



County of San Diego, Planning & Development Services  
**WATER USE APPLICATION USING  
PRESCRIPTIVE COMPLIANCE OPTION**  
**COUNTY LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**

This form contains prescriptive requirements for all projects included in Section 86.703(b) of the Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance and shall be completed in its entirety. Compliance with the following items is mandatory and must be documented on this form, provided by the Director of Planning & Development Services, in order to use the prescriptive compliance option and obtain water use authorization. This form must accompany the building permit application for construction of a single family primary residence or non-residential structure with a proposed aggregate landscaped area of between 500 square feet to less than 2,500 square feet. If the irrigated landscaped area is 2,500 square feet or more, please contact the Zoning Division for more information at (858) 565-5981.

**STEP 1: IDENTIFY RELEVANT PROJECT INFORMATION**

<b>Owner Name:</b>	<b>Contact Phone:</b>	<b>Contact Email:</b>
<b>Project Address:</b>		
<b>Assessor's Parcel Number/ Lot No.:</b>	<b>Record ID:</b>	
<b>Select Type of Project:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Tract Home by Homebuilder <input type="checkbox"/> New/Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Homeowner Installed <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery <input type="checkbox"/> Developer Installed		
<b>Select Type of Water for Irrigation:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Potable ( <i>Water District Service</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Well <input type="checkbox"/> Reclaimed <input type="checkbox"/> Gray Water		

**IDENTIFY WATER AGENCY:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Borrego Water District             | <input type="checkbox"/> Rincon Del Diablo Municipal District    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fallbrook Public Utility District  | <input type="checkbox"/> San Dieguito Water District             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helix Water District               | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Fe Irrigation District            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lakeside Water District            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweetwater Authority                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Olivenhain Water District          | <input type="checkbox"/> Vallecitos Water District               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Otay Water District                | <input type="checkbox"/> Valley Center Municipal Water District  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Padre Dam Municipal Water District | <input type="checkbox"/> Vista Irrigation District               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rainbow Municipal Water District   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yuima Municipal Water District          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ramona Municipal Water District    | <input type="checkbox"/> Not served by any of the Agencies above |

**STEP 2: DETERMINE APPLICABILITY**

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Single Family Residential</b> (Homeowner or Developer installed) with between 500 sq. ft. to below 2,500 sq. ft. of aggregate landscaped area. Note: Not applicable if Developer is installing more than one lot.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Building Permits associated with new construction</b> (between 500 sq. ft. to below 2,500 sq. ft. of aggregate landscaped area).



**County of San Diego, PDS, Zoning Division**  
**WATER USE APPLICATION USING PRESCRIPTIVE COMPLIANCE OPTION**

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**STEP 2: DETERMINE APPLICABILITY (continued)**

Note: These prescriptive compliance option requirements may not apply to properties with a 'B' Designator, projects requiring compliance with the County's Parking Design Manual, projects requiring compliance with the Grading Ordinance for erosion control, projects proposing planting within the public right-of-way, or project's requiring discretionary review.

Any project proposing less than an aggregate of 2,500 square feet of irrigated landscape that meets the Estimated Total Water Use requirements, found in Section 86.713 of the Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance, entirely with treated or untreated graywater, or through stored rainwater captured on site. These projects need only comply with the requirements of Section 86.722(a)(5)&(6).

A. Building Pad/Lot Size:	=		(sq. ft.)
B. Building Footprint(s):	=		(sq. ft.)
C. Driveway/Parking:	=		(sq. ft.)
D. Pervious or non-pervious hardscape	=		(sq. ft.)
E. Other non-irrigated area	=		(sq. ft.)
<b>F. Total landscaped area:</b>	=	<b>100 % of Total</b>	= (sq. ft.)
<b>i. Sum of all planting areas (per lot)</b>	=	<b>% of Total</b>	= (sq. ft.)
<b>ii. Sum of all turf areas (per lot)</b>	=	<b>% of Total</b>	= (sq. ft.)
<b>iii. Surface area of all water features (per lot)</b>	=	<b>% of Total</b>	= (sq. ft.)

**STEP 3: Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA) Tables for Outdoor Use**

Determine the (MAWA) for the property from a table below and **CIRCLE IT.**

MAWA for Residential and Non-Residential Compliance in gallons per year:

REGIONAL AREA	SIZE OF LANDSCAPED AREA			
	500 - 999 sq. ft.	1,000 - 1,499 sq. ft.	1,500 - 1,999 sq. ft.	2,000 - 2,499 sq. ft.
Coastal	12,070	18,112	24,153	30,194
Coastal Corridor	12,070	18,112	24,153	30,194
Inland	13,293	19,946	26,600	33,253
Desert	19,615	29,432	39,249	49,066

For more information on Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA), please refer to the County's Water Conservation in Landscaping regulations and the Water Efficient Landscape Design Manual.

[http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/Landscape-Ordinance\\_Design\\_Review\\_Manual.html](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/Landscape-Ordinance_Design_Review_Manual.html).

**STEP 4: PLANT MATERIAL**

**Single Family Residential**

- 75% of the total aggregate planted areas will be climate adapted plants that require occasional, little, or no summer water (average WUCOLS plant factor 0.3), excluding edible vegetation. The plant factor for very low water use plants range from 0-0.1, from 0.2 to 0.3 for low water use plants, from 0.4 to 0.6 for moderate water use plants, and from 0.7 to 1.0 for high water used plants. Water features are considered high water use and would receive a factor of 0.8.



**County of San Diego, PDS, Zoning Division**  
**WATER USE APPLICATION USING PRESCRIPTIVE COMPLIANCE OPTION**

*Continued*

- Required tree plantings for projects specified in Section 86.722(a)(3)(C) of the County's Landscape Ordinance shall be selected from species with a plant factor between 0.3 and 0.5. Refer to the Tree Planting Guidelines in the Water Efficient Landscape Design Manual for additional information on location, species, and specifications, and who is responsible for tree installation.
- Irrigated turf will not exceed 25% of the total aggregate landscaped area.
- Irrigated turf will not be planted on sloped areas which exceed a slope of 1 foot elevation change for every 4 feet of horizontal length.
- Irrigated turf is not located in parkways less than 10' wide. Any turf in parkways will be irrigated by subsurface irrigation or other technology that creates no overspray or runoff.

**Non-Residential**

- 100% of the total aggregate planted areas will be climate adapted plants that require occasional, little, or no summer water (average WUCOLS plant factor 0.3), excluding edible vegetation and areas using recycled water.
- There is no irrigated turf proposed.

**STEP 5: IRRIGATION SYSTEM**

- Automatic irrigation controller(s) will be either evapotranspiration or soil moisture based with sensor data and will utilize a rain sensor.
- Irrigation controller(s) will be of a type which does not lose programming data in the event the primary power source is interrupted.
- Pressure regulators will be installed on the irrigation system to ensure the dynamic pressure of the system is within the manufacturers recommended pressure range.
- Manual shut-off valves (such as a gate valve, ball valve, or butterfly valve) will be installed as close as possible to the point of connection of the water supply.
- Areas less than ten (10) feet in width in any direction will be irrigated with subsurface irrigation or other means that produces no runoff or overspray.
- Non-residential projects with an aggregate landscape area of 1,000 sq. ft. or more will install a private submeter to measure landscape water use.
- Trees shall be placed on separate valves from shrubs, groundcovers, and turf when practical to facilitate the appropriate watering characteristics of that species.

**STEP 6: NOTES AND SPECIFICATIONS**

- Compost will be incorporated (shovel mix/rototill) at a rate of at least four cubic yards per 1,000 sq. ft. to a depth of six inches in to all planting areas, including turf areas in residential lots.
- A minimum of three-inch (3") layer of mulch will be applied on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas except in turf areas, creeping or rooting groundcovers, or direct seeding applications where mulch is contraindicated.



County of San Diego, PDS, Zoning Division
WATER USE APPLICATION USING PRESCRIPTIVE COMPLIANCE OPTION

Continued

STEP 7: FINAL INSPECTION

The following information shall be submitted to the County Landscape Architect for verification and compliance prior to issuance of water use authorization. Prior to any occupancy, or use of the premises in reliance with a building permit, the landscaping shall be installed and certified.

Final inspection may take upwards of 5 - 7 business days after submittal of this information in order to establish water use authorization and tree planting verification. Plan accordingly.

- Certificate of Completion (PDS Form 407A) also available at the hyperlink below. http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/pds/zoning/formfields/PDS-407A.pdf

Please note that Planning & Development Services (PDS) will not perform any field inspections, but holds the right to inspect property per Section 86.729 of the Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance. PDS will rely on the Certificate of Completion to acknowledge final inspection prior to any occupancy or use of the property. Building Inspector's with the Building Division must confirm Mandatory Measures for both Residential and Non-Residential projects per the California Green Building Standards Code.

STEP 8: AGREE TO COMPLY

I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to design, install, and maintain this landscape project in accordance with the Prescriptive Compliance Option requirements within the County's Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance. I agree that the water used outdoors on this property shall not exceed the Maximum Applied Water Allowance authorized by the County as shown in this document. I agree to provide photographic proof of tree installation compliant with Section 86.722(3)(C) of the Landscaping Ordinance (if applicable). If after I install the landscaping and irrigation, the information I provided to the County in the Certificate of Completion, Certificate of Installation, and the irrigation schedule is not accurate, within ten (10) days after submittal, I agree to make necessary revisions in order to be compliant with the County's authorization. I certify under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing information is true and correct.

Signature of Property Owner (No Agents Or Applicants)

Date

Print Name of Property Owner

STEP 9: TRACT HOME BY HOMEBUILDER

As the developer/homebuilder of this lot, in addition to submitting photographic proof of tree installation compliant with Section 86.722(3)(C) of the Landscaping Ordinance, I agree to provide a copy of this signed and dated Water Use Application Using Prescriptive Compliance Option form to the buyer advising them of their obligations not to exceed the Outdoor Water Use budget, Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA) established herein by this Form and the issuance of a building permit for this lot, and to design, install, and maintain their landscape in accordance with the prescriptive compliance option requirements within the County's Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance, Section 86.722.

Signature of Homebuilder

Date

Print Name of Homebuilder

NOTE: A copy of this signed and dated Form shall be required to be included with the Landscape Certificate of Completion Using Prescriptive Compliance Option (Form 407A).