

ORDINANCE NO. _____
CONCERNING MOISTURE AND RAINFALL SENSORS AND NOTIFICATION OF SHUT OFF INSTRUCTIONS FOR IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

WHEREAS, water conservation is an important issue affecting the City of Stamford; and

WHEREAS, in order to engage in ongoing water conservation in the City of Stamford, irrigation systems will be required to have a sensor that suspends the system during periods of moisture or rainfall; and

WHEREAS, in order to conserve water during drought conditions, residential property owners may be required by governmental regulation or directive to not operate their irrigation systems; and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with such regulation or directive, residential property owners must know how to shut off their irrigation systems; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is in the best interests of the City of Stamford to require installers of irrigation systems to attach instructions for shutting off irrigation systems to the controls to such systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT:

Chapter 239, Irrigation Systems, is hereby adopted:

Sec. 239-1. – Installation of Rain/ Moisture Sensors to Irrigation Systems.

- A. New irrigation systems. At the time of installation of a new irrigation system to distribute water, the installer shall install a rain/moisture sensor that will suspend operation of the irrigation system during during periods of moisture or rainfall
- B. Existing irrigation systems. During repairs to existing irrigation systems that require replacement of the control box and or replacement of the entire system, the installer shall install a rain/moisture sensor that will suspend operation of the irrigation system during periods of moisture or rainfall.
- C. The installer shall make the property owner aware of the sensor required by paragraphs (A) and (B) above.

Sec. 239-2.– Attachment of Instructions to Irrigation System controls.

- A. At the time when the installation of an irrigation system to distribute water is completed, the installer shall affix to the control panel of the system a permanent, waterproof sticker, printed with waterproof ink, which provides:
 - (1) the installer's name, license number, company name, company address and phone number; and
 - (2) simple instructions explaining how to shut the irrigation system off so that no water is used.

B. The installer shall make the property owner aware of the location of the control panel and of the sticker required by paragraph (A) above, and shall make the property owner aware that the sticker contains instructions for shutting off the irrigation system.

C. Whenever an irrigation system installer performs routine maintenance on an irrigation system, or repairs an irrigation system, and said system does not have affixed to its control panel the sticker required by paragraph (A) above, then upon the completion of such maintenance or repair the installer shall affix the sticker required by paragraph (A) above to the system's control panel. At such time, the installer shall also comply with paragraph (B) above.

Sec. 239-3.—Adoption of Regulations.

Subject to the approval of the Board of Representatives, the Director of Health may prepare additional regulations if he/she deems them necessary to further abate drought conditions. The Board of Representatives may, at its discretion, amend and approve said regulations, which shall have the force and effect of law if approved by resolution of the Board, provided that a copy of the resolution and the approved regulations are published at least once in a newspaper having a general circulation in the city.

Sec. 239-4.— Penalties.

A. Any person who violates any provision of this Chapter shall pay a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each separate offense.

B. (1) The Mayor may at any time propose an adjustment of the amount of the penalty imposed by this Chapter. Any proposed increase must not exceed the cost of living adjustment found in the Consumer Price Index for the time period in question. Any proposed adjustment must be submitted to the Board of Representatives. If, within sixty days of receipt by the Board of Representatives of the proposed adjustment, the Board of Representatives fails to reject the proposed adjustment, then such proposed adjustment shall go into effect at the conclusion of the sixty day period.

(2) Nothing herein shall prevent the Board of Representatives from initiating an adjustment to the amounts of said penalty.

C. In addition to other available methods of enforcement, this Chapter may be enforced through the civil citation process.

Sec. 239-5.— Effective Date.

This Chapter shall become effective 60 days after the date of its adoption by the Board of Representatives.