

# Irrigation Retrofit Program

## Steps to Improving sprinkler system efficiency

Miami-Dade County Irrigation Retrofit Program provides rebates for improving urban landscape irrigation systems. Homeowners Associations can **receive up to \$400** for upgrading their irrigation system. In order to receive reimbursement, sign up for a **free** irrigation assessment from the Urban Conservation Unit before making any changes to your system. To sign up for the program and for a list of irrigation system retrofits that qualify for rebates contact the Extension Service.

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Qualified retrofit	Max rebate
Purchase and installation of a rain sensor.	\$120
Purchase and installation of a soil moisture sensor or ET controller (not both).	\$400
Removal of irrigation in areas where plants do not require irrigation water (low water demand plants that have already been established).	\$200
Installation of plants that are drought tolerant combined with removal of irrigation. Plants must be listed in publication titled "Low Maintenance Landscape Plants for South Florida" available at: <a href="http://miami-dade.ifas.ufl.edu">http://miami-dade.ifas.ufl.edu</a>	\$400
Redesign of irrigation system to separate zones based on plant water demand (example: grass should be on a separate zone from shrubs).	\$400
Modification and installation of sprinklers to provide matched precipitation rate throughout a zone.	\$200
Installation of low volume irrigation in landscape bed zones.	\$400
Replacement of Indexing valve with electric valves	\$400

### Step 1. Replace the indexing valve.

- The indexing valve should be replaced with electric solenoid valves. These will give you control over how long each individual irrigation zone will run.

Replace  
This



INEFFICIENT Indexing Valve

With  
These



EFFICIENT Electric Valves

### Step 2. Add one of these irrigation control devices

- All of the devices below can prevent irrigation when plants already have sufficient water, reducing outdoor water use by 15% to 60%.



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## Step 3. Remove irrigation

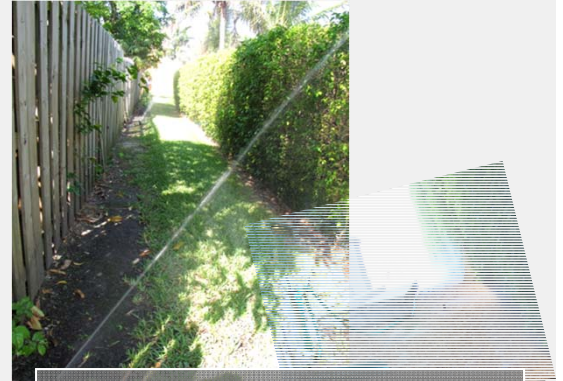
- ❑ Many shrubs and trees in the landscape can thrive with only rainfall! You can get reimbursed for the cost of removing sprinklers in areas that do not require supplemental irrigation. **Consider removing sprinklers when you have.....**



Small spaces surrounded by pavement



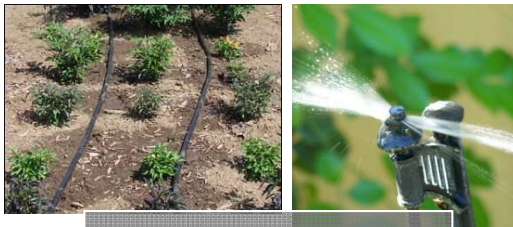
Areas with low maintenance plants



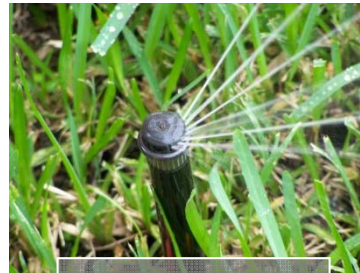
Areas that are rarely seen, used for storage or as walkways

## Step 4. Use low-volume irrigation

- ❑ Micro-irrigation is the most efficient type of sprinkler and includes drip and micro sprays. These are ideal for vegetable gardens, shrubs and trees. For grass areas consider using rotary nozzles which are more efficient than sprays, but cover the same size area.



Micro-irrigation



Rotary

## Step 5. Redesign of irrigation system to separate zones based on plant water demand.

- ❑ All plants do not need the same amount of water . For example grass should be irrigated separately from any other plant in the landscape. Most shrubs and trees will require very little water during the year. **Consider removing irrigation from low-maintenance areas that can survive on rain.**



All of these...

...use less than this

