

# **Notice Mandatory Summer Irrigation Policy**

As we approach the summer months, Wellborn SUD would like to remind our customers that water conservation is critical in order to meet our long term and short term water demands. Wellborn SUD has historically experienced high demand on Sunday nights and Monday mornings during the summer irrigation season. In an effort to manage the effect created by the weekly summer peak demand, the District has adopted the following mandatory summer watering policy:

# **Mandatory Summer Watering Policy**

- The Mandatory Summer Watering Policy will begin June 1, 2018 and will continue through September 30, 2018.
- Customers with addresses ending with an even number (0, 2, 4, 6, 8) will irrigate on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Customers with addresses ending with an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7, 9) will irrigate on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
- This new policy places no limits on the amount of water applied during approved days of irrigation.

This notice should be given to your irrigation maintenance company in order for your irrigation settings to be modified accordingly.

As in the past, with our Customer's participation the District will be able to maintain an adequate water supply and meet high summer demands. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (979) 690-9799.

You can follow water restrictions AND keep your lawn alive during hot summer months.

#### How to Determine If Your Lawn Needs Water

- Dull, dark appearance
- Leaf blades begin to roll
- Less than 1 inch of rain has fallen over the last week

#### **Effective Water Techniques**

- Water early in the morning (before 10am) or late evenings (after 10 pm) to avoid water loss to wind and evaporation
- Give leaf surfaces time to dry before nightfall to deter disease and decay
- Water deeply and infrequently to encourage deep, well-established roots

#### How Long To Water for Maximum Efficiency

- Wet the soil to a depth of 4 to 6 inches to reach roots
  - o Soil type, amount of rain and season affect the water amount
  - O Insert spade or probe into soil to measure dry area
- Adjust your watering times accordingly
- Routinely check to ensure water is being applied in a uniform manner needed and make adjustments as necessary
- Avoid watering sidewalks, driveways or streets
  - o When you notice runoff, take a break from watering until ground can absorb water again
- Cycle and Soak Method (Recommended for clay soils)
  - o Run multiple short cycles instead of one long cycle to avoid runoff
    - Allows for deeper water infiltration in clay soils

### **Types of Sprinklers**

- Low- output sprinkler heads, bubblers or drip irrigation decrease runoff
- Drip irrigation takes longer to wet soil but lose very little to evaporation
- Avoid leaving in-ground irrigation on automatic settings
  - o Adjust system manually according to weather conditions to avoid over-watering

## **Irrigation Check-up**

- Flag locations of sprinkler heads in lawn
- Turn system on to verify heads pop up and are aimed correctly
- If a sprinkler head is not working
  - o Remove sprinkler head and clean with soap and water
  - o Reattach and re-aim sprinkler head
  - o Get replacement to any that can't be fixed

For information on exactly how much water your lawn needs each week, based on current weather conditions in the Brazos Valley, visit BV WaterSmart at https://bvwatersmart.tamu.edu/.

#### Resources:

http://www.twdb.texas.gov/publications/brochures/conservation/doc/WaterGuide.pdf https://water.tamu.edu/water-resources-homeowners/