Water Efficient Irrigation Ordinance
Tier 1 Landscape Application

San Francisco Water Power Sewer
Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Applicant Information:

Applicant Name:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Mailing Address:	
SFPUC Account Number:	

Landscape Professional Information (if applicable):

Landscape Professional Name:	
Company:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Mailing Adress:	

Have you previously submitted a Tier 1 or 2 application for this project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Landscape Information:

Landscape Project Site Address: _____

Landscape Parameters and Details

Landscape Parameters	Landscape Information For Residential Project	Notes
Landscape Project Type [1]	Select Landscape Project	
Total Landscape Area (LA) [2] (in square feet)		If the total modified landscape area exceeds 2,500 square feet, if more than 25 percent of the total modified landscape area is turf, or if less than 75 percent of the plants are climate appropriate and low water use, then the project must comply with **Tier 2** requirements. For more information about **Tier 2** requirements, please visit www.sfpuc.gov/landscape or call (415) 551-4730.
Turf Area [3] (in square feet)		
Special Landscape Area (SLA) [4] (in square feet)		**Applicant Description** (e.g. Edible Garden):
Water Feature Surface Area [5] (in square feet)		**Applicant Description** (e.g. Artificial Pond):
MAWA Calculation [6] (in gallons per year)	0	MAWA = Maximum Applied Water Allowance = 35.1 x 0.62 x [(ETAF x LA) + ((1-ETAF) x SLA)] ETAF = Evapotranspiration Adjustment Factor

Landscape Requirements and Compliance

Landscape Parameter	Requirements	Project Compliance
Turf	Turf area in the new or modified site shall *not* exceed 25% of the landscape area. Landscape projects exceeding the 25% turf limit shall be considered a Tier 2 project and must meet all Tier 2 requirements listed at www.sfpuc.gov/landscape.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Turf	Turf areas shall not be greater than ten (10) feet wide.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Turf	Turf shall not be planted on slopes greater than 25%.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Non-Turf	At least 75% of the landscape area shall consist of low water use or climate appropriate plants. [7]	☐ Yes ☐ No
Hydrozones	Plants with similar water needs shall be grouped within hydrozones. A hydrozone is the area controlled by a single irrigation valve.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Hydrozones	Sprinkler heads and other water emitting devices shall be selected based on the water needs for the plant type within a hydrozone.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Hydrozones	Where feasible, trees shall be placed on separate irrigation valves from shrubs, groundcovers, and turf.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Irrigation System	All irrigation controllers shall be automatic and utilize either evapotranspiration or soil moisture sensor data.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Irrigation System	All irrigation controllers shall be equipped with rain sensors which stop or alter irrigation operation during wet weather.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Irrigation System	The irrigation system shall be designed to prevent drainage from low elevation sprinkler heads, runoff, and overspray.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Irrigation System	Only turf areas shall be irrigated with overhead spray irrigation.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Irrigation Schedule	Overhead spray irrigation shall be scheduled between 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Mulch and Compost	A minimum three inch (3") layer of mulch and six inch (6") layer of compost shall be applied on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Plant List	A complete Tier 1 Plant List or a copy of your landscape planting plan shall be submitted with this checklist.	☐ Yes ☐ No

Your Signature:

By typing or signing my name below I certify that the information provided in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and complete. I understand that any changes to the planned project will require an additional application. Additionally, I understand that in order to proceed with my Tier I project I must receive approval from the SFPUC. I agree to stay within the Maximum Applied Water Allowance calculated above when irrigating this landscape.

Signature of property owner or authorized representative

Date

***Please note** that after your project is approved and installed, a **Certificate of Completion** must be submitted to the SFPUC to verify final compliance with the Water Efficient Irrigation Ordinance. The Tier 1 Certificate of Completion form can be found online at www.sfpuc.gov/landscape.*

Select Definitions:

1. **Landscape Project Type** is divided into residential and non-residential projects. Residential landscape means landscapes surrounding single or multi-family homes. Non-residential landscape means landscapes in commercial, institutional, industrial, mixed use, and public settings that may have areas designated for recreation or public assembly.
2. **Landscape Area (LA)** includes all the planting areas, turf areas, and water features in a landscape design plan subject to the Maximum Applied Water Allowance calculation. The landscape area does not include footprints of buildings or structures, sidewalks, other pervious or non-pervious hardscapes, and other non-irrigated areas designated for non-development.
3. **Turf** is defined as a ground cover surface of mowed grass such as Annual bluegrass, Kentucky bluegrass, Perennial ryegrass, Red fescue, Tall fescue, Bermudagrass, Kikuyugrass, Seashore Paspalum, St. Augustinegrass, Zoysiagrass, and Buffalo grass.
4. **Special Landscape Area (SLA)** is an area of the landscape dedicated solely to edible plants, recreational areas (such as parks, sports fields, golf courses, and where turf provides a playing surface), areas irrigated with only graywater or harvested rainwater, or areas irrigated with or using recycled water.
5. **Water features** is a design element where open water performs an aesthetic or recreational function. Water features may include artificial ponds, waterfalls, and fountains. The surface area of water features is included in the high water use hydrozone of the landscape area.
6. **Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA)** establishes the maximum amount of water applied through the irrigation system on an annual basis. If you have a dedicated irrigation meter, you can check your water bill to make sure that you are not exceeding the MAWA for your site. This water budget is calculated using the following equation:

   MAWA = 35.1 x 0.62 x [(ETAF x Landscape Area in Square Feet) + ((1-ETAF) x Special Landscape Area in Square Feet)]

   35.1 = Reference Evapotranspiration for San Francisco (inches per year)

   0.62 = Conversion Factor (to gallons)

   ETAF = Evapotranspiration Adjustment Factor (ETAF) where ETAF is 0.55 for residential areas and 0.45 for non-residential areas

7. **Low water use plants** or **climate appropriate plants** are plants, shrubs, groundcovers, and tree species that, after a 3-year establishment period, will survive in the planting location and are irrigated as a low water use hydrozone. For a list of plants and their water use ranking, go to www.sfpuc.gov/landscape.

Tier 1 Project Plant List

#	Hydrozone Water Use Ranking [A]	Plants in the Hydrozone [B]	Hydrozone Area (square feet)
e.g.	Low Water Use Plants (LW)	*Heteromeles arbutifolia, Lupinus chamissonis, Festuca rubra, Artemisia californica*	750
1	Select water use ranking		
2	Select water use ranking		
3	Select water use ranking		
4	Select water use ranking		
5	Select water use ranking		
6	Select water use ranking		
7	Select water use ranking		
8	Select water use ranking		
9	Select water use ranking		
10	Select water use ranking		
		TOTAL [C]	0

A) **Hydrozone Water Use Ranking:**

Hydrozone is defined as a portion of the landscape area having plants with similar water needs. Hydrozones shall be labeled as below:

- HW = High Water Use Plants (Plant Factors of 0.7-1.0)
- MW = Moderate Water Use Plants (Plant Factors of 0.4-0.6)
- LW = Low Water Use Plants (Plant Factors of 0.1-0.3)
- VLW = Very Low Water Use Plants (Plant Factors of 0.0-0.1)

B) **Plants in the Hydrozone:** Each plant in a hydrozone area must have a plant factor within the range of the water use ranking of the hydrozone. Water use rankings can be found in the San Francisco Plant Water Use List, available online at www.sfpuc.gov/landscape. If your desired plant species is not found on the list, the SFPUC will accept water use rankings established by the Sunset Western Garden Book published by Oxmoor House, 9th or subsequent editions. If the water use ranking of a plant species is in question, please indicate the plant species name and attach an explanation of the special circumstances.

C) The Total Hydrozone Area should equal the Total Landscape Area from Page 1.

Submit your Tier 1 Application to landscape@sfwater.org