



MODEL WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS (1.1)

[Effective December 1, 2015]

The California Water Commission approved the revised Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance ([MWELO](#)) on July 15, 2015 to be consistent with Executive Order No. B-29-15.

INSTRUCTIONS: Designer to complete **PART A**, then **PART B** and provide a landscape plan (if applicable), and incorporate in its entirety into the grading, landscape, and/or building plan.

PART A: PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT TYPE	TOTAL LANDSCAPE AREA
<input type="checkbox"/> RESIDENTIAL <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE RETROFIT	Sq. Ft.

PROJECT CATEGORY (Check one)

- A. This is a new development or rehabilitated landscape project with an aggregate landscape area equal to or greater than 500 and less than 2,500 square feet per individual property. (§490.1(a)(1)&(c))
- B. This project includes a new or rehabilitated landscape with an aggregate landscape area equal to or greater than 2,500 square feet. (§490.1(a)(1)&(a)(2))
- C. This project includes new or rehabilitated landscape with an aggregate landscape area of less than 2,500 square feet per individual property and will be irrigated entirely with treated or untreated graywater or rainwater captured on site. (§490.1(d))
- D. This project is exempt from the MWELO because:
 - It is a registered local, state or federal historic site;
 - It is an ecological restoration project that does not require a permanent irrigation system;
 - It consists of existing plant collections, as part of botanical gardens and arboretums open to the public; or
 - It does not include any landscaping, or has less than 500 square feet of landscape areas.

COMPLIANCE APPROACH (Check one option that will be used)

- Prescriptive Compliance option will be used (Complete Part B)
 - May be used only for projects that meet the requirements of Category A
- Abbreviated Prescriptive Compliance option will be used (Complete Part B, Sections 1, 5 & 6)
 - May be used only for projects that meet the requirements of Category C
- Compliance with Landscape Documentation Package option will be used
 - May be used for any project
 - Shall be used for all projects not meeting the criteria of Project Categories A and C
 - **This option requires a landscape plan, plan review and [permit per City of Irvine Landscape Manual](#)**

MWELO REQUIREMENTS (1.1)

SECTION 2 - SITE PREPARATION

Compost is incorporated at a rate of at least four cubic yards per 1,000 square feet to a depth of six inches into landscape area, or as specified in an agronomic soils test recommendations.

SECTION 3 - PLANT SELECTION (Check applicable notes; complete [Plant Selection Table](#) and add to the landscape plan)

- For residential areas, install climate adapted plants that require occasional, little or no summer water (average WUCOLS plant factor 0.3) for 75% of the plant area excluding edibles and areas using recycled water.
- For non-residential areas, install climate adapted plants that require occasional, little or no summer water (average WUCOLS plant factor 0.3) for 100% of the plant area excluding edibles and areas using recycled water.
- Provide a minimum three inch (3") layer of mulch on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas except in turf areas, creeping or rooting groundcovers, or direct seeding applications where mulch is contraindicated.

SECTION 4 - TURF SPECIFICATIONS (Complete and check applicable notes)

- Residential Site - Turf area is _____ square feet, or _____ % of overall landscape area (not to exceed 25% of the overall landscape area).
- Non-residential Site - Turf area is not proposed (turf area is not allowed unless recycled water is used).
- Turf is not to be installed on sloped areas which exceed a slope of 1 foot vertical elevation change for every 4 feet of horizontal length.
- Turf is not proposed in parkways less than 10 feet wide.
- Turf is proposed in the parkway adjacent to a parking strip and used to enter and exit vehicles.
Turf in parkways is irrigated by subsurface irrigation or by other technology that creates no overspray or runoff.

SECTION 5 - IRRIGATION SPECIFICATIONS

- Automatic irrigation controllers are required and must use evapotranspiration or soil moisture sensor data.
- Irrigation controllers shall be of a type which does not lose programming date in the event the primary power source is interrupted.
- Pressure regulators shall be installed on the irrigation system to ensure the dynamic pressure of the system is within the manufacturers recommended pressure range.
- 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.
- All irrigation emission devices must meet the requirements set in the ANSI standard, ASABE/ICC 802-2014. "Landscape Irrigation Sprinkler and Emitter Standard," All sprinkler heads installed in the landscape must document a distribution uniformity low quarter of 0.65 or higher using the protocol defined in ASABE/ICC 802-2014.

SECTION 6 - CERTIFICATION

At the time of final inspection, the permit applicant must provide a [Certificate of Compliance](#) to the City inspector, and provide the owner of the property with a certificate of completion, certificate of installation, irrigation schedule and a schedule of landscape and irrigation maintenance.