

# **NOTICE TO INDUSTRY**

## **Irrigation System**

### **EFFECTIVE Saturday, June 1, 2024**

Beginning June 1, 2024, Ordinance 46-23 takes effect regarding irrigation systems, and amends the City of Cape Coral, Florida, Code of Ordinances, Chapter 19 "Water and Sewer Utilities," Article VII, "Water Management," by amending Section 19-90.6, "Completion of installation or substantial modification," Section 19-90.8, "Alternative Compliance," and Section 19-94, "Penalties," regarding irrigation systems and penalties for violations.

The growth of population has given rise to water conservation problems, wastage of sources of water supply, degradation of water quality and quantity in Cape Coral as well as the geographic region in which it is located. With this understanding, the South Florida Water Management District (SWFMD) has found concerns an issued an emergency water shortage order.

It is the intent and purpose to provide means to alleviate such condition by improving the long-term sustainability of the water resources, providing an ongoing water conservation program, increase water use efficiency, and prevent and curtail wasteful water use practices. The City has been a leader in water conservation efforts through the beneficial reuse of reclaimed water from its wastewater reclamation facilities augmented by the city's fresh water canal system for the purposes of outdoor water uses. In a continuing effort to conserve the City's water resources, in the best interests of its citizens, an Emergency Water Conservation Plan has been enacted to a line with SWFMD's order. The location of the current restrictions start within the North East section of Cape Coral between Gator Slough Canal to the North, N.E. Pine Island Rd to the South, Nelson Rd N to the West, and N.E 24<sup>th</sup> Ave to the East and will be in place until further notice. Please see attached Map.

All new and modified irrigation systems shall be designed to achieve a minimum of 70% efficiency by providing sprinkler head placement and nozzle selection that are within manufacturers specifications. Irrigation systems shall be designed to comply with F.S. Tit. XXVIII, Ch. 373, § 228, and the standards adopted by the City and reference the Florida Building Code, Plumbing Volume, Appendix F.

Design drawings shall be provided for the installation of irrigation systems prior to start of construction of the irrigation system. Design drawings shall be prepared by a licensed professional engineer, licensed plumbing/irrigation contractor or licensed landscape architect. Design drawings for single-family homes may be neatly hand-drawn and to scale. A design drawing shall be required for irrigation systems installed on non-residential, multi-family residential, and residential developments or buildings, and shall contain the following information, in addition to the minimum design criteria per Appendix F, of the Florida Building Code, Plumbing.

- (a) Location, type and size of all components including sprinklers, microirrigation, main and lateral piping, master valves, valves, moisture sensors, rain sensors, controllers, pump start relays, backflow prevention devices, pumps, wells, etc.
- (b) The flow rate, application rate (inches per hour), and the manufacturer's specifications for operating pressure for the sprinklers and micro-irrigation within each zone.
- (c) The name, address, phone, email, professional license or certification number of the installation contractor and date of installation.
- (d) Design drawings for non-residential and multi-family residential buildings shall also include pump station size, pump station location, design operating pressure per manufacturer's specifications, and flow rate per zone, precipitation rate per zone, locations of pipe, controllers, valves, sprinklers, sleeves, gate valves, sensors, etc.

For purposes of determining the 70% efficiency standard, the City Building Department will require an **EPA WaterSense ceritified** smart controller/timer and soil moisture sensors. Alternative components and designs that meet the 70% efficiency standard may be approved by the Development Services Director, or designee.

Property owners who install a smart irrigation system verified by the City Building Department, which meets the >70% water conservation efficiency standard and has a EPA WaterSense ceritified smart controller/timer and soil moisture sensors installed, shall receive a \$500 cash rebate from the City.

A property owner or licensed irrigation contractor who installs an irrigation system shall conduct final testing and adjustments to achieve design specifications prior to completion of the system. A property owner or licensed irrigation contractor who installs or performs work on an automatic irrigation system shall test for the correct operation of each technology that inhibits or interrupts operation of the system during periods of sufficient moisture. If such devices or switches are not installed in the system or are not in proper operating condition, the property owner or licensed irrigation contractor shall install new ones or repair the existing ones and confirm that each device or switch is in proper operating condition before completing other work on the system.

Please refer to Appendix F, Florida Building Code, Plumbing for the proper installation of the proposed irrigation system along with the Testing & Inspections.

The Testing & Inspections shall occur in 2 phases at a minimum.

- Plumbing Underground / Rough
- Plumbing Final

Violation of any provision of Code of Ordinances, Chapter 19 within a consecutive 12-month period shall result in the following penalties:

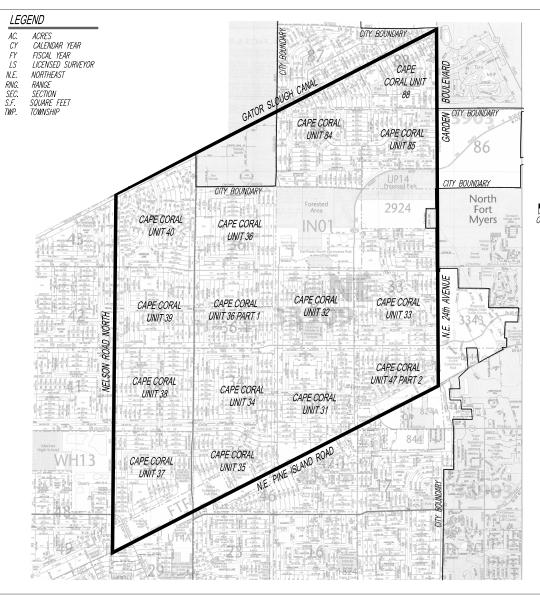
(a) First violation: no fine.

(b) Second violation: \$200 fine.

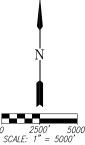
(c) Third violation: \$350 fine.

(d) Fourth and subsequent violations: \$500 fine. An irrigation dual water customer may also be disconnected and subject to a reconnection fee of \$80. Reconnection of service shall be at the sole discretion of the City Manager or his or her designee.

The City will host a public informational session on the revised irrigation review and inspection standards on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in City of Cape Coral Council Chambers.



# EXHIBIT 1



### DESCRIPTION

LANDS WITHIN THE CITY OF CAPE CORAL, BOUNDED ON THE WEST BY NELSON ROAD NORTH; ON THE NORTH BY GATOR SLOUGH CANAL; ON THE EAST BY GARDEN BOULEVARD AND N.E. 24th AVENUE; AND ON THE SOUTH BY PINE ISLAND ROAD. SAID LANDS INCLUDE ALL OF THE PLATTED CAPE CORAL UNITS 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 36 PART 1, 37, 38, 39, 40, 47 PART 2, 84, 85, AND 88; DEL PRADO NORTH COMMERCE PARK, AND UN-PLATTED LANDS.

#### SURVEYORS NOTES:

- 1) THIS IS AN EXHIBIT, THE PURPOSE OF THIS EXHIBIT IS TO DEPICT THE VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF THE PROPERTIES SHOWN HEREON.
- 2) THIS IS NOT A SURVEY.
- 3) APPROXIMATE TOTAL AREA = 11,643 ACRES +/-

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