



Program and Checklist Description

This program for new and existing single-family residential construction provides water-efficient options for houses and landscapes. Florida Water StarSM is a service mark of the St. Johns River Water Management District of Florida. The South and Southwest Florida water management districts are partners with St. Johns in administering the Florida Water StarSM program.

This checklist should be used to determine whether all prerequisites have been met and sufficient points have been achieved to merit Florida Water StarSM certification. Florida Water StarSM has two residential tiers, Silver and Gold, with Gold being more water conserving. For more specific details about the criteria described here please refer to the Florida Water StarSM Technical Manual.

Residential Requirements

To achieve Florida Water StarSM Certification for single-family residential housing:

1. All prerequisites must be met and validated by a Florida Water StarSM certifier.
2. The minimum points achieved for the residential **Silver** tier shall total 90, with minimum points per category totaling:
 - Landscape = 35 points
 - Irrigation = 35 points
 - Indoor = 20 points
3. The minimum points achieved for the residential **Gold** tier shall total 130, with minimum points per category totaling:
 - Landscape = 45 points
 - Irrigation = 45 points
 - Indoor = 25 points
 - Best Management Practices = 15 points (25 if bordering a water body)

General Information

Builder Information		House Information	
Name		Owner name	
Company		Address	
Address		City/county	
City/county		Owner phone	
Phone		Owner e-mail	
Fax		Number of intended occupants	
E-mail			

Required Submissions

	Yes	No	NA
Certificate of occupancy			
Landscape as-built drawing			
Landscape affidavit (Gold)			
Irrigation as-built drawing			
Schedule of indoor fixtures and appliances, including performance specifications			

Landscape

Prerequisites

All state, county and municipal codes must be met.

		Yes	No	NA
LS PR 1	High-volume irrigated areas shall not exceed 50% of total landscaped area. (Gold)			
	High-volume irrigated areas shall not exceed 60% of total landscaped area. (Silver)			
LS PR 2	No invasive exotic plant species are on-site.			
LS PR 3	For in-ground irrigation systems, turf grass and landscaped bed areas are distinctly separate.			
LS PR 4	Root balls are at least 2.5 feet on center from the foundation of structure.			
Points (Minimum points required: Silver – 35, Gold – 45)				
		Points possible	Points earned	
LS PT 1	30% or more of the lot area is covered by pre-existing noninvasive trees, shrubs or ground cover (not including conservation easements).	15		
	20% or more of the lot area is covered by pre-existing noninvasive trees, shrubs or ground cover (not including conservation easements).	10		
	10% or more of the lot area is covered by pre-existing noninvasive trees, shrubs or ground cover (not including conservation easements).	5		
LS PT 2	50% or more of the landscaped area is shaded by existing trees (cannot include trees in LS PT 1).	10		
LS PT 3	Plant selections are compatible with site-specific conditions such as sunlight, soil types and salinity.	Up to 15		
LS PT 4	Plants are grouped with similar moisture and maintenance requirements.	Up to 15		
LS PT 5	Areas traditionally planted with turf grass and irrigated by an in-ground system are replaced with unirrigated, drought-tolerant turf grass or ground cover.	Up to 20		
LS PT 6	High-volume irrigated areas shall not exceed 30% of total landscaped area	15		
	High-volumed irrigated areas shall not exceed 40% of total landscaped area	10		
LS PT 7	Landscaped beds have no permanent irrigation system. (All extensions/lateral lines to these areas from an existing irrigation system are permanently disabled.)	Up to 25		
LS PT 8	Newly planted trees will provide shade to 50% of the total landscaped area at maturity.	20		
	Newly planted trees will provide shade to 40% of the total landscaped area at maturity.	15		
	Newly planted trees will provide shade to 30% of the total landscaped area at maturity.	10		
LS PT 9	Innovative landscape water conservation is used.	Up to 10		
TOTAL		125+		

Irrigation

Prerequisites

All state, county and municipal codes must be met.

General design		Yes	No	NA
IR PR 1	High-volume irrigation does not irrigate more than 50% of the total landscaped area. (Gold)			
	High-volume irrigation does not irrigate more than 60% of the total landscaped area. (Silver)			
IR PR 2	If irrigation is used for landscaped beds, microirrigation is used and is correctly installed.			
IR PR 3	Irrigation zones for turf grass and landscaped beds are separate.			
IR PR 4	Irrigated areas less than 4 feet wide are irrigated with correctly designed and installed microirrigation.			
IR PR 5	Sprinklers and emitters are located at a minimum of 2 feet from structures.			
IR PR 6	Irrigation system is free from leaks.			
IR PR 7	Sprinklers in low-lying areas have check valves.			
Distribution uniformity		Yes	No	NA
IR PR 8	Sprinklers rise above turf grass height:			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 6-inch pop-up for spray heads and 4-inch popup for rotor heads for St. Augustine, Zoysia and Bahia Grasses. 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 4-inch pop-up for spray heads and 4-inch pop-up for rotor heads for centipede, Bermuda and seashore paspalum. 			
IR PR 9	Application occurs in spray patterns that minimize overspray on impervious surfaces.			
IR PR 10	Pipes are sized to prevent velocities greater than 5 feet per second.			
IR PR 11	Precipitation rates for all sprinklers within a zone are matched.			
IR PR 12	Pressure differential between the head closest to the valve and the farthest from the valve shall not exceed 10% of the lower-pressured head.			
IR PR 13	Head spacing does not exceed 50% of the nozzle throw diameter.			
Scheduling		Yes	No	NA
IR PR 14	A device with rain shut-off scheduling capabilities is installed in an operable location and is functioning.			
IR PR 15	Each of the following items is installed adjacent to controller:			
	– Controller handbook/operating instructions			
	– As-built zone diagram			
	– Specific zone precipitation rates and maintenance run times			
	– Soil moisture sensor probe location, when applicable			

Irrigation (continued)

Points (Minimum points required: Silver – 35, Gold – 45)

		Points Possible	Points Earned
IR PT 1	High-volume irrigation does not exceed 30% of the landscaped area.	20	
	High-volume irrigation does not exceed 40% of the landscaped area.	15	
	High-volume irrigation does not exceed 50% of the landscaped area.	10	
IR PT 2	All spray heads are pressure regulated.	10	
IR PT 3	Pressure-regulating valves control all zones.	5	
IR PT 4	A master in-line pressure regulator at water source, adjusted to maximize efficient irrigation equipment operation.	5	
IR PT 5	Soil moisture sensor (SMS) controller with one SMS probe is correctly installed, using burial grade connectors in the valve box, and is correctly functioning.	15	
	SMS controller with multiple SMS probes is correctly installed, using burial grade connectors in the valve box, and is correctly functioning.	20	
IR PT 6	ET (evapotranspiration), smart, or weather-based controller is correctly installed, programmed and functioning.	15	
IR PT 7	Leak detection/flow-sensing system is installed by homeowner or utility.	5	
IR PT 8	At least 75% of the landscaped area has no permanent irrigation system.	30	
	At least 50% of the landscaped area has no permanent irrigation system.	25	
	At least 25% of the landscaped area has no permanent irrigation system.	20	
IR PT 9	Landscape has no permanent irrigation system.	45	
IR PT 10	Utility-provided reclaimed water is used for all on-site irrigation.	10	
	Permanent irrigation is supplied by rainwater, stormwater or surface water that meets the program criteria. The backup supply may not be from a potable source.	35	
IR PT 11	Innovative irrigation water conservation is used.	Up to 20	
TOTAL		150+	

Indoor

Prerequisite

All state, county and municipal codes must be met.

		Yes	No	NA
IN PR 1	All appliance water supply connections are reinforced.			
Points (Minimum points required: Silver – 20, Gold – 25)				
		Points Possible	Points Earned	
Bathroom Fixtures				
IN PT 1	All toilets are high-efficiency, 1.28 gallons/flush, with a UNAR MaP rating above 350 grams per flush. WaterSense-labeled toilets may comply.	8		
IN PT 2	Dual-flush toilet (maximum 1.28 gallons/flush) with a UNAR MaP rating above 350 grams per flush. WaterSense-labeled toilets may comply.	2 each		
IN PT 3	A quarter turn or push-pull valve is used for all toilet and faucet supply lines.	2		
IN PT 4	Single showerhead with flow rate of 2 gallons/minute or less, or WaterSense-labeled.	3 each		
IN PT 5	Multiple showerheads in single shower stall used simultaneously.	– 5 each		
IN PT 6	All lavatory sink faucets have flow rates of 1.5 gallons/minute or less, or WaterSense-labeled faucets.	4		
	Lavatory sink faucets have flow rates of 1 gallon/minute or less.	2 each		
Appliances and Water Heaters				
IN PT 7	A quarter turn or push-pull valve is used for all appliance supply lines.	1		
IN PT 8	Dishwasher uses less than 5.8 gallons per cycle (2010 ENERGY STAR® models qualify).	3		
IN PT 9	Clothes washer has water factor of 6 gallons or less (2011 ENERGY STAR® models qualify).	15		
IN PT 10	Centrally located hot water tank/manifold plumbing system is used.	6		
	A point-of-use or on-demand water heater supplies the kitchen fixtures and appliances.	6		
IN PT 11	Innovative indoor water conservation is used.	Up to 10		
TOTAL		50+		

Best Management Practices (Gold Only)

Prerequisites

All state, county and municipal codes must be met.

		Yes	No
BP PR 1	Organic mulch is used and applied to a depth of 2 to 4 inches, leaving a 2-inch space around base of plant.		
BP PR 2	All plants are installed according to the <i>Florida Friendly Best Management Practices for Protection of Water Resources by the Green Industries</i> . The landscape installer must attest to this. The documentation must be received prior to certification (see attached).		

Points (Minimum points required – 15)

		Points possible	Points earned
BP PT 1	Design and installation of landscaped beds do not create irrigated turf areas of less than 4 feet.	10	
BP PT 2	Landscape maintenance instructions with recommended fertilizer and pesticide applications are permanently posted near the irrigation controller.	5	
BP PT 3	Organic soil amendments incorporated into the top 8 inches of existing soil. (Amendment of at least 5% of the soil weight recommended.)	10	
BP PT 4	All downspouts are directed to pervious areas, outfall is 2 feet or more from foundation.	5	

Property Bordering a Water Body (Minimum points required – 10)

		Points possible	Points earned
WB PT 1	A minimum 10-foot border of unirrigated, site-appropriate plants is created parallel to the shoreline/seawall.	Up to 10	
WB PT 2	Non-irrigated vegetated terraces, swales or berms are used to prevent storm water from entering the water body. (A letter of modification to an environmental resource permit may be required by the applicant to achieve these points.)	Up to 10	
TOTAL		50	

Landscape Affidavit (Gold Only)

It is required that landscape materials be installed in accordance with Florida Green Industry best management practices. The installer of the landscape must attest and confirm by signing this document that the following practices have been followed:

	Completed
General	
Organic mulch is used and applied to a depth of 2 to 4 inches, leaving a 2-inch space around base of plant.	
Site evaluation was conducted.	
Right plant, right place – select plants with attributes that are specific to site conditions.	
Plants chosen that will not outgrow their allotted space.	
Soil has been properly prepared before planting to ensure establishment.	
If compacted, soil has been tilled.	
LS PT 10, (if selected) organic soil amendments must be added into the top 8 inches of soil.	
Planting trees and shrubs	
Root ball was inspected and all soil removed from above the topmost root.	
Planting hole is properly prepared. Measure the distance between the topmost root and the bottom of the root ball. Dig the hole about 10% shallower than this depth and as wide as possible (at least one and a half times the width of the ball and even wider in compacted soils).	

I hereby attest that all the above criteria have been fulfilled.

Signature

Date

Company name

Phone

Address

Total Point Summary

	Possible Points	Silver Points Required	Gold Points Required	Points Earned
Landscape	125+	35	45	
Irrigation	150+	35	45	
Indoors	50+	20	25	
BMPs (Gold only)	50	0	15+	
Total Points	375+	90	130+	