

# Water Restriction Quick Guide for Citizens

January 2008

When reporting a possible water restriction violation, please indicate the following:

- Record proper street address including City
- Record exact time of the witnessed possible violation
- Report suspected violations to Utilities:
  - o Phone: 941.861.5000
  - o Fax: 941.861.0603
  - o email to [utilitybill@scgov.net](mailto:utilitybill@scgov.net)

## POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS:

Restrictions apply to anyone using County water, wells, lakes, ponds, canals, etc. Irrigation systems include automatic in-ground systems and sprinkler connected to a garden hose. We do not enforce within the City limits of Sarasota, Venice or North Port.

- Any irrigation on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

The only allowable irrigation days are:

**Tuesday** - Even numbered house addresses (numbers ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8) or addresses ending in A through M and common areas (medians, recreational areas or other areas with no address) or;

**Thursday** - Odd numbered house addresses (numbers ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9) and addresses ending in letters N through Z

- Any irrigating between 8AM and 6PM on any day  
No irrigation anytime between 8AM and 6PM on any day for properties under 2 acres in size. Properties greater than 2 acres cannot irrigate between 10AM and 4PM
- Excessive water run off of property.  
Sprinklers spraying into street or other non-landscaped area.
- Irrigation system operating during or soon after a substantial rainfall.
- Other water uses such as cleaning driveways with water (other than food service establishments or for health reasons), wasteful water use, allowing hoses to run without a shut off nozzle, leaking hoses, not repairing a leak, etc.

## **POSSIBLE EXCEPTIONS/ALLOWANCES:**

### **NEW PLANTINGS/SOD**

New plantings/sod can be irrigated the first day of installation any time of day and any day of the week. **ONLY ON THE FIRST DAY.** New sod/plantings can be irrigated everyday but not during restricted hours for the first 60 days. New plantings only can be irrigated and must be at least 50% of the landscaped area (i.e. putting out a few new grass plugs does NOT qualify). Although not required, it is recommended that the property owner provide the Utilities Department a proof of purchase and date of installation to obtain 60 day variance letter.

### **FERTILIZER/PEST CONTROL APPLICATION**

Application of fertilizer or pest control treatments that require watering the day of application, however irrigation still should not occur during restricted hours. Owner may be requested to provide proof of requirement to irrigate same day should a complaint be received.

### **SWFWMD VARIANCES**

Property has a variance issued by SWFWMD. Utilities will verify variance on file. No properties with a variance can irrigate during restricted hours, however may irrigate during a different day of the week.

### **REUSE/RECLAIMED IRRIGATION**

Utilities will verify if this property uses reuse water for irrigation prior to issuance of any notices/warnings/citations. Subdivisions/areas include:

- Pelican Pointe (Multi Family Area and Common areas)
- Laurel Lakes (Barton Farms)
- Eagle Trace
- Wellington Chase
- Common areas of Palmer Ranch (Medians)
- Sarasota Square Mall
- Huntington Point
- Stoneybrook Common Areas
- Marbella Entrance
- Turtle Rock
- Villas at Deer Creek
- Meadows (common areas)
- Pinestone
- Clarebridge
- Oaks
- Valencia
- Monte Verde
- Sunrise Golf Club

### **IRRIGATION SYSTEM TESTING/MAINTENANCE**

Irrigation systems can be tested anytime of day and any day of the week, but customer/contractor must be present. System can only run long enough to test irrigation heads for proper spray and time.

#### **HAND WATERING OF PLANTS**

Hand watering of plants, hanging baskets, gardens is allowed any day of the week and any time of day. Hand watering of lawns is NOT allowed unless doing so for application of fertilizer/pest control. Hand watering of new plantings is allowed when less than 50% of the landscaped area (added new shrubs or trees).

#### **PRESSURE WASHING**

Pressure washing is allowed.

#### **CAR WASHING -**

Car washing is allowed but should be done on grassy area to prevent run off and should be limited to one day per week.

#### **LARGE/COMMERCIAL USERS –**

Some large users such as golf courses, landscape companies, plant nurseries or other high volume water users may have separate requirements placed on them by SWFWMD under their individual well permits and therefore may have different irrigation schedules.