



Watering Restrictions Changed for Six-Month Period

Effective May 10, 2011, the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners lifted the one day per week watering restriction for six (6) months and is now following the Southwest Florida Water Management District watering restriction schedule which is as follows:

Lawn Water is limited to twice per week. Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

Even Addresses: May water on THURSDAY and/or SUNDAY

Odd Addresses: May water on WEDNESDAY and/or SATURDAY

Locations without an address (such as common areas, rights-of-way) may water on Tuesday and/or Friday.

Help save the water resource and your money by considering using only one day (of the two allowed) to run your irrigation system.

** If you live in Timber Pines, specific locations in Glen Lakes, Silverthorn, and Wellington your property managers or home owners association has received a variance from the Southwest Florida Water Management District for alternate water schedules. Please contact your HOA or Property Management Company for your specific watering days/times.

Look for these signs to know if your lawn may need water:

Folding leaf blades. Drought-stressed lawns will curl up their leaf blades lengthwise in an attempt to minimize leaf area Wilting is best seen on the older leaves of the grass plant, as the younger leaves are not fully developed and may appear wilted even when they are not.

Blue-gray color. Drought-stressed lawns turn from green to bluish-gray.

Footprints remaining visible. When footprints remain visible on your lawn long after being made, your lawn is experiencing drought stress.

Are you going to plant new sod?

Please see the following for recommendation for watering your new sod.

Day 1 -10 Water 2-3 times a day for 5-10 minutes, (less if it rains).

Day 11-20 Water once a day applying about ¼" of water.

Day 21-30 Water every other day, applying about ½" of water.

Day 31-60: If your turf has rooted, (try pulling on a piece of the sod--if it has some resistance it has begun to take root). Water ½" to ¾" but only every other day. (see schedule below):

If you address end with an even number you may water on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.

If your address ends with an odd number you may water on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

By the end of this period of time (Day 31-60) you will be under the current watering restriction schedule (Thursday/Sunday for addresses ending with an even number; Wednesday/Saturday for addresses ending with an odd number). Water before 10 a.m or after 4 p.m.



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ PROGRAM



Summer's 3 Top Florida-Friendly Landscaping TIPS!

By John Korycki, Florida Friendly Landscaping Coordinator, Hernando County Utilities Department (352) 540-6230

Research before you plant: When the time comes to change out those shriveled flowers and the remnants of your lawn, take the time to get good information regarding replacement plants. Getting the facts and information about plants growing conditions, mature size and cold tolerance will pay off in a healthy landscape that will be well suited for your site. You can find information on selection of Florida-Friendly plants and using proper planting techniques at: <http://www.floridayards.org/>

Think twice before you fertilize: When fertilizer is needed and applied correctly, the lawn and plants absorb the nitrogen. However, fertilizers applied improperly can run off lawns and into local water bodies, harming water quality and threatening plants, animals and our clean drinking water. Great information on selecting and applying fertilizers can be found at: <http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/yards/fertilizing/>

Practice IPM: IPM stand for Integrated Pest Management, a well rounded approach to managing pests in the landscape. Instead of reaching for a bottle of spray as your first approach to insects, contact the Florida Yards & Neighborhoods program to learn how irrigation, fertilization, pest and weed control are all related. Sometimes reducing a landscape problem can be as simple as changing your landscape maintenance methods! Information on applying IPM in the vegetable garden or landscape can be found at: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Save Water! Save Money!

Low Flow Toilet Replacement Program:

Hernando County Utilities Department's Water Conservation Division, is offering up to a \$200 (\$100 per toilet) water bill credit for customer to replace high gallon per flush (gpf) toilets with a new water saving toilet 1.6 gpf toilet. To qualify for this rebate program your home must be older than 1994 and currently have a 3.5 gpf-7gpf toilet; the new toilet(s) must be installed by one the participating plumbers--call (352) 754-4705 for that list (or go to <http://www.hernandocounty.us/utills/PDF/conservation/save%20money.pdf>

Rain Sensor Rebate Program:

Outdoor water use accounts for half or MORE of the water a household uses. We are offering a \$50 water bill credit for customers who add a rain sensor to their irrigation system. This rebate is only for customers who do not currently have a rain sensor. To qualify your home and irrigation system must be older than 2001 and irrigate your lawn with water provided by HCUD. You must have the rain sensor installed by one the participating irrigation contractors (See the information listed above for contact # and website).

Helpful Numbers and Website Information:

HCUD Customer Service: (352) 754-4037

HCUD Water Conservation Division (352) 754-4705 • www.hernandocounty.us/utills

Hernando County Code Enforcement: (352) 796-5062 *new number
www.co.hernando.fl.us/code/index.asp

Southwest Florida Water Management District:
1-800-423-1476 (Florida only) • www.watermatters.org