

CHAPTER 1 - CONSERVATION AND EFFICIENCY

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601.04 WATER EFFICIENT IRRIGATION



INTENT

To avoid or reduce the use of potable water for landscape irrigation by either the use of non-potable water or by efficient means of irrigation.

REQUIREMENT

For all new buildings, 100% water requirement for the total exterior landscaping must be irrigated using non-potable water or by use of drip or subsoil water delivery systems. The landscaping shall also include the area for green roofs.

All irrigation systems must incorporate backflow prevention devices, if at any point they get connected to a potable water supply. The backflow prevention devices must be checked in line with the manufacturer's recommended practice.

SIGNIFICANCE

Responsible use of water resources is a key element of sustainable development and it is important to address the major water consuming activities. Landscape irrigation practices consume large quantities of potable water in hot climatic zones. Efficient landscape design that incorporates local and adaptive plants and water efficient irrigation systems not only reduce the water usage but also effectively integrates the building with its natural surroundings.

Drip irrigation or subsoil water delivery systems effectively reduce the irrigation water use. Condensate water and treated sewage water or greywater are some of the non-potable water sources that can be used for irrigation.

Significant water savings can be achieved by either using non-potable water or by using efficient means of irrigation. A reduction in the amount of potable water for landscape irrigation will result directly result in cost savings.

APPLICABILITY

This regulation is applicable to all building types. Refer to Table 101.07(1) in Section One - Administration for detailed applicability levels.