



Stone Creek Water Conservation Group

November, 2024

New Water Efficiency Team (WET) needs volunteers

Our Water Conservation Group has been working on a plan to speed up the repairs needed when an irrigation leak or break occurs in our community's many common areas. This plan of establishing a Water Efficiency Team was recently approved by the SC Board of Directors as a new committee.

We will need some people to be WET Liaisons. A WET liaison is a person for residents to contact when they have seen a problem with irrigation in amenity areas, common areas or managed homes areas, where the HOA pays the water bills. The liaison will then log into the HOA service ticketing system to create a ticket so it can be repaired in a timely manner, saving water and money.

WET will be beneficial for many reasons: most of the water waste in Stone Creek comes from landscape irrigation line and sprinkler head breaks, poorly adjusted sprinkler heads, watering in the rain, etc.; and the HOA office (FS Residential) and the landscape contractor (BrightView) are only on site during normal business hours, but common area irrigation run times are generally off hours. Thus, the residents are more likely to notice a problem and could report it in a much timelier manner than the landscape contractor's routine system checks.

Can we count on you to volunteer and help make a difference in this community? Please send an email to STONECREEKWATERGROUP@gmail.com for more information and/or to put your name on the volunteer list. Put "WET" in Subject.

Seminar: Caring for Your Lawn, Palms, and Preparing Your Landscaping for Winter Wednesday, December 18 1 PM Rooms 1 & 2

Amanda Marek, UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Florida-Friendly Landscaping Agent, will review with residents the best practices for taking care of your lawn and palm trees and recognizing a new disease on palms. She will give you tips on winterizing your Florida landscaping and how and what to cover for freezing periods.



Check Your Irrigation Timer When You 'Fall Back' to Standard Time



Your Water Conservation Group is reminding residents to check the timers on their irrigation system controllers this weekend, which is the end of daylight-saving time (Sunday, Nov. 3). The time change is also a good opportunity to make sure irrigation system timers are set correctly to ensure that the systems operate consistently with year-round water conservation measures. We should now change to watering once a week. If you have difficulty with changing your controller, look at our Google Drive Information listed below and watch one of the You-Tube videos on your

Hunter controller for how to make changes. If that doesn't help, contact us at stonecreekwatergroup@gmail.com.

Water Restrictions as mandated by Marion County

Watering Schedule for November 3, 2024, through March 9, 2025

Irrigation is allowed only before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

Odd numbered address - Saturdays

Even numbered address – Sundays

Why is watering restricted to one day a week in the winter?

Based on scientific analysis from the University of Florida IFAS program, healthy Florida lawns require no more than two days per week of water during the hot, dry season — less during rainy periods — and no more than one day a week during cooler weather. Additional irrigation is unnecessary and wasteful. During the months of December, January and February, turf grass usually goes dormant, so watering every other week will suffice. Why is there a limit? Freshwater is a finite resource in Florida, and landscape irrigation can account for more than 50 percent of total water use at residential locations.

See the Bay Laurel Water Utility website <https://www.blccdd.com/restrictions.html> for more details and information about water-saving incentives they offer for residents.

Google Drive Information

For information on everything water related, visit our Google Drive at: tinyurl.com/scwatergroup
In our Drive, you will find the following links and much more. But right now, if you want help with your controller, select your controller below and click on the highlighted link:



For programming your
Hunter X-Core

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hs7VVUNAJgs>

Hunter Pro-C

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pYh-IWXLLRU&t=59s>



What's On Your Mind?

The SCWCG is open to suggestions, issues or concerns you may have regarding water usage at Stone Creek. You can contact us at: stonecreekwatergroup@gmail.com.

Our core group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.: feel free to join us and see if you would be interested in participating. We normally meet in Room 2 of the Reunion Center, but on Nov. 5, we will meet in the Stonewater Club.