

# FYI

FACT SHEET

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

*This fact sheet is offered as a courtesy to assist in supporting greater understanding of water-related issues in the Southwest Florida Water Management District.*

## Modified Phase III (or Extreme) Water Shortage restrictions

### Watering Schedule

- Lawn and landscape watering remains limited to a once-per-week schedule.
- Always refer to your local government or utility restriction guidelines first.

### Watering Times

- Unless your city or county already has stricter hours in effect, properties under two acres in size may only water before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m.

### New Lawns

- New and replacement turfgrass (sod, plugs, seed, etc.) have a 30-day establishment period. On days 1-15, the new or replacement turfgrass may be watered any day of the week. On days 16-30, the turfgrass may be watered approximately every other day. Even-numbered addresses may only water on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Odd-numbered addresses may only water on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

### New Plants

- New plants (other than lawns) have a 60-day establishment period. On days 1-30, new plants may be watered any day of the week. During days 31-60, new plants may be watered approximately every other day. Even-numbered addresses may water on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Odd-numbered addresses may be watered on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday.

### Hand-watering and micro-irrigation

- Although handwatering and microirrigation of plants (other than lawns) can still be done on any day, it is limited to before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m.

### Fountains

- Aesthetic fountains and other water features may only operate four hours per day. The regular hours of operation can be selected by the owner, but must be posted.

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Southwest Florida  
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## **Enforcement**

- Water utilities and other local enforcement officials must increase their enforcement efforts, including responding to citizen complaints, monitoring water use through patrols or customer records, and issuing citations without having first issued a warning.

## **Other Water Utility Responsibilities**

- Utilities must contact and strive to significantly reduce water use among their high-use single-family customers (those using 15,000 gallons per month or more).
- Utilities must consider implementing a drought surcharge to address their high-use single-family customers
- Utilities must consider implementing a reclaimed water availability fee (to encourage customers with access to reclaimed water to use it for irrigation, instead of using drinking-quality water).
- Utilities must continue implementing Phase II water conservation efforts, including customer education about the current water shortage and ways to conserve water.
- Tampa Bay Water and the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority must each hold a drought summit, in conjunction with the utilities they serve, to explore additional conservation options.

## **Restaurants**

- Restaurants may only serve water upon request.

*As of March 6, 2009*