

Alachua County Irrigation Design Code Alternative Compliance Fact Sheet

Based on feedback from local professionals, we are allowing the following practices through Alternative Compliance under the Irrigation Efficiency Code, until the Code can be edited. Please use the TEXT below (or similar text) in the Alternative Compliance section of the application when these scenarios are being proposed.

- 1) Temporary irrigation systems (i.e. removed within two years) do not need to comply with the design standards but EPD should be notified of their location and installation date. Staff tracks these systems and sends a letter to the property owner requiring an EPD inspection to verify removal. A signed affidavit is required if temporary irrigation is used in conjunction with permanent irrigation.
- 2) Narrow areas (8 ft or less), graded for drainage are allowed to have single row spacing or staggered spacing that is not head to head. TEXT: A single row of heads is proposed in the narrow side yards due to drainage.
- 3) If the same company is installing irrigation at adjacent houses, sprinklers from one property are allowed to throw onto the adjacent property in the narrow side yard. TEXT: Sprinklers in the narrow side yards for this and the adjacent property will have overlapping coverage.
- 4) Narrow right of ways between the sidewalk and the street pose a challenge for irrigation with frequent overspray and the potential for vehicles to break heads. The absence of heads along the street is allowed, provided heads are located near the sidewalk throwing to the street. The absence of heads along the street is also allowed in areas where there is no curb or where there is a Miami curb, provided heads are throwing to the street.
TEXT: Heads are not proposed along street to prevent leaks from these heads getting run over.
- 5) A single row of heads throwing into a retention basin is allowed, provided there is no high volume irrigation on shrubs and groundcover beds. TEXT: A single row of heads is proposed throwing into the retention pond due to drainage.
- 6) The absence of heads adjacent to an unirrigated area is allowed, provided heads are throwing towards the unirrigated area. TEXT: A row of heads is not proposed adjacent to the natural area, as this area does not need full coverage
- 7) Spray heads may be pressure regulated at the source and/or at the zone valve instead of at each individual head. TEXT: Pressure regulation is proposed at the valve instead of at the heads for each spray zone.
- 8) Annuals may be irrigated on the same zone as turf provided they are watered with low volume heads. TEXT: Annuals are proposed to be on the same zone as turf due to matching water needs.