

PROGRAMMING TIP:

CB_071509

WeatherTRAK Series Controllers Addressing Water Conservation Measures

07/15/09

Product: ET Pro² Series – 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 42 & 48 stations
ET *plus* Series – 6, 9, 12, 18 & 24 stations

Versions: All Controller Software Versions

Summary

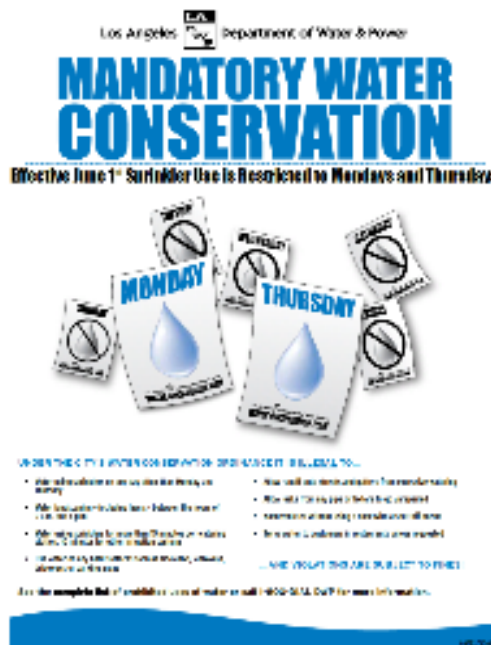
The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and San Diego County Water Authority are instituting outdoor automated irrigation conservations measures that will begin June 1st, 2009 for an unspecified period of time.

WeatherTRAK is equipped to meet these new regulations and in some instances provide a variance from a regulation to help properly manage your irrigation and protect your landscape under these new rules.

This customer bulletin has been developed to provide the details of each of these conservation measures with suggestions of programming changes to your WeatherTRAK Series controller to comply with these requirements.


Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Regulations

The mandatory water conservation program for all water users within the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power service area is displayed below. The link to this ordinance is: <http://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp011971.pdf>



This ordinance mandates the following water conservation compliance practices:

LADWP Conservation Measure Mandates	WeatherTRAK ET plus Settings	WeatherTRAK ET Pro ² Settings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automatic irrigation on Monday and Thursday only. 	<p>In all stations modes; Go to "Schedule" menu and then <u>Select Water Days</u> and select Days of Week. Select the Monday and Thursday for each month of the year.</p>	<p>In all station Modes: Go to "Days / Times" menu and select <u>Day of Week</u> water day mode. Then select Monday and Thursday as specific water days.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irrigation is prohibited between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm. Therefore a water window of 17 hours is allowable. 	<p>Go to "Schedule" menu and select Schedule "A" first, then <u>Set Irr Start Hours for Sch A</u> to 12:01am. Then select <u>Set Window Hour for Sch A</u> to 9 hours.</p> <p>For higher station count controllers with drip or rotors, some stations may have to be assigned to Schedule B. Go to "SCHEDULE" menu and <u>Select Schedule "B"</u>, then <u>Set Irr Start Hour</u> for Sch B to 6:00pm. Then select <u>Set Window Hour</u> for Sch B to 6 hours. In this example go to "Setup" menu and select Stack mode to "No".</p>	<p>Go to "Days / Times" menu and select Start Time for Program A to 12:01 am. Then select <u>1st Water Window</u> duration for 9 hours.</p> <p>If you have more than 24 stations, you may want to set a second water window for after 4:00pm with water window duration not to exceed past 11:59 pm. This may involve assigning some stations to programs C & D.</p> <p>In this example go to "Setup" menu and select "Overlap" mode first.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum allowable run time for automated irrigation systems cannot exceed 15 minutes cycle. Please note there are no restrictions on the number of cycles allowed and WeatherTRAK can allow up to 20 cycles and soak periods. 	<p>WeatherTRAK's automatic cycle and soak feature will allow you to meet this requirement. If you are seeing that some stations operating for more than 15 minutes at a time, select a steeper slope gradient to automatically increase the number of cycle runtimes and soak periods.</p>	<p>WeatherTRAK's automatic cycle and soak feature will allow you to meet this requirement. If you are seeing that some stations operating for more than 15 minutes at a time, select a steeper slope gradient to automatically increase the number of cycle runtimes and soak periods.</p>

 Note: Your local retail water purveyor's may have additional conservation measures in addition this posted program. Contact your local Water District to determine if additional water conservations measures have been enacted.

San Diego County Water Authority Regulations

The San Diego County Water Authority has published a Level 2 Drought Alert Condition and is expects compliance of the following data. The link to this specific page is as follows:

http://www.sdcwa.org/manage/pdf/drought/DroughtOrdinance_03272008.pdf

SECTION 5.0 DROUGHT RESPONSE LEVEL 2 – DROUGHT ALERT CONDITION – (For irrigation Systems Only)

1. Limit residential and commercial landscape irrigation to no more than three (3) assigned days per week on a schedule established by the General Manager and posted by the [AGENCY]. During the months of November through May, landscape irrigation is limited to no more than once per week on a schedule established by the General Manager and posted by the [AGENCY]. This section shall not apply to commercial growers or nurseries.
2. Limit lawn watering and landscape irrigation using sprinklers to no more than ten (10) minutes per watering station per assigned day. **This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation systems using water efficient devices, including but not limited to: weather based controllers, drip/micro-irrigation systems and stream rotor sprinklers.**
3. Water landscaped areas, including trees and shrubs located on residential and commercial properties, and not irrigated by a landscape irrigation system governed by section 5 (b) (1), on the same schedule set forth in section 5 (b) (1) by using a bucket, hand-held hose with positive shut-off nozzle, or low-volume non-spray irrigation.
4. Repair all leaks within seventy-two (72) hours of notification by the [AGENCY] unless other arrangements are made with the General Manager.

This ordinance mandates the following water conservation compliance practices as follows:

SDCWA Conservation Measure Mandates	WeatherTRAK ET plus Settings	WeatherTRAK ET Pro ² Settings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automatic irrigation three days a week depending on your street address (odd vs. even) for the months of June-October. 	<p>Go to “Schedules” menu to “<u>Select Water Days</u>” for Sch A or B and select <u>Days of Week</u> water day mode. Then select specific water days based on your street address for each week for each month of the year.</p> <p>*The City of San Diego will allow for a variances in water days and water window for commercial properties only if these days conflict with site use. The link to apply for this variance is: http://www.sandiego.gov/wter/PDF/irrigationvarianceform.pdf.</p>	<p>Go to “Days / Times” menu and select <u>Day of Week</u> water day mode. Then select specific water days based on your street address.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape Irrigation is allowed between the hours of 12:00 am to 10:00am then 6:00pm to 11:59pm. *(Check with your local water district to confirm 	<p>Go to “SCHEDULE” menu and select Schedule “A” first, then <u>Set Irr Start Hours</u> for Sch A to 12:01am. Then select <u>Set Window Hour</u> for Sch A to 10 hours.</p> <p>For high station count controllers</p>	<p>Go to “Days/Times” and select Start Time for Program A for 12:01 am. Then select <u>1st Water Window</u> to 10 hours.</p> <p>If you have more than 24</p>

<p>these water window restrictions.</p>	<p>with drip or rotors, some stations may have to be assigned to Schedule B. Go to "SCHEDULE" menu and <u>Select Schedule "B"</u>, then <u>Set Irr Start Hour for Sch B</u> to 6:00pm. Then select <u>Set Window Hour</u> for Sch B to 6 hours.</p> <p>In this example go to "Setup" menu and select Stack mode to "No".</p>	<p>stations, you may want to set a second water window for after 4:00pm with water window duration not to exceed past 11:59 pm. This may involve assigning some stations to programs C & D.</p> <p>In this example go to "Setup" menu and select "Overlap" mode first.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turf and other landscape shall be limited to no more than 10 minutes per water station per day. (1 cycle only). 	<p>Weather-based controllers (such as WeatherTRAK models) are exempt from the maximum station run time of 10 minutes and are allowed to cycle as needed.</p>	<p>Weather-based controllers (such as WeatherTRAK models) are exempt from the maximum station run time of 10 minutes and are allowed to cycle as needed.</p>

⚠ Note: Your local retail water purveyor may have additional conservation measures in addition this posted program. Contact your local Water District to determine if additional water conservations measures have been enacted.

Impacts to WeatherTRAK Series Controllers

Some water conservations measures may trigger "Water Day" and "Water Window Alerts" as a result of fewer watering days or reduction in water windows. The WeatherTRAK Series controller will proportionately reduce all station run times so that every station receives irrigation within these restrictions. In most every case, the WeatherTRAK Series Controller will attempt to apply sufficient water to make up for evaporated losses when the assigned water day arrives.

While the initial reaction maybe to switch to User No ET station mode, you may lose your water savings benefit by over-watering. For now we recommend maintaining your controller in "Auto" station mode.

For larger station count controllers, some stations may have to be assigned to another program and allowed to water later in the day so that all stations can be irrigated sufficiently.

Need a Refresher on Controller Programming?

If you need a refresher on how make these changes, use the following link to utilize new on-line training <http://www.hydropoint.com/training/>, then select the product series applicable to your application.

Need Help?

If you have additional questions, please call HydroPoint Customer Service toll-free, (800) 362-8774.