

RESOLUTION 10-20

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING RESTRICTIONS ON THE DAYS AND HOURS OF LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 18-75(B)(1) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Marco Island ("City Council") adopted Section 18-75, "Year round landscape irrigation restrictions" for the purpose of providing necessary regulations and procedures which shall be uniformly applied to the general public's use of water for irrigation purposes; and

WHEREAS, Section 18-75(B)(1) of the Code of Ordinances, as amended, provides that the City Council may by resolution establish policies, schedules and rules related to the use of water for landscape irrigation; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the proposed policies, schedules and rules related to the use of water for landscape irrigation is in the best interest of the citizens and residents of the City of Marco Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Policies and Rules. The following policies and rules shall apply to water irrigation of landscaping within the City:

- A. Landscaping Irrigation – Irrigation of existing landscaping shall comply with the following provisions: :
1. Irrigation is prohibited daily between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. except as otherwise provided.
 2. Notwithstanding the required irrigation hours and dates provided in subsection 1. above and subsection 3. below, the recommended hours of irrigation operations shall be as follows:
 - a. Odd number address residences: 11 p.m. to 4 a.m.
 - b. Even number address residences, installations with irrigation systems that irrigate both even and odd addresses within the same zones, such as multi-family units and homeowners' associations, and rights-of-way or other locations with no address as defined in Section 18-62 of the Code: 4 a.m. to 9 a.m.

3. Permitted dates of irrigation. – The permitted dates for irrigation shall be as provided in the table below:

Permitted dates for irrigation	
Property address with last digit 1	Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday
Property address with last digit 3	Monday, Wednesday, & Saturday
Property address with last digit 5	Monday, Thursday, & Saturday
Property address with last digit 7	Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday
Property address with last digit 9	Wednesday, Friday, & Sunday
Property address with last digit 2	Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday
Property address with last digit 4	Monday, Wednesday, & Saturday
Property address with last digit 6	Monday, Thursday, & Saturday
Property address with last digit 8	Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday
Property address with last digit 0	Wednesday, Friday, & Sunday

B. New Landscaping:

Irrigation of new landscaping shall comply with the following provisions:

1. On the day the new landscaping is installed, the new landscaping may be irrigated once without regard to the normally allowable watering days and times. Irrigation of the soil immediately prior to the installation of the new landscaping is also allowable without regard to the normal allowable watering days and times.
2. The ninety (90) day period begins the day the new landscaping is installed. The new landscaping shall be installed within a reasonable time from the date of purchase, which may be demonstrated with a dated receipt or invoice.
3. Irrigation of new landscaping which has been in place for thirty (30) days or less may be accomplished on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and/or Sunday.
4. Irrigation of new landscaping which has been in place for thirty-one (31) to ninety (90) days may be accomplished on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and/or Saturday.
5. Irrigation of the new landscaping is limited to areas containing the new landscaping only. An entire zone of an irrigation system shall only be utilized for landscape irrigation under this paragraph if the zone in question is for an area that contains at least 50% new landscaping. If a zone contains less than 50% new landscaping, or if the new landscaping is in an area that will not typically be irrigated by an irrigation system, only the individual new plantings are eligible for additional irrigation under this paragraph. Targeted watering may be accomplished by low volume hand watering, or any appropriate method which isolates and waters only the new landscaping.

C. Irrigation System Maintenance. Irrigation system maintenance may be conducted only in accordance with the following schedule:

1. Landscape irrigation systems may be operated during restricted days and/or-times for cleaning, maintenance, and repair purposes no more than ten (10) minutes per zone per week; an attendant must be present in the zone and working on the system during each such operation.

D. Pesticide, Fungicide, Herbicide, Fertilizer Application.

Landscape irrigation for the purpose of watering-in fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides, fungicides and herbicides, where such watering-in is recommended by the manufacturer, or by federal, state or local law, or best management practices, shall be allowed under the following conditions:

1. Such watering-in shall be limited to one application unless the need for more than one application is stated in the directions for application specified by the manufacturer; and
2. Such watering-in shall be accomplished during normally allowable watering days and times set forth in subsection (a), unless a professional licensed applicator has posted a temporary sign containing the date of application and the date(s) of needed watering-in activity.

E. Other Outdoor Water Uses.

Other outdoor water uses, including low- volume hand watering, car, truck, and boat washing and the washing of exterior home surfaces and roofs, shall be allowed anytime with the use of low volume pressure cleaning equipment, low volume mobile equipment washing and/or water hose equipped with an automatic self-canceling or automatic shutoff nozzle; in all cases, the water used must drain to a pervious surface or to a water recycling/reuse system.

Section 3. Irrigation Conservation. Managing your irrigation system requires seasonal adjustment to insure maximum conservation. It is recommended that the irrigation timer is set based on the season rather than an automatic year round setting of three days per week. The use of rain gauge is mandatory and the use of a soil moisture meter is encouraged.

- A. From November through February, temperatures get cooler and many plants go into a dormant or resting stage. Irrigation should be limited to twice a week.
- B. March, April and May are months with little rainfall and the driest soil conditions. A watering cycle of two days each week may suffice. Consider watering three times per week only if grass and shrubs show signs of stress. Most grass and will fold along the blade line and will not open in the cooling evening hours when water is needed. Plants and shrubs will wilt. When spotted areas beyond the range of the sprinkler heads show signs of stress consider watering using a hose and nozzle rather than lengthening the watering cycle or adding days to the entire sprinkler system.
- C. June through September is historically the rainy season. During the summer months, lawns and landscaping need about 1 to 1 ½ in. of water per week. For normal rainfall during the summer, a sprinkler system may not be necessary at all. Turn off the

automatic timer and turned on for just one cycle doing a long spell without rain. If away for an extended period consider setting sprinkler controls to operate one day each week. If the system is turned off, operate once each month to keep valves from freezing up. In October if rains stops, consider the irrigation similar to the spring cycle, two days a week.

Section 4. Other Water Conservation Activities. Water conservation helps the utility to operate at a more efficient manner and at a lower cost. Conservation can occur both outdoors and in the home. The following are just a few examples of conservation techniques.

A. Saving Water Outdoors.

1. Don't overwater your lawn. Contact the City for assistance in establishing your irrigation schedule.
2. Plant it smart. Xeriscape landscaping is a great way to design, install and maintain both your plants and irrigation system. It will save time, money and water.
3. Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn and shrubs and not on paved areas.
4. Install irrigation devices that are the most water efficient for each use. Micro and drip irrigation and soaker hoses are examples of efficient devices.
5. Check sprinkler systems and timing devices regularly to be sure they operate properly. Florida law now requires that "anyone who purchases and installs an automatic lawn sprinkler system MUST install a rain sensor device or switch which will override the irrigation cycle when adequate rainfall has occurred."
6. Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches, or to its highest level. A higher cut encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system and holds soil moisture.
7. Avoid over fertilizing your lawn. Applying fertilizer increases the need for water. Apply fertilizers which contain slow-release, water-insoluble forms of nitrogen.
8. Use mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulch also helps control weeds that compete with landscape plant for water.
9. Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees. Once established, they do not need water as frequently and usually will survive a dry period without watering. They also require less fertilizer or herbicides. Group plants together based in similar water needs.
10. Use a broom or blower instead of a hose to clean leaves and other debris from your driveway or sidewalk.
11. Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose which can be adjusted down to a fine spray, so that water flows only as needed. When finished, turn it off at the faucet instead of at the nozzle, to avoid leaks. Check hose connectors to make sure plastic or rubber washers are in place. Washers prevent leaks.
12. Do not leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. A garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours. Use a bell timer to remind yourself to turn sprinklers off.
13. Avoid purchasing recreational water toys which require a constant stream of water.
14. If you wash your own car, park on the grass and use a hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle.
15. Avoid installing ornamental water features (such as fountains) unless the use recycled water.

16. If you have a swimming pool, consider a new water-saving pool filter. A single backflushing with a traditional filter uses 180 to 250 gallons of water.

B. Saving Water In Your Home.

1. Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it. Use it to water your indoor plants or garden.
2. Make sure that your home is leak-free. Check your water meter when you are certain that no water is being used. If the meter reading changes, you have a leak.
3. Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. One drop per second wastes 2,700 gallons per year!
4. Retrofit all household faucets by installing aerators with flow restrictors.
5. Check for toilet leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If you have a leak, the color will appear in the bowl within 30 minutes. (Flush immediately to avoid stains.)
6. If the toilet handle frequently sticks in the flush position, letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it.
7. Install a toilet displacement device to cut down on the amount of water needed for each flush. (Don't use a brick! There are devices available at most hardware and home centers) be sure installation does not interfere with the operating parts. Consider low-volume toilets which use less than half the water of older models.
8. Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low flow version.
9. In the shower, turn water on to get wet; turn off to lather up; then turn the water back on to rinse off. Repeat when washing your hair.
10. Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or set the water level for the size of load you are using.
11. When hand washing dishes, save water by filling two containers – one with soapy water, one with rinse water containing a small amount of chlorine bleach.
12. Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Don't let the tap run while you are waiting for water to cool.
13. Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator, or use the defrost setting on your microwave.
14. Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing food waste.
15. Do not waste water waiting for it to get hot. Capture it for other uses such as plant watering or heat it on the stove or in a microwave.
16. Consider installing an instant hot water heater on your sink and insulating your water pipes.
17. Think twice about installing a water-to-air heat pump or air-conditioning system. Newer air-to-air models are just as efficient and do not waste water.
18. Don't let water run while brushing your teeth, washing your face, or shaving.
19. Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects, and other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet.

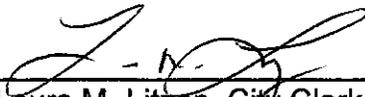
C. General Water Saving Tips.

1. Report water losses (broken pipes, open hydrants, errant sprinklers, etc.) to the City.
2. Try to do one thing each day that will result in saving water. Every drop counts!

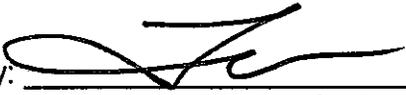
Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Passed in open and regular session of the City Council of the City of Marco Island, Florida, this 17th day of May 2010.

CITY OF MARCO ISLAND FLORIDA

By: 

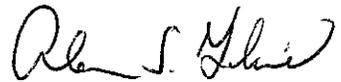
Laura M. Litzan, City Clerk

By: 

Frank R. Recker, Chairman

(SEAL)

Reviewed for legal sufficiency:

By: 

Alan L. Gabriel, City Attorney