

Checklist for a Water-Efficient System

Client name: _____ Professional Name: _____

The following are components or practices I used in your irrigation system for optimal water efficiency:

Irrigation System/Component

- Installed a rain sensor shut-off device to prevent watering during and after rain.
- Installed a smart technology such as a weather-based irrigation controller or soil moisture sensor.
- Installed drip or low volume irrigation emitters.
- Ensured overlapping, head to head coverage for efficient and uniform water distribution.
- Ensured your standard controller has the following capabilities:
 - Add zones/wiring
 - Multiple watering cycles and programs
 - Seasonal adjustments
 - Interval watering days
- Ensured that the application rates are adjusted to avoid runoff.
- Planed zones according to plant type and their water needs. For example, turf areas are on a separate zone from flower or shrub beds and watered accordingly.
- Installed your irrigation system to meet the design criteria using the direct knowledge of the site conditions. For example, installed sprinkler heads according to the plant type and size and shape of the landscape.
- Installed low angle nozzles in the windy areas to lessen water loss.
- Adjusted sprinkler heads as needed to avoid overspray.
- Used the proper pipe sizing to ensure uniform operating pressure and even water application.

- Installed check valves to prevent low head drainage in sloped areas.
- Installed a flow sensor to automatically shut off a system in the event of a break.
- Ensured correct pressure and flow rates are applied to avoid misting or fogging, using pressure regulating devices when applicable.

Practices

- Developed written operation and maintenance instructions for you including:
 - Watering schedule
 - Seasonal adjustments
 - Winterizing
 - Spring reactivation
- Set the schedule to irrigate using short cycles to allow water to soak in, to avoid runoff.
- Used matched precipitation nozzling.
- Performed a water audit.

Remember that it is important to routinely check for damaged sprinkler heads, inadequate coverage, clogged nozzles, and leaks. Regularly scheduled assessments can help you do this. Your next assessment should take place on_____.