

Tampa Water Use Restrictions Summary Sheet

This sheet is only a summary of Tampa Ordinance 2010-12 and Water Shortage Order No. SWF 07-02. For complete details, please refer to the source documents. Links to both of these items are available online (visit www.TampaGov.net/Water).

Please visit www.TampaGov.net/WaterRestrictions for a more detailed clarification of water use restrictions in place within Tampa city limits. Listen to a recorded water restrictions summary by calling (813) 274-8032.

If you are a Tampa Water Department customer outside the city limits, call the county's Water Restriction Information Line at (813) 275-7094. Water use restrictions in Unincorporated Hillsborough County are set and enforced by Hillsborough County Water Resource Services.

To report a suspected water use violation, please call (813) 274-8036 or use the reporting link available in the Customer Service Center on the City Web site.

Tampa has been enforcing one-day-a-week irrigation restrictions since May 2006. Fines are: 1st violation: \$100; 2nd violation: \$200 and 3rd and subsequent violations: \$450 and a mandatory court appearance. Citations are issued upon first observed violation of any water use restriction.

Water use restrictions are subject to change at any time in response to regional and local water supply conditions and Emergency Orders issued by the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

Water Use Restrictions Inside Tampa City Limits:

Irrigation of established lawns (turfgrass) and landscaping (non-turf) is allowed one day a week. Any one zone of a property may only be watered once during the allowable day, NOT both in the morning and again in the evening. These restrictions apply to all water sources, except reclaimed water, although reclaimed water customers are encouraged to use only what they need.

Properties of any size may only water between 12:01 a.m. and 8 a.m. OR between 6 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. on the allowed day.

Follow the permitted day of the week watering schedule outlined in the chart below:

- Addresses ending in 0 or 1 - Monday
- Addresses ending in 2 or 3 - Tuesday
- Addresses ending in 4 or 5 - Wednesday
- Addresses ending in 6 or 7 - Thursday
- Addresses ending in 8 or 9, locations with no address (common areas, entry areas), and locations with mixed addresses (office complexes, shopping centers) - Friday

Note: Persons may not use an irrigation system and a hand-held hose to water the same area twice on their day. Watering of landscapes using an in-ground irrigation system (rotor and spray sprinkler heads) or a hose equipped with a portable sprinkler is limited to the same once-per-week schedule.

Hand watering of lawns and grass (using a hand held hose with an automatic shut off nozzle) may only occur during the designated day and time for irrigation of established lawns and landscaping at that address.

Low-volume watering (micro-irrigation, soaker hoses, hand watering, etc.) of flower beds, shrubs and other non-lawn plants is allowed on any day and at any time, if needed.

All landscape irrigation systems must be equipped with a **rain sensor device** or switch that will override the irrigation cycle of the sprinkler system when adequate rainfall has occurred. This requirement applies to both new and older irrigation systems.

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There is a special 60 day irrigation allowance made for the establishment of new plant material.

- On days 1-30, beginning the day of installation, you may water new plants as necessary any day of the week.
- On days 31-60, the new plant material may be watered approximately every other day. Even-numbered addresses may only water on Tuesday/Thursday/Sunday and odd-numbered addresses may only water on Monday/Wednesday/Saturday.
- On the day the plant material is installed, this extra watering can occur only ONCE during otherwise restricted hours.
- After the day of installation, this extra watering must be accomplished during allowable watering hours.

The extra “establishment period” watering is limited to new plant material. An entire zone in an irrigation system, however, may be used if the area the zone covers contains at least 50 percent new plant material. Irrigation system zones containing less than 50 percent new plant material must be watered by some other means, such as hand watering or a soaker hose, so that only the new plant material is irrigated.

If **chemicals such as pesticide, fertilizer, herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides** are applied to your lawn or landscape plants by a hired professional, they can be watered in according to manufacturer’s instructions the date of application during allowed hours. Applying water following a chemical treatment by a hired professional is allowable on your non-designated watering day provided a dated chemical advisory marker showing the date of chemical application is visible in the yard (usually by the mailbox). Also, restricted hours must still be followed.

If you wish to apply a chemical treatment to your lawn or landscape plants yourself, the application of water must be done on your designated watering day and times for your address.

Irrigation systems may be operated during restricted hours for **cleaning and maintenance** purposes, but limited to a maximum of ten (10) minutes per zone per week. An attendant must remain visibly on site during the entire cleaning and maintenance operation.

Washing of cars, trucks and other mobile equipment is allowed once a week. At a residential property, vehicle washing may occur on Tuesday or Saturday at addresses ending in even numbers, and Wednesday or Sunday at addresses ending in odd numbers. Low-volume methods must be used, such as fitting your hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle.

Pressure washing for any reason is only allowed once a year. However, pressure washing for necessary purposes, which include cleaning prior to painting or sealing, maintaining a paint or material warranty, addressing a health or safety hazard and complying with local, state or federal health laws, is allowed.

Fountains and other aesthetic-only water features may only operate 8 hours per day; hours of operation must be posted. However, small indoor and backyard fountains may operate at any time. Visit www.TampaGov.net/WaterRestrictions for a list of conditions and more information.

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