



► ***BMP 1 Assure Overall Quality of the Irrigation System***

The purpose of an irrigation system is to provide supplemental water when rainfall is not sufficient to maintain the turf and landscape for its intended purpose. Sound water delivery and management practices are necessary to distribute water to adequately maintain plant health while protecting water resources and the environment. Assuring the overall quality of the system requires attention to system design, installation, maintenance and management, in particular:

- The irrigation system shall be designed to be efficient and to uniformly distribute the water.
- The irrigation system shall be installed according to the design specifications.
- The irrigation system shall be regularly maintained to preserve the integrity of the design and to sustain efficient operation.
- The irrigation schedule shall be managed to maintain a healthy and functional landscape with the minimum required amount of water.

► ***BMP 2 Design the Irrigation System for the Efficient and Uniform Distribution of Water***

The irrigation system shall be designed to be efficient and to uniformly distribute water. Specific criteria that shall be considered in the design include soil type, slope, root depth, plant materials, microclimates, weather conditions and water source (e.g., quantity, quality and pressure). To conserve and protect water resources, the irrigation designer shall select appropriate equipment components that meet state and local code requirements and site requirements.

► ***BMP 3 Install the Irrigation System to Meet the Design Criteria***

The irrigation system shall be installed according to the irrigation design specifications. To conserve and protect water resources, the installed components shall meet the irrigation design specifications, manufacturer's specifications, and state and local code requirements. The installation shall result in an efficient and uniform distribution of water. The irrigation contractor or installer shall be licensed and/or certified where applicable, and insured.

► ***BMP 4 Maintain the Irrigation System for Optimum Performance***

The irrigation system shall be regularly serviced to maintain the performance of the system as designed. To conserve and protect water resources and the environment, the serviced components shall meet the irrigation design specifications, manufacturer's specifications, and state and local code requirements. The maintenance shall result in sustaining an efficient and uniform distribution of water. The maintenance contractor, owner, manager, or irrigation contractor shall be licensed and/or certified where applicable, and insured.

► ***BMP 5 Manage the Irrigation System to Respond to the Changing Requirement for Water in the Landscape***

To conserve and protect water resources and the environment, the irrigation schedule shall be changed as required to provide supplemental water to maintain a functional, healthy turf and landscape with the minimum required amount of water.

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