

Water Management:

As we approach the summer months; water restrictions, coupled with the health and survivability of your facility's landscape are often vastly opposed concepts. However, there are solutions allowing you maintain a healthy, vibrant landscape while staying in compliance with local municipalities.

Water Management is one of the easiest variables for the FM to keep under control. Smart irrigation controllers and regular system performance checks, completed by licensed irrigation professionals, have a high budgetary ROI.

Smart Controllers have evolved to the point where weather patterns are analyzed in real time and watering schedules are adjusted accordingly - all without requiring a trip to the controller box! That's right - You can access everything needed to effectively manage your facility's irrigation system from your cell phone or computer. Time-consuming trips back and forth to the irrigation controller, while inspecting the system in the field, are a thing of the past.

While Smart Controllers can certainly help with reduction of water usage and handle adjustments of scheduling around weather events, they don't negate the importance of having your licensed irrigation professional evaluate the system's performance and health on a regular basis. The key to longterm system functionality is proper maintenance and repair. Quick fixes often destroy original design intent and functionality, leading to costly capital expense projects.

Remember that simply shutting off an irrigation system due to poor performance or damage is not a cost saving measure. Landscape recovery and reinstallation from lack of irrigation is more time consuming and costly than taking the preventative measures to keep your system in good performance.

Below are a few links to see anticipated and historical water evaporation rates for your facility's area and suggestions from the EPA regarding water conservation best practices.

<https://texaset.tamu.edu>

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-12/documents/ws-commercialbuildings-waterscore-irrigation-landscape-guide.pdf>

If you haven't had your facility's irrigation system evaluated recently, or want more info on water management and its role in the FM world, feel free to give us a call or speak to your licensed irrigation professional.

Josh Dowling
Summit Landscape and Design
830-426-8800
josh@summitlandscapedesign.com