

FACT SHEET

Phase II (Severe Water Shortage) Restrictions

New Plant Establishment

New plant material, including grass (sod, seed, plugs, etc.), may initially need extra water applications to successfully establish. This establishment need varies, depending on the type of plant material and the time of year involved.

KEY FACTS:

- For a 60-day period, beginning the day of installation, new plant material may be watered on ANY day of the week.
- On the day the plant material is installed, "establishment period" watering can occur once during otherwise restricted hours.
- After the day of installation, "establishment period" watering must be accomplished during allowable watering hours (before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m., for properties under two acres in size).
- Some cities and counties have local ordinances which further restrict this activity.
- There are additional limitations and exceptions for certain circumstances (see below).

LIMITATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS:

- The extra "establishment period" watering is limited to new plant material. An entire zone in an irrigation system, however, may be set to a temporary establishment schedule if the area covered by the zone contains at least 50% new plant material.
- Irrigation system zones containing less than 50% new plant material must be watered by some other means, such as handwatering or a soaker hose, so that only the new plant material is irrigated.
- If any new trees, shrubs, potted plants, flower beds, or other NON-LAWN plant material will need extra water applications either during restricted hours or for a longer period (beyond the standard 60-day exemption), use low-volume technology. Handwatering, microirrigation and other low-volume irrigation technology can be used on NON-LAWN plant material as needed.
- Sprigs (a special form of grass propagation, typically for Bermudagrass on athletic fields) can be watered during otherwise restricted times throughout the establishment period. This generally involves several short watering events each day that gradually decrease in number of applications and increase in application amount.
- If you have any questions about how these restrictions apply to your circumstances, please call 1-800-848-0499 or 1-800-423-1476, extension 4498.

EXTRA WATER CONSERVATION TIP:

For helpful information regarding the selection, establishment and long-term care of grass, visit www.WaterMatters.org/yards or refer to the Florida Lawn Handbook (University of Florida).

This fact sheet is only a summary. Review Water Shortage Order SWF 07-02 and the District's Water Shortage Plan (District Rule 40D-21) for complete details; both items are available online (visit www.WaterMatters.org).