



PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

PLANNING DIVISION

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Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELo) PRESCRIPTIVE COMPLIANCE APPENDIX D CHECKLIST

(Can only be used when aggregate landscape areas are 2,500 square feet or less)

Please be advised that you are required to comply with the California Code of Regulations Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 2.7, Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELo). This checklist is a guide and is not intended as a substitute for the regulations. The Planning and Building Department will review and comment on your submittal documents for compliance with this State mandated regulation.

	Landscape Documentation Package Requirements	
Landscape Parameter	Design Measures (Title 23, Chapter 2.7, Appendix D)	Location on Plans
Compost	Incorporate compost at a rate of at least four cubic yards per 1,000 square feet to a depth of six inches into landscape area (unless contra-indicated by a soil test). Soils with greater than 6% organic matter in the top six inches of soil are exempt from adding compost and tilling. (§492.c.1)	
Plant Water Use	For residential landscapes, install climate adapted plants that require occasional, little, or no summer water (average WUCOLS plant factor 0.3) for 75% of the landscape area excluding areas permanently and solely dedicated to edible plants, and areas using recycled water. (§492.c.3.A)	
	For non-residential landscapes, install climate adapted plants that require occasional, little, or no summer water (average WUCOLS plant factor 0.3) for 100% of the landscape area excluding areas permanently and solely dedicated to edible plants, and areas using recycled water. (§492.c.3.B)	
Mulch	A minimum three-inch (3") layer of mulch shall be applied on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas except in turfgrass areas, creeping or rooting groundcovers, or direct seeding applications where mulch is contraindicated. (§492.c.4)	
Turfgrass	Turfgrass shall not exceed 25% of the landscape area in residential areas, and there shall be no turfgrass in non-residential areas. (§492.c.3.C.1 and §492.c.3.C.2)	
	Turfgrass shall not be planted on sloped areas which exceed a slope of one foot vertical elevation change for every four feet of horizontal length. (§492.c.3.C.3)	
	Turfgrass is prohibited in parkways less than 10 feet wide unless the parkway is adjacent to a parking strip and used to enter and exit vehicles. Any turfgrass in parkways must be irrigated by subsurface irrigation or by other technology that creates no water waste, overspray or runoff. (§492.c.3.C)	
Irrigation System	For non-residential projects with landscape areas of 1,000 sq. ft. or more, a dedicated irrigation meter or private submeter(s) to measure landscape water use shall be installed. (§492.c.2.A)	
	Automatic irrigation controllers are required and must use either evapotranspiration (weather based) or soil moisture (sensor-based) data and utilize a rain sensor. (§492.c.2.B)	
	Irrigation controllers shall use non-volatile memory. (§492.c.2.C)	
	Pressure regulating devices, which may include pressure boosters or reducers, shall be installed on the irrigation system to ensure the dynamic pressure of the system is within the manufacturer's recommended pressure range. (§492.c.2.D)	
	Manual shut-off valves (such as a gate valve, ball valve, or butterfly valve) shall be installed as close as possible to the point of connection of the water supply. (§492.c.2.E)	

	All irrigation emission devices must meet the requirements set by ANSI in the 2020 ASABE/ICC 802 Landscape Irrigation Sprinkler and Emitter Standard. All sprinkler heads installed in the landscape must document a low-quarter distribution uniformity of 0.65 or higher using the protocol defined in 2020 ASABE/ICC 802 Standard. (§492.c.2.F)	
	Non-rotating spray sprinkler bodies are required to meet the standards described in the California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Division 4, Chapter 4, Section 1605.3(x). (§492.c.2.G)	
	Landscape areas less than 10 feet in width in any direction shall be irrigated with subsurface irrigation or other means that produces no water waste, runoff or overspray. (§492.c.2.H)	
Commercial Inspection	The designer of record shall make plants identifiable to an inspector during final inspection. Plans must be identifiable by botanical name, common name or cultivar as specified in Section 53481 of the Food and Agricultural Code.	
	At the time of final inspection, the permit applicant must provide the owner of the property and the local agency with a Certificate of Completion package pursuant to §494(a).	

Please note: At the time of final inspection, the permit applicant must provide the owner of the property with a Certificate of Completion, Certificate of Installation, irrigation schedule and a schedule of landscape and irrigation maintenance. (Title 23, Chapter 2.7, Appendix D (c)).

Signature

I agree to comply with the requirements of the prescriptive compliance option to the MWELO.

Signature of property owner or authorized representative

Date