

COMMERCIAL WATER-USE RESTRICTIONS

Lee County, except the City of Cape Coral

Effective: 1/15/08

Enforced by the South Florida Water Management District



South Florida Water Management District permitted water users – large water users such as golf courses, nurseries, agriculture and recreation areas are required to achieve a 45% reduction in their overall water consumption. Permit holders report usage weekly to the South Florida Water Management District.

Golf Courses

Golf courses must reduce their allocated water use by 45%. They are not restricted to watering at certain days or times. Where possible, golf courses should limit watering to early mornings or evenings to reduce water loss through evaporation. Permit holders must report their weekly water usage at www.sfwmd.gov/consERVE

Agriculture

Agricultural water users may not use overhead irrigation systems from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stress reduction watering for field-grown citrus nursery stock is allowed daily for 10 minutes per irrigation zone from 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., and from 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Hand-watering and low-volume irrigation should be voluntarily reduced.

Plant Nurseries

Nursery owners may operate overhead irrigation systems seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for inside or shaded plants, and from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. for outside plants. Stress reduction watering for containerized stock is permitted from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for 10 minutes per irrigation zone. Hand-watering should be voluntarily reduced.

No irrigation is allowed on days with sufficient rainfall. Users shall install a rainfall cut-off switch or similar measuring device to determine when there has been enough rain to meet irrigation demands.

Tennis Courts, Sports Turf and Other Athletic Facilities

To maintain safe playing field conditions, sports turf can be watered 20 minutes anytime between 11 p.m. on the preceding day to 7 a.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. For example: watering can occur between 11:30 p.m. and 11:50 p.m. on Monday night, or from 6 a.m. to 6:20 a.m. on Tuesday morning.

Clay or Har-Tru tennis courts may be watered daily at 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. for up to 10 minutes.

Infields can be watered twice daily, once before 9 a.m. and once after 4 p.m. for up to 10 minutes.

Water Utility Line Flushing

Utility water line disinfection and flushing may be done as needed for public health and safety purposes. The utility should divert the water to a pervious area and not allow it to flow into roadways or to collect on impervious surfaces. The utility is required to post a sign at any flushing location informing the public of the health and safety purpose and indicating that the action is in compliance with water-use restrictions.

Variances

You may apply for a variance from water restrictions. The application form and instructions are online at www.sfwmd.gov. For more information about variances, call **(800) 432-2045**.

For more information on water shortage restrictions, visit our web site at www.sfwmd.gov/consERVE or call our **Water Conservation Hotline at (800) 662-8876** to request more information.

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