

GG125-14

404.1.2

Proponent: Ed Osann, representing Natural Resources Defense Council (eosann@nrdc.org)

Revise as follows:

404.1.2 Irrigation system design and installation. Where in-ground irrigation systems are provided, the systems shall comply with all of the following:

1. The design and installation of outdoor irrigation systems shall be under the supervision of an irrigation professional accredited or certified by an appropriate local or national body.
2. Landscape irrigation systems shall not direct water onto building exterior surfaces, foundations, ~~or~~ exterior paved surfaces, or adjoining lots. Systems shall not generate runoff.
3. Where an irrigation control system is used, the system shall be one that regulates irrigation based on weather, climatological or soil moisture status data. The controller shall have integrated or separate sensors to suspend irrigation events during rainfall.
4. Irrigation zones shall be based on plant water needs with plants of similar need grouped together.
Turfgrass shall not be grouped with other plantings on the same zone.
5. Microirrigation zones shall be equipped with pressure regulators that ensure zone pressure is not greater than 40 psi (275.8 kPa), filters, and flush end assemblies.
6. Sprinklers shall:
 1. Have nozzles with matched precipitation rates.
 2. Be prohibited on landscape areas less than 4 feet (1230 mm) in any dimension.
 3. Be prohibited on slopes greater than 1 unit vertical to 4 units horizontal (25-percent slope).

Exception: Where the application rate of the sprinklers is less than or equal to 0.5 inches (12.7 mm) per hour.

4. Be permitted for use on turfgrass and crop areas only excepting microsprays of a flow less than 45 gallons (170 liters) per hour.
5. If of the pop-up configuration, pop-up to a height of not less than 4 inches (101 mm).
6. Only be installed in zones composed exclusively of sprinklers and shall be designed to achieve a lower quarter distribution uniformity of not less than 0.65.

Reason: Irrigation systems should be designed and installed to confine the application of water to intentionally targeted areas only. The list of precluded applications in subparagraph 2 of Section 404.1.2 should also include the direction of irrigation water across a lot line onto adjoining properties.

Cost Impact: Will not increase the cost of construction. Compliance can be achieved with good system design without cost impact.

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