



Florida Water StarSM Basic Qualification Checklist

This program for new residential construction is intended to provide water-efficient housing options and help prevent water leaks. Florida Water StarSM is service marked by the St. Johns River Water Management District of Florida.

New Home Requirements

To achieve a Florida Water StarSM rating for new residential homes:

- 1) All prerequisites must be met and validated
- 2) Points must be achieved in all categories (irrigation, landscape and indoors)
- 3) Total points must accumulate to a **total of 90 points with the minimum amount of points specified in each category**. The landscape section must score a minimum of 35 points, irrigation must score a minimum of 35 points and indoors must score a minimum of 20 points.

Home Builder Information

* Name: _____

* Company: _____

* Address: _____

* City/County: _____

* Phone: (__) _____

Fax: (__) _____

E-mail: _____

Home Information

Owner Name: _____

* Address: _____

* City/County: _____

Owner Phone: (__) _____

Owner Fax: (__) _____

Owner E-mail: _____

Number of intended occupants: _____

*** All fields must be completed.**

Outdoors

Submission of landscape and irrigation designs: It is strongly recommended that all designs be submitted prior to start of construction to ensure Florida Water StarSM criteria are met before installation has occurred. As-built drawings may be submitted for consideration for Florida Water StarSM certification, at the risk that changes will need to be made to qualify. Submissions may be representative for multiple installations within a project or subdivision, as follows:

- **Complete submissions** must be made for each lot type grouping. Lots are grouped into types based on similarities in size, growing conditions, slope or other factors that necessitate a different plant palette or different irrigation configuration. This will allow the development of “typical” designs that can be used throughout a development or subdivision.
- **Brief submissions** identify which of the “typical” designs is being used. Typical design identified will need to be submitted with each application for certification.

Landscape

Prerequisites

- All state, county and municipal codes must be met.
- All plant material is planted no closer than two feet from structure at mature size.
- Turf and non-turf areas are distinctly separate when coupled with in-ground irrigation.
- Turf areas shall not exceed 60 percent of landscape area **if site conditions require regular irrigation.**
- Sufficient number of trees are planted or preserved to attain a minimum of 30 percent shade within 5 years.
- No invasive plant species are on-site. Invasive plants are defined as those identified by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) or on the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council Category One list.

Directions

- If the building lot includes naturally vegetated areas, complete Sections A and B and skip Section C.
- If the building lot is within a cluster-type of community (large buildings on small lots, with common open spaces) or is a disturbed site, such as pasture, commercial timber or farm field, skip Sections A and B, and proceed to Section C.

Landscape

A. Preservation of existing vegetation	Points Possible	Points Earned
Points can be earned for only one of the following options:		
1. 20 percent or more of the lot area covered by native trees, shrubs and ground covers is preserved (not including permitted wetlands)	10	
2. 10 percent or more of the lot area covered by native trees, shrubs and ground covers is preserved (not including permitted wetlands)	5	
Three or more trees greater than 4-inches diameter at breast height (dbh) each are preserved on the lot	10	
Preservation Total	20	

B. Built Landscape Design — Naturally vegetated site	Points Possible	Points Earned
Plant selections are compatible with soils and other site-specific growing conditions	8	
Total planted landscape species are 50 percent or more Florida natives appropriate to the landscape site	7	
Sufficient number of trees are planted and/or preserved to attain a minimum of 50 percent shade within 5 years	6	
Plants are grouped with similar moisture and maintenance requirements	5	
Trees are located to reduce solar heating of home	4	
Installed Landscape Total	30	
C. Built landscape design — disturbed site or cluster, very limited landscape area	Points Possible	Points Earned
Plant selections are compatible with soils and other site-specific growing conditions	13	
Total planted landscape species are 50 percent or more Florida natives appropriate to the landscape site	12	
Sufficient number of trees are planted to attain a minimum of 50 percent shade within 5 years	10	
Plants are grouped with similar moisture and maintenance requirements	9	
Trees are located to reduce solar heating of home	6	
Installed Landscape Total	50	

Irrigation

Prerequisites

- All state, county and municipal codes are met.
- **Minimum Design Standards** —If an in-ground irrigation systems is installed, it must meet minimum design standards for in-ground systems as listed below:

General Irrigation Design Elements

- Irrigation zones for turf and landscape beds are separate.
- High-volume irrigation does not exceed 60 percent of landscape area.
- Irrigation in planting beds is microirrigation that delivers water directly to root zones rather than wetting the entire area, or hose bibs are provided for manual irrigation.
- Narrow areas of 4 feet or less are not irrigated unless microirrigation is used.
- Emitters are located at least 2 feet from the house so that the structure is not wetted.

Installation and Material Selection

- Piping system is free from leakage. Pipes are sized for appropriate gallons per minute (gpm) so that velocities do not exceed 5 feet per second (fps).
- Precipitation rates for all emitters within a zone are matched.
- Turf zone head spacing does not exceed 45 percent of the sprinkler's coverage diameter for square spacing; and 50 percent of coverage for triangular spacing.

- Rotor heads and fixed pattern spray sprinklers are not installed in the same zone.
- Pop-up rotors and sprayheads rise above grass height:
 - 6 inches for St. Augustine, zoysia and bahia grasses
 - 3 inches for lower-growing species such as centipede, Bermuda and seashore paspalum.
- System is installed with correct spray patterns and adjusted to minimize overspray on impermeable surfaces.
- Irrigation/sprinkler system is located 2 feet or more from building and water does not hit building while operating. No water reaches a driveway, a sidewalk or other impervious surface.
- Check valves are installed on heads in low-lying areas and in areas with poor drainage.
- Landscape cloth and gravel are placed under valve boxes to allow accessibility for maintenance.

Irrigation Scheduling and Controller Operations

- A rain sensor is installed in an operable location and is functioning.
- Irrigation controller contains a battery backup or non-volatile memory to maintain schedule settings.
- Written operating information is provided to home buyer, is affixed to the controller and includes irrigation schedule, controller handbook and zone diagram.
- The controller is reset for maintenance schedule after establishment and before closing, or instructions on changing to a maintenance schedule are affixed to the controller for the home buyer to change within 30–60 days after plant installation.
- Irrigation controller is programmed with seasonal variations based on historical rates, with a total application not to exceed 21 gallons (67 inches) per square foot annually.

Irrigation	Points Possible	Points Earned
No permanent in-ground irrigation system installed, if combined with site-appropriate landscape that does not require irrigation	60	
Only low-volume irrigation used	20	
Points can be earned for only one of the following options:		
1. High-volume irrigation covers 30 percent or less of the landscape areas	15	
2. High-volume irrigation covers from 31 to 40 percent of the landscape areas	13	
3. High-volume irrigation covers from 41 to 50 percent of the landscape areas	10	
Pressure-regulating spray heads or pressure-compensating valves are installed for spray zones	4	
Points can be earned for only one of the following options:		
1. Soil moisture sensor(s)	6	
2. Soil moisture sensor(s) system with multiple-zone coverage	10	
3. Weather-based controller is installed	5	
Leak detection shut-off system is installed	5	
Control timer includes a minimum of three scheduling programs	1	
Non-potable water source used for irrigation	5	
Total Irrigation Points	60	

Indoors

Prerequisites

- All requirements specified in Florida Building Code are met.
- All armored/metal hoses from service to appliances are used.
- Mold-resistant materials are used in tub/shower enclosures.

Toilets	Points Possible	Points Earned
All toilets with a UNAR MaP rating of 350 grams per flush (gpf) or greater	4	
Add 4 points for each high-efficiency toilet (HET) of 1.0-1.1 gpf, or dual flush model (with MaP rating of 350 gpf or greater) installed	4/ea.	
Each toilet equipped with a leak detection shut-off valve	2/ea	
Appliances		
Place a quarter-turn manual shut-off ball valves to each appliance in accessible location (dishwasher, ice maker and clothes washer)	1	
Dishwasher equipped with leak detection shut-off valve	2	
Refrigerator equipped with leak detection shut-off valve	2	
Clothes washer equipped with leak detection shut-off valve	2	
ENERGY STAR [®] dishwasher using 6.5 gallons per cycle or less is installed	3	
ENERGY STAR [®] washing machine with water factor of less than 7 is installed	6	
Water Heater		
Point of use or on-demand on kitchen sink	6	
Point of use or on-demand hot water on dishwasher	2	
Insulate all water lines in attic or floor joists	4	
Heated water lines are insulated	4	
Showers		
Add 2 points for each shower equipped with only one 2.5 gpm (@ 80 psi) showerhead	2/ea.	
Add 2 points for each shower with multiple 2.5 gpm heads or jets with diverter valve, allowing use of only one emitter at a time	2/ea.	
Showers where multiple heads and/or body jets are used simultaneously — deduct 5 points for each additional head or jet above the first showerhead	-5/ea	
Total Indoor Points	40+	

POINT SUMMARY

Description	Possible Point Totals*	Minimum Required Points	Total Points Earned
Outdoors			
Landscape	50	35	
Irrigation	60	35	
Indoors	40+	20	
Total	150+	90	