



Town of Portola Valley Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance

TABLE 1: Landscape Efficiency Standards

Parameter	Tier 1	Tier 2
Applicability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New construction with landscaped area between 1,000 and 2,500 sq. ft., if permit or new or expanded water service required • Rehabilitated landscaped area between 1,000 and 2,500 sq. ft., if permit or new or expanded water service required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New construction with landscaped area greater than 2,500 sq. ft., if permit or new or expanded water service required • Rehabilitated landscaped area greater than 2,500 sq. ft., if permit or new or expanded water service required
Turf Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 25% of landscaped area or no more than 1,000 sq. ft. • Water Budget (optional) • Turf areas must be greater than 8 feet wide • No turf on slopes greater than 25% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 25% of landscaped area or no more than 1,000 sq. ft. • Water Budget (optional) • Turf areas must be greater than 8 feet wide • No turf on slopes greater than 25%
Non-Turf Landscaped Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of non-turf area must be native or low water use • Water Budget (optional) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of non-turf area must be native or low water use • Water Budget (optional)
Hydrozones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants must be grouped in hydrozones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants must be grouped in hydrozones
Mulch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 2 inches of mulch required on all exposed soil surfaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 2 inches of mulch required on all exposed soil surfaces
Overall Irrigation Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No overspray or runoff • 70% Eto • SLAs allowed 100% Eto 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No overspray or runoff • 70% Eto • SLAs allowed 100% Eto
Irrigation Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation system efficiency $\geq 70\%$ • Moisture sensor and/or rain sensor shutoffs • Sprayheads not allowed in areas less than 8 ft wide • -- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation system efficiency $\geq 70\%$ • Moisture sensor and/or rain sensor shutoffs • Sprayheads not allowed in areas less than 8 ft wide • Automatic, self-adjusting irrigation controllers
Irrigation Times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 PM to 10 AM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 PM to 10 AM
Metering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate meter recommended for landscaped areas greater than 2,500 sq. ft. • Separate meter required for landscaped areas greater than 5,000 sq. ft.
Swimming Pools and Spas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covers recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covers recommended

TABLE 1: Continued

Parameter	Tier 1	Tier 2
Water Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recirculating • Surface area considered high water use plant • Less than 10% of landscaped area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recirculating • Surface area considered high water use plant • Less than 10% of landscaped area
Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checklist • Landscape and Irrigation Design Plan • Water Budget (optional) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checklist • Landscape and Irrigation Design Plan prepared by Certified or Authorized Professional • Water Budget (optional) prepared by Certified or Authorized Professional
Audits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-installation audit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-installation audit conducted by Certified or Authorized Professional

The water budget parameters that are addressed in the Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance and the values are summarized below in Table 2.

TABLE 2: Water Budget Parameters and Values

Parameter	Proposed Value
Landscape Coefficient	
High Water Use Plants	0.7 - 1.0
Medium Water Use Plants	0.4 - 0.6
Low Water Use Plants	0.0 - 0.3
Irrigation System Efficiency	≥ 70%
Effective Precipitation	25% of annual precipitation
Evapotranspiration Adjustment Factor	0.7 1.0 for SLAs