

The City of Belle Isle

1600 Nela Avenue
Belle Isle, FL 32809
407-851-7730
www.cityofbelleislefl.org

A MESSAGE FROM

Robyn Winters
Code Enforcement Officer
407-448-8605
rwinters@cobifl.com

If you're planning on having work done on your property and you're not sure if a permit is required, please call City Hall for clarification. Work done without required permits will result in orders to cease all work until permits are issued, notices of violation, and "after the fact" fees. If the violation is not corrected, then a hearing before the Special Magistrate will be scheduled and fines imposed.

When In Doubt – Call. Garage Sales, Vehicle Sales, Temporary Parking require a permit; the applications for these can be picked up in city hall. A complete list of required permits (building and zoning) and the necessary forms can be found on our website:
www.cityofbelliefl.org,
select Departments then select Building and Permitting from the menu.

The staff at City Hall is always willing to help where we can. If you have any questions, concerns or need to report a violation please contact 407-851-7730 or email rwinters@cobifl.com.

Code Enforcement Update

Oct-Dec

15

CE E-News

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOV 1



Daylight Savings Time ends on November 1, 2015 when clocks fall back one hour and mandatory lawn watering restrictions change to once a week. The new schedule runs until the second Sunday in March of 2016.

Below is the new watering schedule:

- Properties with **odd numbered** addresses are permitted to water on **Saturday only**
- Properties with **even numbered** addresses are permitted to water on **Sunday only**
- **Non-residential** properties are permitted to water on **Tuesday only**.
- Watering is **prohibited** between **10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**
- Water for no more than one hour per zone
- Water only when needed and not during the hottest part of the day.
- Irrigation should be limited to no more than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of water per zone per irrigation day
- Restrictions apply to private wells and pumps, ground or surface water and water from public and private utilities.



Exceptions:

- Irrigation using a micro-spray, micro-jet drop or bubbler irrigation system is allowed anytime.
- Irrigation of new landscape is allowed at anytime of the day on any day for the initial 30 days and every other day for the next 30 days for a total of one 60 day period.
- Watering in of chemicals, including insecticides, pesticides, fertilizers, fungicides and herbicides when required by law, the manufacturer, or best management practices, is allowed anytime within 24 hours of application.
- Irrigation systems may be operated anytime for maintenance and repair – should not exceed 20minutes per hour per zone.

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PERMITS

To verify a contractor's license, file a complaint or report unlicensed activity you can go to the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation at www.myfloridalicense.com or call the Customer Contact Center at 850-487-1395.

If you are unsure if the work you are having done at your property requires a permit, please contact city hall at 407-851-7730 or Universal Engineering at 407-581-8161 for verification prior to starting the work.

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NEW WATERING SCHEDULE

- Irrigation using a hand-held hose equipped with a spray nozzle that can be adjusted so water flows only as needed is allowed anytime.
- Discharge of water from a water-to-air air-conditioning unit or other water-dependent cooling system is not limited.
- Use of water from a reclaimed water system is allowed anytime. A reclaimed water system includes systems in which the primary source is reclaimed water, which may or may not be supplemented from another source during peak demand periods.

This is a good time of the year to make sure automatic irrigations systems are working properly. Check to see if all sprinkler heads are working properly – they often get damaged during summer's heavy growing and mowing season.

In the fall, slow down on fertilizing and avoid application of high nitrogen fertilizer, which can promote tender grass growth that may not tolerate cooler temperatures.

If your lawn turns slightly brown during the winter, it may be a normal part of its winter dormancy. Avoid over-watering to correct for this. In many cases, the lawn will return thick and green in the spring.

Spot treat for pests as needed. Chemicals can cause damage or stress grass, which increases its need for water.

Tree leaves fall with the change of seasons. It is best to remove heavy amounts of leaves from your lawn to avoid smothering the grass.

St Johns Frequently Asked Questions

Why is watering restricted to one day a week in the winter?

- Based on scientific analysis from the University of Florida IFAS program, healthy Florida lawns require no more than two days per week of water during the hot, dry season — less during rainy periods — and no more than one day a week during cooler weather. Additional irrigation is unnecessary and wasteful.

Why is irrigation being limited?

- Public water supply is the largest category of water use in the District's 18-county region — about 565.5 million gallons of water a day. The bulk of this water is for residential water use, and landscape irrigation can account for more than 50 percent of total water use at residential locations. Freshwater is a finite resource in Florida, and increased conservation will delay the need to implement some expensive alternative water supplies in the future.

For more information on watering restrictions and exceptions you can contact St. John's Water Management District at www.sjrwmd.com/wateringrestrictions or by calling 1-800-232-0904.

If you wish to report a potential violation, please keep in mind that Code Enforcement Officers can only issue citations for violations that can be seen in "plain view". Entry into a backyard is prohibited without the property owner's permission. If the violation being reported is an adjacent property, the Code Enforcement Officer can, with the complainant's permission, enter the Complainant's yard to inspect for a violation and take pictures as long as there is a clear view – no obstructions from privacy fences, walls, tall shrubs, etc., the Code Enforcement Officer cannot use ladders, chairs, boxes, etc., to stand on to aid in inspecting for violations. You can email pictures of violations, but keep in mind, that if the violation(s) is not corrected and the property owner is scheduled for a hearing before the Special Magistrate, you may be asked to attend the meeting as a witness.