

Cemeteries

Southwest Florida
Water Management District
WATERMATTERS.ORG • 1-800-423-1476

**Phase 1 (Moderate Water Shortage)
Water Restrictions & Year-Round
Water Conservation Measures**

FACT SHEET

The term “cemeteries” includes locations dedicated to the permanent interment of human or pet remains. Cemeteries are regulated by the state and may include any combination of land or earth interment, mausoleum, vault, crypt, columbarium, ossuary, scattering garden areas or other designated disposition structure or area.

KEY FACTS:

- Some cemeteries, especially newer ones, use reclaimed water. In this way, they are conserving higher quality water for public supply and agricultural needs.
- Cemeteries using something other than 100% reclaimed water for irrigation **MUST** follow the watering times and other common-sense limitations listed below, and these measures are in addition to any applicable Water Use Permit requirements.

WATERING TIMES AND OTHER LIMITATIONS:

- Normal supplemental irrigation may only occur before 10:00 a.m. or after 4:00 p.m.
- Unless it has a variance (District-authorized alternative irrigation schedule), a cemetery smaller than two acres in size shall follow the lawn and landscape watering schedule associated with its address.
- A cemetery larger than two acres in size may irrigate one-half of the property on Tuesdays and/or Saturdays and may irrigate the other half on Wednesdays and/or Sundays without requesting a formal variance. A qualifying cemetery must maintain a map or sketch on-site to show which days each part of the property will be watered.
- Each irrigation system shall be tested and repaired or adjusted as necessary in accordance with Rule 40D-22.201 (3)(b) to address leaks, sprinkler misalignment, inappropriately mixed heads, needed controller adjustments and other sources of irrigation inefficiencies.
- New plant establishment, chemical applications, routine irrigation system maintenance and other special water uses may follow the standard allowances for those specific practices (please refer to detailed fact sheets for these topics).

General Information

Stricter local ordinances may apply, so be sure to also check with your local water utility. If you have any questions about how these or other year-round water conservation measures apply to your facility, please call 1-800-848-0499 during normal business hours or send an inquiry to Water.Restrictions@WaterMatters.org.

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