

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND SUMMARY
OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO ATTACHMENT A
“LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM DESIGN CRITERIA”
OF ORDINANCE 1302.1

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Coachella Valley Water District at its meeting on November 24, 2009, at 9:00 a.m., at the meeting place of the Board of Directors, Dr. Forbes Auditorium, 85-995 Avenue 52, Coachella, California, will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed adoption of changes to Attachment A “Landscape and Irrigation System Design Criteria” of Ordinance No. 1302.1, Ordinance of the Coachella Valley Water District Establishing Landscape and Irrigation System Design Criteria.

For additional information, please call Dave Koller, Conservation Coordinator, at (760) 398-2651, extension 3518. Below is a summary of the proposed changes to Ordinance No. 1302.1. A certified copy of the full text is available at the District office 85-995 Avenue 52, Coachella California.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO ATTACHMENT A, LANDSCAPE AND
IRRIGATION SYSTEM DESIGN CRITERIA

1. The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 1881, Laird) requires cities and counties, including charter cities and counties, to adopt landscape water conservation ordinances by January 1, 2010. In accordance with the law, the Department of Water Resources prepared an updated Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWLEO). All cities and counties have until January 1, 2010 to adopt their own ordinances at least as water conserving as the MWLEO. If a local agency has not adopted its own ordinance by January 1, 2010, then the updated MWLEO will apply within the jurisdiction of that local agency. The changes contained in this revision of the Coachella Valley Water District’s Attachment A “Landscape and Irrigation System Design Criteria” of Ordinance 1302.1 bring it into full compliance with the MWLEO.
2. Applies to the following landscape projects:
 - a. New construction and rehabilitated landscapes for public agency projects and private development projects requiring a building or landscape permit, plan check or design review;
 - b. New construction and rehabilitated landscapes which are developer-installed in single-family and multi-family projects requiring a building or landscape permit, plan check or design review;

- c. New construction and rehabilitated landscapes which are homeowner-provided and/or homeowner-hired in single family and multi-family residential projects with a total project landscape area equal to or greater than 5,000 square feet requiring a building or landscape permit, plan check or design review.
3. Addresses existing landscapes greater than one acre in size by providing that the District will administer programs that may include, but not be limited to, irrigation water analysis, irrigation surveys and irrigation audits that verify landscape water use does not exceed the Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA) for existing landscapes. The Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA) for existing landscapes shall be calculated as: $MAWA = (.70) (ET_o) (LA) (.62/748)$ unless landscape plans were submitted and approved under a more water conserving ordinance.
4. Adds definition of "District:" "Coachella Valley Water District."
5. Adds definition of "Local Agency:" "A city, county, or water purveyor responsible for adopting and implementing the ordinance. The local agency is also responsible for enforcement of the ordinance, including, but not limited to, approval of a design review, permit, plan check, or inspection of a project."
6. Adds definition of "Finished Grade:" "Grade height after surface mulch covering has been installed."
7. Adds definition of "Natural Grade:" "Grade height of native soil before application of surface mulch."
8. Eliminates the requirement for a "Water Conservation Concept Statement." In accordance with the MWELO adds the requirement for a Landscape Documentation Package containing pertinent information about the project.
9. Adds a requirement for a "Water Efficient Landscape Worksheet" containing a "Hydrozone Information Table."
10. Revises requirements for manual shut-off valves, master valves, and high flow valves.
11. Reduces the meter sizing requirements for landscape purposes from 40 gallons per minute per planted acre to 33 gallons per minute per planted acre.
12. Revises the requirements for landscape audits, irrigation surveys, and irrigation water use surveys on new and rehabilitated landscapes to the following:

- a. All landscape irrigation audits shall be conducted by a certified landscape irrigation auditor;
 - b. The project applicant shall submit an irrigation audit report with the Certificate of Completion to the local agency that may include, but not be limited to, inspection, system tune-up, system test with distribution uniformity, reporting overspray or run-off that causes overland flow, and preparation of an irrigation schedule;
 - c. The District will administer programs that may include, but not be limited to, irrigation water use analysis, irrigation audits and irrigation surveys for compliance with the Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA).
13. The owner of the landscaped area shall bear the cost of the audit.
14. Adds a requirement for a Certificate of Completion.

Dated: November 9, 2009.

By: _____
Julia Fernandez, Board Secretary
Coachella Valley Water District