



# BOGUE BANKS WATER NEWS



Warmer weather is just around the corner and the spring growing season has already started. Every year we start seeing an influx of residents and visitors that coincide with the weather. As we prepare to triple our water production to meet the demand over the coming months, we ask for conservation from all. The easiest way to conserve water is to use it efficiently. Our biggest use of water and often the most inefficient method of use is irrigation. Beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 a new irrigation policy goes into effect for Bogue Banks Water Customers. All customers with an irrigation system will be affected. The policy is attached with this newsletter and is available on our website at [Boguebankswater.com](http://Boguebankswater.com). Efficiency is going to be the key to successfully maintaining your yard while also conserving water. A few suggestions include:

- Monitor your existing irrigation system more closely. Only run it 2-3 times a week, make sure you have a working rain gauge, consider installing a monitoring device for times you are away, adjust spray patterns so that water is not wasted on driveways/roads.
- Replace outdated irrigation systems with low flow irrigation systems. You'll use 30-50% less water by utilizing a combination of low flow heads and drip irrigation. Rain Bird and Hunter both have low flow solutions as well as many other vendors. Ask your local irrigation specialist for more information.
- Plant trees, grasses, and shrubs for the whole year, not just for summer. Green lawns can be beautiful to look at and enjoy but have a high water demand. Try adding in native species to complement your yard. Trees like Oaks, Holly's, and Wax Myrtles. Flowering plants like Eryngiums, Wild False Indigo, and Solidago. Native grasses like Muhly Grass, Little Bluestem, and Panic Grass. Avoid invasive non-native plants such as Ivy, Eleagnus, and Pampas Grass.
- Add in more landscaped beds and reduce grassy areas. Plants can be decorative or even food producing and require significantly less water to maintain than lawn grass does. Fig trees grow very well here, we have one by our office that produces fruit most of the year! Mulch beds will retain water further reduce the amount of watering needed. Rock gardens are another way of landscaping areas to increase the yard appeal while reducing or eliminating watering needs.

There are many ways to help reduce water consumption on irrigation while still maintaining an attractive yard. It's the perfect chance to get creative and get outside and enjoy the fresh air! If you are like me, some of the above plant names mean absolutely nothing in terms of what they look like. Please visit our website at [Boguebankswater.com](http://Boguebankswater.com) where we will be compiling links and documents to various helpful guides everything from native species to low flow irrigation solutions. With a little planning you can change your water usage and the overall presentation of your yard at your own pace. Remember to plant with a purpose and manage your irrigation use, it will benefit everyone for years to come.

Sincerely,

Seola Hill  
Executive Director  
Bogue Banks Water Corporation