

Water Conservation

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WATER UTILITIES
LEE'S SUMMIT

Smart Irrigation Controllers

- A widely accepted method of water conservation is smart irrigation controllers,
- A smart controller, also known as a weather-based irrigation controller (WBIC), is an internet-enabled irrigation device. It adjusts how long and how often your irrigation system runs based on how much water your landscape needs.
- As per the Strategic Plan a review of the use of smart controllers for water conservation was recommended.

EPA WaterSense

- WaterSense, is a voluntary partnership program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is both a label for water-efficient products and a resource for helping to save water.
- WaterSense labeled products and services are certified to use at least 20 percent less water, save energy, and perform as well as or better than regular models.



Certified by
ICC-ES

Other Communities

- A wide variety of water conservation efforts are prevalent across many areas of the United States
- Some regional Utilities reference the WaterSense program, but none currently mandate the use of any products.



Why Lee's Summit?

- We directly purchase our water and we pay for every gallon.
- We have extreme peaking factors in our water use tied to irrigation.
- We are currently working with Kansas City for our next increase in water supply capacity.
- Good stewardship of water resources for a minimal upfront investment
- Potentially reduces customer water cost for irrigation
- Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan: Promote Community and Natural Resource Sustainability
 - Strategy 4: Track trends in annual water usage and loss.
 - Tactic 4: Update Building Codes to require smart irrigation controllers and evaluate incentivizing the replacement of non-smart controllers.

Recommendation

Water Utilities is recommending the amendment of the adopted construction codes to include the requirement that all new irrigation controllers be EPA WaterSense certified.



Questions?

WUAB Motion

I move to recommend City Council approval of a change to the Code of Ordinances to require the use of WaterSense certified irrigation controllers on all new irrigation system installations.