Instructions for Landscape Water Budgets

EMWD ordinance 72.25 requires that prior to the issuance of a meter, the customer shall calculate a water budget for each landscape area; and then the water budget and the factors used to calculate the budget will be submitted to District for review. For the new meter to be issued, the calculated water budget for the landscape area cannot exceed the maximum budget limits calculated by the District.

Whether a single lot or a part of a subdivision, before issuing a meter EMWD must verify the landscape installed in new development meets the landscape efficiency standard set by Ordinance 72.25. The Landscape Water Budget Worksheet is attached and can be used to provide information about the landscape design prior to the installation of a new meter.

Information required includes:

1. Contact information for the applicant and the professional responsible for landscape information submittal.
2. APN number
3. Lot Number
4. Lot size (Square Feet)
5. House and garage footprint (Square Feet)
6. Hardscape Including Driveway (Square Feet) – This would include any area designed not to be irrigated including patios and walkways. Areas that are would likely be irrigated in the future but have no landscape design at this time will not be included in the hardscape area.
7. Area of irrigated landscape (Square Feet) – This would be the area of irrigated landscape. Areas can be defined by irrigation and plant type. If more than 1 type of plant or irrigation system is included in an area the plant factor coefficient and lowest irrigation efficiency shall be used to calculate the corresponding Irrigation Efficiency Adjustment Factor. (Note: There is space for three areas on the spreadsheet, not all must be used and more can be added if needed.)
8. Irrigation Efficiency Adjustment Factor (IEAF) for each landscape area. IEAF is plant factor divided by irrigation efficiency.
9. A soil adjustment factor if needed
10. The estimated total annual water budget: Area x IEAF x Reference Eto/12000
11. Future Landscape Area (Square Feet) – Any area on the property that is not currently irrigated that may be in the future (For example: The front yard landscaping is designed and installed but the rear yard in not landscaped. The rear yard area would be included in this column.)
12. Total Landscape Area (Square Feet) – This should be the sum of the irrigated area and future landscape.

The Landscape water budget worksheet can be used to provide the required information to EMWD. The work sheet can be used for one lot or a series of lots and must be reviewed by conservation before a meter is released. EMWD will also accept a copy of the Landscape Documentation Package or similar submittal with the required information included. **This information must be reviewed and approved by EMWD conservation staff prior to meters being released.**

For additional information please contact the conservation department at (951) 928-3777 ext 4384.