

PELICAN LANDING

Water Sustainability Plan

In our continuing efforts to conserve irrigation water reserves throughout the year, the Bayside and Baycreek Community Development Districts have implemented a Water Sustainability Plan. The state of Florida has established fines for disregard of their mandated **year-round** Phase II Water Restrictions limiting residential irrigation to two days a week. The simple truth is that watering just two days a week, evenly spaced is all our landscape requires to thrive, save for some specialty grasses and exotic ornamental plants.

ODD number addresses may water on Wednesday & Saturday 4am - 8am
EVEN number addresses may water on Thursday & Sunday 4am - 8am

If we must apply more water to our landscape it is most effective to add time to our two watering days, rather than add days to our watering schedule. This practice, over time, encourages a deep root system, enabling plants and grasses to thrive throughout the year, even in the dry season. Watering longer is more beneficial than watering more often. If our grass ever needs replacement, it is best to be installed in August or September, during the rainy season, when water reserves are at their highest.

We also must resist the urge to overwater our lawns when we see a little stress in our grass. Overwatering contributes to several negative realities:

1. Unhealthy Landscape. Grass will accept a great deal of water and appear to be healthy. Trouble is, the first drink it misses, it begins to stress. Too much water promotes a shallow root system, so that it *needs* water more frequently.

2. Water Deficiency. Every year, beginning in October, several months pass without any measurable rainfall. If every resident is overwatering, it won't be long before the lakes are empty.

3. Wasteful Spending. The District has aggressive conservation rates in place for irrigation water. If you feel like you're spending too much to irrigate your landscape, odds are, you're overwatering.

Working together to understand and engage in sustainable landscaping and irrigation practices, Pelican Landing will continue to be among the most beautiful and desirable communities of Southwest Florida.