

FEB 22 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES AND OTHER LARGE WATER
USERS TO CONSERVE OUTDOOR LANDSCAPE WATER USE AND TO ADOPT
THE LANDSCAPE INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF HAWAII'S IRRIGATION WATER
CONSERVATION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO CONSERVE OUTDOOR
LANDSCAPE WATER USE.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's landscape industry is one of the fastest
2 growing and largest segments of the green industry, generating
3 an economic value of over \$520,000,000 annually and full-time
4 employment of over eleven thousand landscape professionals; and
5

6 WHEREAS, according to the United States Environmental
7 Protection Agency, landscape irrigation accounts for fifty
8 percent or more of the average household's outdoor water usage;
9 and
10

11 WHEREAS, poorly maintained or installed irrigation can
12 waste up to fifty percent of water due to inefficient irrigation
13 practices, poor components, or evaporation and runoff; and
14

15 WHEREAS, maintaining and installing efficient irrigation
16 systems are some of the most effective ways to reduce waste in
17 drinking water, reduce runoff and sediments, and improve plant
18 health by applying the correct amount of water without exceeding
19 the soil infiltration rate; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii (LICH)
22 was established in 1986 as a statewide alliance representing the
23 following Hawaii landscape trade associations: the Aloha
24 Arborist Association, Hawaii Chapter of the American Society of
25 Landscape Architects, Hawaii Association of Nurserymen, Hawaii
26 Island Landscape Association, Hawaii Landscape and Irrigation
27 Contractors Association, Inc., Hawaii Society of Urban Forestry
28 Professionals, Kauai Landscape Industry Council, Maui
29 Association of Landscape Professionals, Professional Grounds
30 Management Society, Big Island Association of Nurserymen, Inc.,
31 Hawaii Professional Gardeners Association, and Hawaii Turfgrass
32 Association; and
33



1 WHEREAS, LICH supports and encourages water conservation,
2 research and development, and the utilization of best management
3 practices to conserve outdoor water usage within the landscape;
4 and
5

6 WHEREAS, best management practices for new installations or
7 major renovations include the use of:
8

- 9 (1) New installations that require a coverage test prior
10 to acceptance; and irrigation system designs, plans,
11 and specifications that remain on-site and contain
12 water conservation language;
13
- 14 (2) Systems designed with sprinklers spaced head-to-head
15 coverage or better, and with a precipitation rate not
16 exceeding soil infiltration rate;
17
- 18 (3) Systems designed to irrigate similar site, slope, sun
19 exposure, soil conditions, and plant materials with
20 similar water use on the same circuit;
21
- 22 (4) Climate-based automatic irrigation controllers
23 utilizing either evapotranspiration and weather
24 sensors, or soil moisture sensors and drip irrigation
25 for individual specimen plants;
26
- 27 (5) Flow sensors with a malfunction valve shutoff system
28 capability in an irrigation controller and water
29 submeters that measure outdoor water usage on larger
30 sites;
31
- 32 (6) Water conserving irrigation components and check
33 valves;
34
- 35 (7) Storm water design methods, including infiltration
36 beds, swales, and basins that allow water to collect
37 and soak into the ground on site, utilizing low impact
38 development principles;
39
- 40 (8) Non-potable water sources when available; and
41
- 42 (9) Qualified irrigation designers such as an Irrigation
43 Association-Certified Irrigation Designer, Irrigation
44 Association-Certified Irrigation Contractor, and a



1 maintenance contractor with water conservation
2 expertise; and
3

4 WHEREAS, the best management practices for maintenance
5 include the use of:
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- 7 (1) Seasonal timing adjustments to irrigation controller
8 systems;
9
- 10 (2) Aeration of lawns when compaction increases, and short
11 run-time cycle irrigation in areas where runoff and
12 ponding occur;
13
- 14 (3) Periodic practical water audits to review the system
15 components and verify that the components meet the
16 original design criteria for the efficient operation
17 and uniform distribution of water;
18
- 19 (4) Irrigation controllers programmed for long run times
20 to water as deeply, evenly, and less frequent as
21 possible to encourage deep rooting and increased
22 drought resistance;
23
- 24 (5) Mulch, organic matter in soils, and drought-tolerant
25 plants or plants that are naturally occurring at the
26 site and surroundings;
27
- 28 (6) The practice of allowing grass to grow taller to
29 conserve water; and
30
- 31 (7) Schedule systems to run water at night; and
32

33 WHEREAS, the resource and financial savings resulting from
34 the effective use of these best management practices would in
35 turn allow the public and private sectors to plant more "main
36 street" trees within our communities to achieve increased
37 livability and sustainability; and
38

39 WHEREAS, LICH further supports and encourages the
40 preservation of existing native trees and non-invasive
41 vegetation that do not require irrigation; and
42

43 WHEREAS, LICH further supports and encourages attendance
44 at water conservation seminars with continuing education units



1 by entities such as the American Water Works Association, LICH,
2 or the Irrigation Association; now, therefore,
3

4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012,
6 that the Legislature encourages the utilization of best
7 management practices in landscape irrigation to conserve outdoor
8 water usage; and
9

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all state and county agencies
11 and other large water users are encouraged to adopt the
12 Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii Irrigation Water
13 Conservation Best Management Practices to improve the efficiency
14 of all existing and new landscape irrigation installations
15 through low-cost, practical measures; and
16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that LICH continue its efforts to
18 disseminate information in support of water conservation,
19 research and development, and the utilization of best management
20 practices to conserve outdoor landscape water usage; and
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Landscape Industry Council of
24 Hawaii which in turn is requested to transmit a copy of this
25 Concurrent Resolution to all state and county agencies and other
26 large water users in this State.
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