



### Outdoor Water Use Rules - Effective June 1, 2010\*

(1) Persons may irrigate outdoors daily for purposes of planting, growing, managing, or maintaining ground cover, trees, shrubs, or other plants only between the hours of 4 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. Except for the uses/types of irrigation listed below, irrigation is not allowed between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

(2) The following outdoor water use is allowed at all times (no limits on time of day):

- a) Commercial agricultural operations;
- b) Capture and reuse of cooling system condensate or storm water in compliance with applicable local ordinances and state guidelines;
- c) Reuse of gray water and use
- d) Use of reclaimed waste water;
- e) Irrigation of personal food gardens;
- f) Irrigation of new and replanted plant, seed, or turf in landscapes, golf courses, or sports turf fields during installation and for a period of 30 days immediately following the date of installation;
- g) Drip irrigation or irrigation using soaker hoses;
- h) Handwatering with a hose with automatic cutoff or handheld container (includes chemical applications)
- i) Use of water withdrawn from private water wells or surface water by an owner or operator of property if such well or surface water is on said property;
- j) Irrigation of horticultural crops held for sale, resale, or installation;
- k) Irrigation of athletic fields, golf courses, or public turf grass recreational areas;
- k) Installation, maintenance, or calibration of irrigation systems;
- m) Hydroseeding.



*\*SB 370, 2010 Georgia Water Stewardship Act*

**The Metro Atlanta Landscape and Turf Association (MALTA) endorses the University of Georgia's ["Best Management Practices for Landscape Water Conservation"](#) that integrate plant selection, plant adaptation, irrigation, cultural and management practices, and a change in the acceptable expectations of plant performance under sub-optimal water conditions. The primary objective of these BMPs is to reduce landscape water use — not just during periods of drought, but throughout the entire growing season. Water conservation is an improvement in water use efficiency, not the temporary responses to periodic drought. BMPs are designed to be economical, practical, and sustainable while maintaining a healthy, functional landscape — a landscape that capitalizes on the environmental benefits of plant systems.**