



The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is a regional governmental agency that oversees the water resources in 16 counties – from Orlando to the Florida Keys.

With a population of 8.7 million, this region covers 17,930 square miles (31 percent of the entire state) and includes vast areas of agricultural lands, water conservation areas and urban development.

OUR MISSION

To **SAFEGUARD** and **RESTORE** South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, **PROTECT** our communities from flooding, and **MEET** the region's water needs while **CONNECTING** with the public and stakeholders

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

- Chauncey Goss - Board Chairman
- Scott Wagner- Vice Chairman
- Ron Bergeron Sr.
- Cheryl Meads
- Charlette Roman
- Jay Steinle
- Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch

Year Round Landscaping Irrigation Conservation Measures



SFWMD RULE

In effect since March 2010, the Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Conservation Measures Rule (Chapter 40E-24, Florida Administrative Code) limits landscape watering to two days a week throughout the South Florida Water Management District, with a three-day-a-week provision for some counties to address utility operational, health, and safety and landscape concerns. The rule applies when the source of water for irrigation is a utility, lake, pond, canal or groundwater. (See limited exclusions on next page.)

LOCAL RULE

Some city and county governments have adopted local landscape irrigation ordinances that differ slightly from the District rule based on local water demands, system limitations or resource availability. However, be advised, local ordinances cannot be less restrictive than the District's rule. To determine watering days and times in your area, contact your local government or visit sfwmd.gov/community-residents/landscape-irrigation and click on the county links.

SFWMD Rules

2 Day-A-Week Watering

- No watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Residents and businesses with an odd-numbered street address may water lawns and landscapes on Wednesdays and/or Saturdays
- Residents and businesses with an even-numbered street address, no street address or those that have both even and odd addresses within the same zones, which may include multi-family units and homeowner associations, may water lawns and landscapes on Thursdays and/or Sundays

3 Day-A-Week Watering

- No watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Residents and businesses with an odd-numbered street address may water lawns and landscapes on Mondays, Wednesdays and/or Saturdays
- Residents and businesses with an even-numbered street address, no street address or those that have 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

New Landscape Irrigation

The SFWMD Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule allows additional watering for up to 90 days 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
- New plantings that have been in place from 31 to 90 days may be watered on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and/or Saturdays
- 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



Exclusions to the SFWMD Year-Round Rule

- The use of low-volume irrigation methods – including micro-irrigation, container watering and hand-watering with a hose (with an automatic shut-off nozzle) – is allowed anytime
- The use of reclaimed water and harvested rainwater for irrigation purposes is allowed anytime.
- The rule applies only to water used for landscape irrigation. There are no restrictions on other outdoor uses such as pressure cleaning or vehicle/boat washing, although voluntary, water-conserving practices are highly recommended

Alternative Irrigation Schedule

If unique circumstances prohibit adherence to the mandatory SFWMD landscape irrigation conservation measures, individuals and businesses/organizations may seek an alternative schedule that still meets the intent of the rule. Guidance is available online or by contacting Jim Harmon at (561) 682-6777 to learn more about the alternative irrigation schedule request and approval process

Questions

For more information on the rule, including watering days and times by county:

- Visit sfwmd.gov/community-residents/landscape-irrigation
- Call the South Florida Water Management District's "Water Conservation Hotline" at 1-800-662-8876
- E-mail a water conservation expert at conservation@sfwmd.gov

