

Keeping Your Landscaping Neat and Green

Provided by the City of Safety Harbor Public Works Department

Irrigation is not allowed daily for established landscaping.

- Southwest Florida Water Management District has returned to year-round water conservation measures. As per City Code of Ordinances Sec. 24.40, these restrictions also apply to the City of Safety Harbor. Lawn watering days and times are as follows:
- If your address (house number) ends in...
 - Even addresses may water on Thursday and/or Sunday
 - Odd addresses may water on Wednesday and/or Saturday
 - Locations without a discernable address, such as rights-of-way and common areas inside a subdivision, may water on Tuesday and/or Friday
 - Hand watering and micro-irrigation of plants (other than lawns) can be done on any day and any time.

Properties under two acres in size may only water before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
Properties two acres or larger may only water before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.



Irrigation for new landscaping and lawns.

- New lawns have a 60-day establishment period.
 - On days 1-30, they may be watered any day of the week.
 - During days 31-60, they may be watered three days per week. Even-numbered addresses may water only on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. Odd-numbered addresses may be watered only on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.



Water Conservation Tips

- Hand watering and micro-irrigation of plants (other than lawns) can be done on any day at any time, if needed.
- Water only when plants or lawns start to wilt.
- Use soil moisture sensors and rain sensors with irrigation systems to automatically gauge water needs.
- If mowing is necessary, increase mowing height to the highest setting to reduce stress on lawns. The lower the cut, the less drought resistant the lawn will be over time.
- Make sure irrigation systems are operating at peak performance by checking and clearing filters in the system.
- Clean and properly direct sprinkler heads.
- Do not use fertilizer during dry conditions because it increases a lawn's thirst for water.
- Remove weeds to lessen competition for available water.
- Use mulch to keep moisture near roots of plants.



Mowing, Leaf Collection, Pet Waste, and Fertilizers

- Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off, are carried through the storm sewer system, and pollute waterbodies causing algae blooms. Do not over fertilize or use pesticides during a forecasted rain event. A fertilizer buffer is in place adjacent to all waterbodies.
- Yard clippings (grass, brush, etc.) and leaves can wash into storm drains and can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life. Bag yard clippings and leaves for disposal on your garbage day.
- Be sure to cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects to prevent erosion.
- Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into storm drains and eventually into local waterbodies.

Tree Trimming and Pruning

- In 2015, the City Commission adopted a tree ordinance (Article X of the City of Safety Harbor Comprehensive Zoning and Land Development Code) including:
 - a protected tree list.
 - minimum tree planting requirements.
 - regulations for tree removal and replacement.
 - pruning standards.
 - procedures for enforcement of the tree ordinance.

Contact the City's Arborist for additional tree information.
(727) 724-1555 ex.1303

