

## **Southwest Florida Water Management District Watering Schedule through Sept. 30, 2009**

Applicable to Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte and Desoto Counties for water from all sources except reclaimed.

This is a summary; for details see [www.watermatters.org](http://www.watermatters.org), call 800-848-1499 or (941) 792-8811 ext. 5327.

Local governments / utilities may impose more strict rules. Check with them first.

<b>ADDRESSES ENDING IN:</b>	<b>WATER ONCE ON :</b>
0,1	Monday
2,3	Tuesday
4,5	Wednesday
6,7	Thursday
8,9*	Friday

\* and areas with no discernable address

- No watering between 8 am and 6 pm. (Over 2 acres: no watering between 10 am and 4 pm).
- Hand watering and micro-irrigation of non-lawn areas on any day ***BUT not between 8 am and 6 pm.***
- Reclaimed water customers are asked to voluntarily follow restrictions.

**Manatee County Utility customers are now subject to fines – no warnings – for watering violations.**

**First violation is a \$110 fine, second is \$210 and the third violation is \$550 plus a possible court appearance.**

## **New Lawn Establishment – Restrictions through June 30, 2009**

*(This is a change from the last restrictions)*

- New and replacement sod, plugs and seed have a 30-day establishment period.
- On days 1-15 new and replacement sod, plugs and seed may be watered any day of the week.
- On days 16-30 water approximately every other day as follows: Even-numbered addresses may water only on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Odd-numbered addresses may water only on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

## **Establishment of New Plants and Trees – Restrictions through June 30, 2009**

*(This is a change from the last restrictions)*

- New plants (other than lawns) and trees have a 60-day establishment period.
- On days 1-30 new plants and trees may be watered any day of the week.
- On days 31-60 water approximately every other day as follows: Even-numbered addresses may water only on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Odd-numbered addresses may water only on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

## **Fountains – Restrictions through June 30, 2009**

*(This is a change from the last restrictions)*

- Aesthetic fountains and other water features may operate only four hours a day. The regular hours of operation can be selected by the owner but must be posted.

In summary, if you do any kind of lawn / landscape watering, be prudent in its operation to:

- Water only as needed – watch for signs of dryness such as a blue-grey color of the grass, grass blades that are folded lengthwise and footprints that remain longer than a few minutes.
- Water only on your allowed day when needed and during the allowed times.
- Adjust the watering time to apply  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch of water at a time. Use tuna or pet food cans to determine how long it takes to apply  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch of water in each zone.
- Make sure the irrigation timer is also set for the correct time, day of week and the start time is appropriate to allow the system to operate only during the allowed time of day.
- Repair broken sprinklers, leaks, blocked spray patterns and adjust sprinklers to avoid overspray onto buildings, streets, walks, etc.

Would you like to know more about making your landscape and irrigation system more water efficient? The University of Florida / Manatee County Extension Service offers free workshops for the citizens of Manatee County. Call or visit the website for more information.

<b>Manatee County Extension Service Landscape / Irrigation Workshops for April, 2009</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>WORKSHOP</b>
April 7	6:00 to 8:30 pm	Landscape Makeover Series – The Plan
April 21	6:00 to 8:30 pm	Landscape Makeover Series – Ground Covers, Grasses & Vines
April 23	6:00 to 9:00 pm	Landscape Irrigation Simplified

All workshops are held at the Manatee County Extension Office  
**Must pre-register! All workshop sizes are limited. Minimum workshop size is required. All events are free unless noted.**

Fact sheet written March 20, 2009 by Jack Tichenor, Extension Agent for Water Conservation  
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