

THE WOODLANDS MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICTS

POLICY MANUAL

POLICY NO.: ENF-60
SUBJECT: DEFINED IRRIGATION SCHEDULE
EFFECTIVE DATE: APRIL 1, 2014
(SUPERCEDES POLICY DATED JANUARY 1, 2013)
PAGE: 1 of 4

SECTION 1: Purpose

- (a) Montgomery County faces a water supply crisis. Groundwater has been the area's sole source of public supply for decades; however, rapid population growth over the last 20 years has severely depleted this vital natural resource. Groundwater supplies in our aquifers are now declining at an alarming rate as significantly more water is being extracted than can be replenished by natural recharge. As a result, alternate surface water supplies are being developed to reduce groundwater usage. In addition, policies and practices are being developed to reduce excessive water usage.
- (b) This Policy is intended to reduce the wasteful use of water in landscape irrigation practices. Some current irrigation practices are unnecessary because they provide more water to local plants and grasses than is needed. Local plants and grasses in Montgomery County require no more than one inch of water per week during the peak summer periods and even less water during non-peak periods. Further, daytime watering results in significant water evaporation losses.
- (c) High landscape irrigation usage places a significant strain on our water supply and distribution system. Minimizing this usage will help stabilize our water supply for the future, reduce the expense to provide for increased demand and set a positive community example for being good stewards of this critical natural resource.

SECTION 2: Definitions

In this Policy:

- (a) "Designated irrigation times" means the following:
 - (1) For street addresses ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6, or 8) or properties with no street address:
 - a. 8:00 p.m. on Saturdays through 6:00 a.m. on Sundays and 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays through 6:00 a.m. on Thursdays for irrigation systems.

THE WOODLANDS MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICTS

POLICY MANUAL

POLICY NO.: ENF-60
SUBJECT: DEFINED IRRIGATION SCHEDULE
EFFECTIVE DATE: APRIL 1, 2014
(SUPERCEDES POLICY DATED JANUARY 1, 2013)
PAGE: 2 of 4

(2) For street addresses ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7, or 9):

a. 8:00 p.m. on Fridays through 6:00 a.m. on Saturdays and 8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays through 6:00 a.m. on Wednesdays for irrigation systems.

(3) An apartment complex, office building complex, or other property containing multiple street addresses must use the lowest street address number to determine the designated irrigation times for the property.

(b) “Hose-end sprinkler” means a portable, non-anchored sprinkler connected directly or indirectly to the public water supply system by a hose to irrigate any lawn or landscape.

(c) “Irrigation system” means a lawn or landscape irrigation system consisting of one or more sprinklers connected directly or indirectly to the public water supply system by piping or hose, whether operated electronically or manually, except hose-end sprinklers.

SECTION 3: Lawn and Landscape Irrigation Restrictions

(a) From and after the effective date hereof, it shall be a violation of this Policy for any person to irrigate a lawn or landscape using an irrigation system, unless such irrigation occurs during the designated irrigation times for the property.

(b) This section shall not apply to:

(1) Irrigating with hose-end sprinklers, hand-held hoses equipped with a functioning positive shut-off device, drip irrigation devices, soaker hoses, or hand-held buckets;

(2) Irrigating during the repair or testing of a new or existing irrigation system; or

(3) Irrigating nursery stock at a commercial plant nursery.

THE WOODLANDS MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICTS

POLICY MANUAL

POLICY NO.: ENF-60
SUBJECT: DEFINED IRRIGATION SCHEDULE
EFFECTIVE DATE: APRIL 1, 2014
(SUPERCEDES POLICY DATED JANUARY 1, 2013)
PAGE: 3 of 4

SECTION 4: Surcharges

- (a) Any person violating this Policy may be subject to surcharges in accordance with the following schedule:

1 st violation in any twelve month period	Notice/Warning
2 nd violation in any twelve month period	\$50
3 rd violation in any twelve month period	\$100
Each subsequent violation	\$200

Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense.

- (b) Any person violating this Policy shall receive written notification of such violation, which notice shall set forth (i) the date of the violation, (ii) the nature of the violation, (iii) the amount of the surcharge for the violation (if any), (iv) notice of the surcharge amount(s) for any further violations (if any), (v) the process for appealing the surcharge (if any), and (vi) appropriate information regarding the impact of wasteful irrigation practices and recommendations to improve the efficient use of water. Any applicable surcharge will be added to the person's next water bill that is issued at least twenty days after the issuance of the notice, unless the person appeals within fifteen days of the date of the notice.
- (c) The Board of Directors shall hear and determine any appeals of surcharges imposed pursuant to subsection (a) above. The Board of Director's determination shall be final and surcharges imposed under this Policy shall be due and payable as part of the person's regular water bill.
- (d) For the purpose of imposing the surcharges set forth in subsection (a) above, a person is presumed responsible for all irrigation at the person's property.

SECTION 5: Variances

- (a) The Board of Directors may consider granting a variance from one or more provisions of this Policy upon receipt of a written request for a variance supported by objective rationale. In all cases, such a request shall be supported by historical data

THE WOODLANDS MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICTS

POLICY MANUAL

POLICY NO.: ENF-60
SUBJECT: DEFINED IRRIGATION SCHEDULE
EFFECTIVE DATE: APRIL 1, 2014
(SUPERCEDES POLICY DATED JANUARY 1, 2013)
PAGE: 4 of 4

which demonstrates prudent usage of water resources. The Board of Directors' decision on a request for a variance shall be final.

- (b) The Board of Directors may revoke a previously granted variance upon a determination that (i) the conditions giving rise to the variance are no longer applicable, (ii) the terms of the variance are being violated, or (iii) the health, safety, or welfare of other persons requires revocation. The Board of Directors' decision to revoke a variance shall be final.

SECTION 6: Monitoring

Monitoring of this Policy shall be conducted on a random basis at the discretion of the General Manager unless the Board of Directors specifically authorizes additional monitoring within the District. Any and all costs associated with such additional monitoring shall be the sole responsibility of the District.