

# District Water Restrictions

## Modified Phase III Water Shortage Restrictions

Always refer to your city or county regulations first.

### Effective Date and Areas

- The District’s Modified Phase III water shortage restrictions are in effect June 5, 2017 through August 1, 2017, except where stricter measures have been imposed by local governments.
- These measures currently apply to all of Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Sarasota counties; the portions of Charlotte, Highlands, Lake, Levy, Marion, Polk, and Sumter, within the District’s jurisdiction; and Gasparilla Island (including the portion in Lee County) except as noted below.
- Some local governments, such as St. Petersburg, have local ordinances with special watering times.
- Some local governments, such as Sarasota County and Dunedin, have local ordinances with special one-day-per-week schedules.
- Ocala and most of unincorporated Marion County follows the St. Johns River Water Management District’s water restrictions; however, the City of Dunnellon and The Villages remain under the Southwest Florida Water Management District’s water restrictions.
- Unincorporated Levy County follows the Suwannee River Water Management District.

### Lawn Watering Schedule and Times

- Lawn watering is limited to a once-per-week schedule. Follow this schedule unless your city or county has a different once-per-week schedule or more stringent restrictions.

Addresses with “house numbers” ...	May only irrigate on ...
Ending in 0 or 1	Monday
Ending in 2 or 3	Tuesday
Ending in 4 or 5	Wednesday
Ending in 6 or 7	Thursday
Ending in 8 or 9	Friday
No address (community common areas, etc.)	Friday

- Unless your city or county already has stricter hours in effect, the allowable watering hours are before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m., regardless of property size.

### Landscape Watering Schedule and Times

- Handwatering and micro-irrigation of plants (other than lawns) can be done on any day at any time, if needed.

### New Lawns & Plants

- New lawns and plants 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 approximately every other day. Even-numbered addresses may water on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. Odd-numbered addresses may be watered on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. See also “Deed Restrictions” below.

## Reclaimed Water

- Reclaimed water remains subject to voluntary watering hours, unless blended with another water source or restricted by the local government or utility.

## Car Washing

- Car washing is limited to once-per-week on the designated watering day for the location.
- Commercial car washes, including mobile detailing businesses, may still operate on any day.
- Emergency and other first responder vehicles may still be washed on any day as needed.
- Fundraising events are prohibited unless they were scheduled prior to enactment of this order.

## Pressure Washing

- Pressure washing is allowed once a year and for necessary purposes, such as prior to painting or sealing, in order to maintain a paint or material warranty, to address a health or safety hazard and to comply with health laws. See also “Deed Restrictions” below.

## Fountains

- Fountains and other aesthetic water features may only operate eight hours per day. The regular hours of operation can be selected by the owner, but must be posted (see fact sheet for list of exemptions, such as water features that also provide aeration to koi ponds).

## Other Water Uses

- Sprinkler-like devices used on a lawn for recreational purposes shall be limited to the lawn and landscape restrictions.
- The lawn and landscape of agricultural operations, commercial establishments, golf courses, athletic fields, and industrial facilities are subject to the lawn and landscape restrictions listed in the Water Shortage Order.
- Additional restrictions apply to water uses specific to agricultural operations, commercial establishments, golf courses, athletic fields, and industrial facilities.

## Deed Restrictions & Community Standards Enforcement

- Homeowners associations and other entities must suspend any requirement to replace lawns, pressure wash, or engage in other activity which increases water use during this water shortage declaration.

## Water Utilities and Other Essential Services

- Water use necessary for fire suppression, maintaining safe drinking water quality, and other essential services is not restricted.
- Water utilities, in conjunction with local government agencies, must enforce restrictions and provide a monthly enforcement report (see new fact sheet for details).
- Water utilities must continue implementing customer messaging and other water conservation efforts (see new fact sheet for details).

## Report Watering Violations

Use this service to report a water use violation, or you may call us at 1-800-848-0499 (FL only) and leave a detailed message.

[Go to form](#)

## Contact Us

If you have additional water restriction questions, please contact us by sending an email to [Water.Restrictions@WaterMatters.org](mailto:Water.Restrictions@WaterMatters.org) (anytime) or by calling our water restrictions hotline at 1-800-848-0499 (FL only) or 1-800-836-0797 (FL only), ext. 2298 (during business hours).

## Mailing Address

Demand Management Program  
SWFWMD  
7601 U.S. Hwy. 301 North  
Tampa, FL 33637

A petition for variance from year-round water conservation measures or water shortage restrictions is available for qualified circumstances. To confirm that a variance is needed or for assistance when filling out an application form, check with our staff during normal business hours at 1-800-848-0499 (FL only) or email [Water.Variances@WaterMatters.org](mailto:Water.Variances@WaterMatters.org).

***Always refer to your city or county regulations first.***

*The District allows local governments to impose special watering schedules.*

For more detailed information, view these fact sheets.

[Agriculture](#)

[Athletic Fields](#)

[Cemetaries](#)

[Golf Courses](#)

[Grass Seed](#)

[Handwatering and Low-Volume Irrigation](#)

[Irrigation System Testing](#)

[Miscellaneous Water Uses](#)

[New Plant Establishment](#)

[Reclaimed Water](#)

[Smart Irrigation 494 Variance](#)

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