

ST JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

LAWN AND LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION RULE

SUMMARY OF THE RULE

- Irrigation is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Irrigation is limited to no more than two days per week, per zone.
- Irrigation limitations apply to water withdrawn from private wells, surface water and water from public supply utilities.
- Water users choose their own irrigation days unless their local government adopts an ordinance and specifies their irrigation days.
- If a local government adopts an ordinance with specific irrigation days, those irrigation days will be as follows:
 - Odd numbered addresses — Wednesdays and Saturdays
 - Even numbered addresses or no address — Thursdays and Sundays
- Click [HERE](#) for a list of local governments that have adopted ordinances consistent with the District's rule and specify the two days a week irrigation can occur.
- Irrigation limitations apply to all lawn and landscape irrigation not currently regulated by a consumptive use permit. Typically, this includes residential, commercial and industrial establishments.
- Two-day-a-week irrigation limitations do not apply to golf course fairways, greens, tees and roughs, agricultural crops, nursery plants, or high-use recreational areas such as ball fields. Consumptive use permits typically regulate these types of irrigation.
- 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 RULE

- Irrigation using a micro-irrigation (drip) 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.
- Irrigation systems can be operated anytime for maintenance and repair purposes, not to exceed 10 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. To obtain a permit, applicants must demonstrate the need to irrigate three days a week, and submit a \$50 application fee.