

## Understanding Your Water Bill

Your irrigation water bill includes a Capital Fee to support the cost of repairs, upgrades, and replacing the distribution system and the costs of purchasing new water rights.

The amount of water actually used is charged at a rate of \$3.80 per 1,000 gallons.

The capital fee billing is mailed or emailed to owners at the beginning of each irrigation season. Water use billings will be emailed or mailed in early August and again at the end of the irrigation season.

Questions about water usage on your lot should be emailed to:

[clientservices@advanceHOA.com](mailto:clientservices@advanceHOA.com)

# Water Conservation Fact Sheet

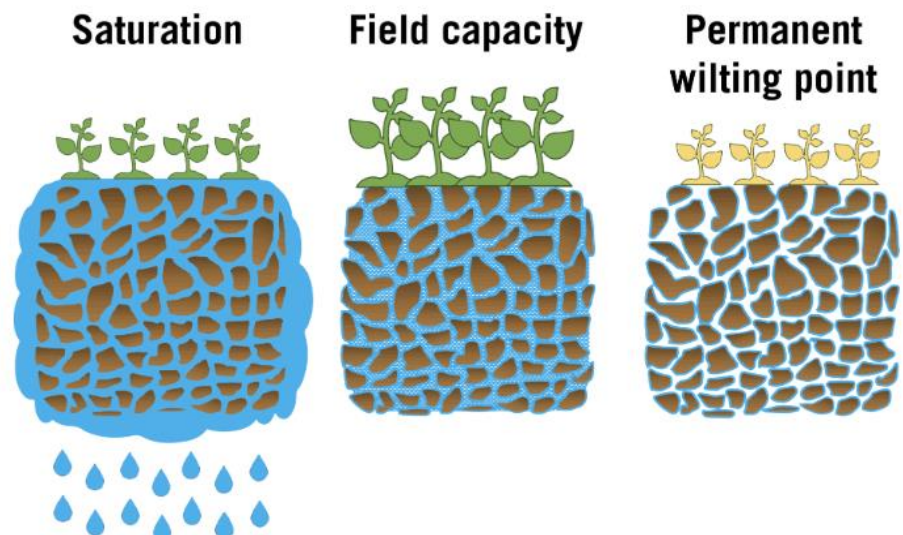
## What is a Water Conservation Shut Down?

A Water Conservation Shut Down is a management tool used to save irrigation water after heavy rainfall. Irrigation pumps are shut off for up to 2 days when the community receives between .5 and .75 inches of rain and shut off for 2 or 3 days when rainfall totals exceed .75 inches and the soil is saturated.



## When are the pumps turned back on

The pumps are turned on 1 to 2 days before additional irrigation is needed based on the current soil moisture. The reactivation date is determined by the amount of water that is available in the soil. After a large rain, the soil becomes saturated. Within a few hours, gravity pulls some of the water through the soil and the pores of the soil become filled with a combination of water and air. This is called field capacity and at field capacity, no more water can be absorbed by the soil. Any irrigation provided at field capacity is wasted and will run off or through the soil.



## Contact Us

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## Common Irrigation Questions

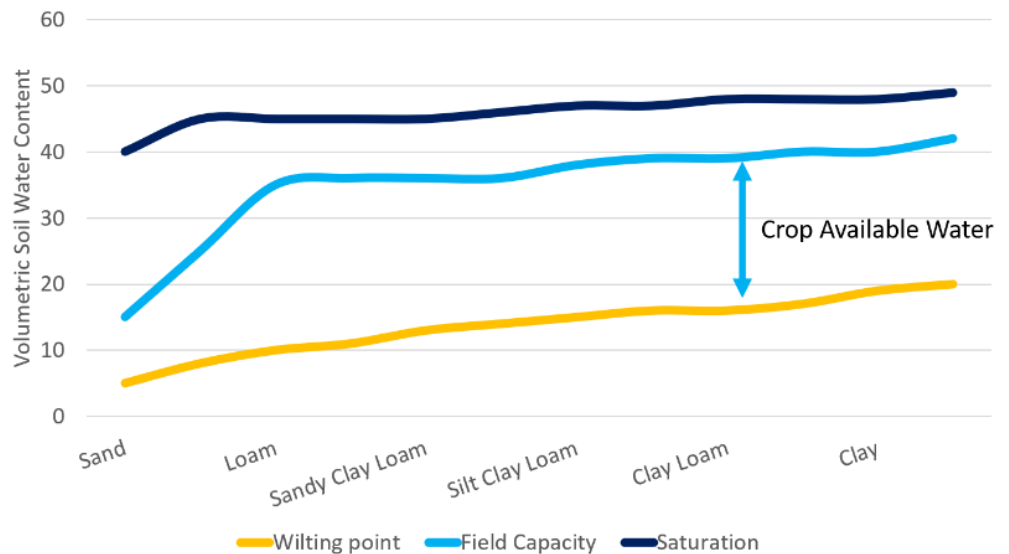
### Q. Why does the Metro District Water Department limit access to irrigation water after a rain?

Have you noticed the pump at a gas station automatically shuts off before the tank overflows with gasoline? The Water Conservation Shut Down is a similar concept. When your soil is full of moisture, adding more water will only result in unnecessary waste. The pumps are shut off to conserve a precious resource and maintain the water levels in the lakes.



### Q. When should we begin to irrigate after a rain?

In the summer, irrigation is not needed for 2 to 3 days following a heavy rain. In the spring and fall, irrigation may not be needed for many days following a saturating rain. It all depends on how much water is still available in the soil.



**Resume watering just before soils dry down to the wilting point.**

### Q. How much water should be applied to a lawn?

Your turf only requires about .2 inches of water a day or .4 inches every other day. .4 inches a day is about 1,000 gallons of water for every 1,000 sq. ft. of turf applied each week. A yard with 2,000 sq. ft of turf needs about 2,000 gallons of water per week.

Unfortunately, the water meters often report daily use that is 200% to 300% more irrigation than is needed by the turf. The excess runs off or through the soil.

**Q. What can I do if my neighbor is overwatering?**

There are no local or state laws that are specific to overwatering. If your neighbor causes damage to your property, the first step is to talk to your neighbor and ask them to reduce the runoff entering your property and causing damage.

**Q. How do I water newly laid sod if non-potable system is off?**

Whenever the irrigation system is off, new sod may be watered by using a temporary sprinkler hooked up to the hose bib on the side of your house. Occasionally, hose watering is also needed during dry Colorado winters to prevent turf and landscape desiccation.

**Q. Why does a golf course need water before my yard?**

Golf course greens and tees are constructed of sand (not soil). Sand does not retain as much water as soil and as a result, the golf course irrigation systems are reactivated before the parks, farms, and yards. The golf courses in the communities have separate pumps and irrigation systems.

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*More information regarding the irrigation water, water quality, and storage reservoirs can be found on the District websites.*

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