News, meetings and notices

St. Johns River Water Management District
Water News

March 7, 2014

Remember to water efficiently

With warmer weather and springtime planting under way, it is important to remember that water conservation is one of the most important strategies to help meet Florida’s water supply needs now and in the future.

Watering restrictions are in place throughout the year within the St. Johns River Water Management District’s 18-county region to ensure the efficient use of water for lawn and landscape irrigation.

Coinciding with the return to daylight saving time on March 9, landscape irrigation is allowed up to two days a week before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

Landscape irrigation is limited to the following days:

  Wednesday and Saturday for residential landscape irrigation at addresses that end in an odd number or have no address
  Thursday and Sunday for residential landscape irrigation at addresses that end in an even number
  Tuesday and Friday for nonresidential landscape irrigation

In addition, irrigation is limited to ½ inch of water per irrigation zone and to no more than one hour per irrigation zone on each day that irrigation occurs.

The restrictions apply to water withdrawn from ground or surface water, from a private well, or from a public or private water utility. Some exceptions apply, such as the use of water from a reclaimed water supply, which is allowed anytime except when a local government restricts the use of reclaimed water.

Landscape irrigation is limited to one day a week during Eastern Standard Time, which resumes Nov. 2, 2014.

Watering restrictions

Know Your Days

Mandatory lawn watering restrictions specify the days when you may water. These days depend on whether you have an odd or even numbered address, and the time of year.

<table>
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<th>Time of year</th>
<th>Homes with odd numbered or no addresses</th>
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<th>Nonresidential properties</th>
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<td>Daylight saving</td>
<td>Wednesday/Saturday</td>
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<td>Eastern Standard</td>
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Daylight saving time: Second Sunday in March until the first Sunday in November
Eastern Standard Time: First Sunday in November until the second Sunday in March
An odd numbered address is one that ends in 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9.
An even numbered address is one that ends in 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8.
Water only when needed and not between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
Water for no more than one hour per zone.
Restrictions apply to private wells and pumps, ground or surface water and water from public and private utilities.
Some exceptions apply.

Summary of restrictions and exceptions

Districtwide watering restrictions
Map showing where restrictions apply
Watering restrictions FAQs
County-wide exceptions

**Alachua County watering restrictions**
All of unincorporated Alachua County, Hawthorne, Micanopy, Gainesville and those portions of Waldo that are within the St. Johns River Water Management District are to follow the St. Johns restrictions. High Springs, LaCrosse and those portions of Waldo lying within the Suwannee River Water Management District are to follow the **Suwannee River Water Management District restrictions**.

**Orange County watering restrictions**
All of Orange County is to follow the St. Johns restrictions. The only exception is Reedy Creek, which will follow the South Florida Water Management District's restrictions.

**Marion County watering restrictions**
All of Marion County, including the city of Ocala, is to follow the St. Johns restrictions. The only exceptions are The Villages and the city of Cunnellon, which should follow restrictions of the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

Local governments with ordinances implementing the watering restrictions

Model ordinance for local governments

Word file | PDF file

Rule

Standard general consumptive use permit application form for landscape irrigation
This form can be completed online.