

Lawn Watering Schedule FAQs

Q. Will customers be assessed fines/penalties if they don't follow the schedule?

A. This year ACWWA will not impose fines or penalties specifically regarding the lawn watering schedule. In future years or if conditions change, this policy could be modified.

Q. If there is no enforcement, why is ACWWA bothering with the schedule?

A. The reasons for implementing the Lawn Watering Schedule in 2009 are several:

- a) The Lawn Watering Schedule will help regulate water use by our customers. During the irrigation season, outdoor watering dominates water usage. A lawn watering schedule will help smooth the demand patterns (when the water is used during the week). ACWWA considered imposing penalties/fines for non-compliance, but due to the economic conditions and other factors, ACWWA decided against implementing these enforcement methods this year.
- b) Lawn Watering Schedules will likely be a critical component of ACWWA's forthcoming Water Conservation Program. This program is in the development phase and will be rolled out in 2010. Getting our customers acquainted with the concept of schedules this year is important.
- c) ACWWA wants its customers to understand that by following the schedule, they contribute to ACWWA's system being run most efficiently. This will lead to better service and less upward pressure on rates in the future.

Q. I've heard watering schedules don't actually save any water.

A. Water Schedules by themselves don't necessarily save water, but they can play a part in water conservation. The purpose of their use for ACWWA customers is more for regulating water use. If every customer watered on the same day at the same time, that would cause peaks in demand, which eventually would cause ACWWA to plan for and build higher capacity facilities to handle the demand. By using Water Schedules, ACWWA regulate, thus saving in potential construction/operation costs.

Q. What is ACWWA doing about Water Conservation?

A. ACWWA has been proactive in its water conservation efforts but is looking to do more! ACWWA, in conjunction with various other agencies, has been developing efforts to get water conservation information and education out to our children and in a regional effort, getting a consistent message out to everyone that water conservation is very important. Also, in 2006, ACWWA developed a Water Conservation Plan

approved by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). Only about 25% of water providers in Colorado have an approved plan with the State. And in 2009, ACWWA is developing a Water Conservation Program that puts many of the components identified in the CWCB Water Conservation Plan into action. This also adds additional components with the intent to reduce overall water usage in our service area. This is an exciting project that you will be hearing more about in the near future.

Q. Is ACWWA offering any rebates this year?

A. We are not, but ACWWA will be evaluating a rebate program for next year.

Q. My irrigation clock can't handle an "every 3rd day" irrigation schedule. What should I do?

A. Most irrigation clocks have the capabilities to handle an "every 3rd day" watering schedule. However, there are some older clocks that do not. As ACWWA develops its Water Conservation Program, it will take these capabilities into account.

Q. My neighbor is watering in the middle of the day, is that against the rules?

A. Currently, there are no restrictions regarding time of use, however, this is being reviewed as part of our Water Conservation Program. Watering in the heat of the day is less efficient than in evenings or during the night, when temperatures are cooler and the winds have died down.

Q. I don't use ACWWA water for my irrigation needs, I have a well. Will the "Water Police" issue me a warning or fine?

B. ACWWA will not impose fines or penalties to those users who irrigate from their private well. ACWWA strongly encourages all water users to conserve water regardless of where the water originates from.