Watering

(In the portions of Charlotte, Highlands, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola and Polk counties within SFWMD boundaries.)

The District Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule limits lawn and landscape watering to two days per week. **Contact your local government or visit www.sfwmd.gov/2days and click on the county links to see if local ordinances are in place.**

- Residents and businesses with an **odd-numbered** street address may water lawns and landscapes on **Wednesdays and/or Saturdays**, only **before 10 a.m. OR after 4 p.m.**
- Residents and businesses with an **even-numbered** street address, **no street address** or those that **irrigate both even and odd addresses** within the same zones, which may include multi-family units and homeowners associations, may water lawns and landscapes on **Thursdays and/or Sundays**, only **before 10 a.m. OR after 4 p.m.**

3-Day-A-Week Watering Option

(Broward, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties)

The District Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule allows a three-day-a-week watering provision available to users who reside in counties located wholly within District boundaries. Users in these counties may water lawns and landscapes on two days or may exercise the option and irrigate a third day. **Contact your local government or visit www.sfwmd.gov/2days and click on the county links to see if local ordinances are in place.**

- Residents and businesses with an **odd-numbered** street address may water lawns and landscapes on **Mondays, Wednesdays and/or Saturdays**, only **before 10 a.m. OR after 4 p.m.**
- Residents and businesses with an **even-numbered** street address **no street address** or those that **irrigate both even and odd addresses** within the same zones, which may include multi-family units and homeowners associations, may water lawns and landscapes on **Tuesdays, Thursdays and/or Sundays**, only **before 10 a.m. OR after 4 p.m.**

New Landscaping for 2-Day-A-Week and 3-Day-A-Week Watering

UNLESS LOCAL LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION ORDINANCES ARE IN PLACE, the District Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule allows additional watering for up to 90 days is allowed following the installation of new lawns and landscaping.

- On the day new landscaping is installed, new plantings and the soil may be irrigated once without regard to the normally allowable watering days and times. Soil irrigation is also allowed immediately prior to planting.
- New plantings that have been in place for **30 days or less** may be watered on **Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and/or Sundays**, only **before 10 a.m. and/or after 4 p.m.**
- New plantings that have been in place **from 31 to 90 days** may be watered on **Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and/or Saturdays**, only **before 10 a.m. and/or after 4 p.m.**
- Irrigation is limited to the areas containing new landscaping only. An entire irrigation zone may be watered only if new landscaping is planted on at least 50 percent of that zone. If new landscaping is planted on less than 50 percent of an irrigation zone, only the new plantings may be watered.

More information about Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Conservation Measures, including links to local government websites, is online at www.sfwmd.gov/2days.