
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

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
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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
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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
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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
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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.,



1 Hawaii Professional Gardeners Association, and Hawaii Turfgrass
2 Association; and

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

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

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



1 (9) Qualified irrigation designers such as an Irrigation
 2 Association-Certified Irrigation Designer, Irrigation
 3 Association-Certified Irrigation Contractor, and a
 4 maintenance contractor with water conservation
 5 expertise; and
 6

7 WHEREAS, the best management practices for maintenance
 8 include the use of:

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- 10 (1) Seasonal timing adjustments to irrigation controller
 11 systems;
- 12
- 13 (2) Aeration of lawns when compaction increases, and short
 14 run-time cycle irrigation in areas where runoff and
 15 ponding occur;
- 16
- 17 (3) Periodic practical water audits to review the system
 18 components and verify that the components meet the
 19 original design criteria for the efficient operation
 20 and uniform distribution of water;
- 21
- 22 (4) Irrigation controllers programmed for long run times
 23 to water as deeply, evenly, and infrequently as
 24 possible to encourage deep rooting and increased
 25 drought resistance;
- 26
- 27 (5) Mulch, organic matter in soils, and drought-tolerant
 28 plants or plants that are naturally occurring at the
 29 site and surroundings;
- 30
- 31 (6) The practice of allowing grass to grow taller to
 32 conserve water; and
- 33
- 34 (7) Schedule systems to run water at night; and
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36 WHEREAS, the resource and financial savings resulting from
 37 the effective use of these best management practices would in
 38 turn allow the public and private sectors to plant more "main
 39 street" trees within our communities to achieve increased
 40 livability and sustainability; and

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



1
2 WHEREAS, LICH further supports and encourages attendance at
3 water conservation seminars with continuing education units by
4 entities such as the American Water Works Association, LICH, or
5 the Irrigation Association; now, therefore,
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7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
8 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the
9 House of Representatives concurring, that large water users are
10 encouraged to utilize best management practices in landscape
11 irrigation to conserve outdoor water usage; and
12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all state and county agencies
14 and other large water users are encouraged to adopt the
15 Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii's Irrigation Water
16 Conservation Best Management Practices to improve the efficiency
17 of all existing and new landscape irrigation installations
18 through low-cost, practical measures; and
19

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that LICH continue its efforts to
21 disseminate information in support of water conservation,
22 research and development, and the utilization of best management
23 practices to conserve outdoor landscape water usage; and
24

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

