

JAN 18 2013

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. (a) There is established a one-year irrigation
2 water conservation best management practices pilot program,
3 under which the department of accounting and general services,
4 department of transportation, and department of land and natural
5 resources shall implement irrigation water conservation best
6 management practices, as established by the Landscape Industry
7 Council of Hawaii, to improve the efficiency of all existing and
8 new landscape irrigation installations through low cost,
9 practical measures. Irrigation water conservation best
10 management practices shall include:

- 11 (1) Best management practices for maintenance; and
12 (2) Best management practices for new installations or
13 major renovations.

14 (b) As used in this section:

15 "Best management practices for maintenance" includes the
16 use of:

- 17 (1) Seasonal timing adjustments to irrigation controller
18 systems;



1 (2) Aeration of lawns when compaction increases, and short
2 run-time cycle irrigation in areas where runoff and
3 ponding occur;

4 (3) Irrigation controllers programmed for long run times
5 to water as deeply, evenly, and infrequently as
6 possible to encourage deep rooting and increased
7 drought resistance;

8 (4) Mulch, organic matter in soils, and drought-tolerant
9 plants or plants that are naturally occurring at the
10 site and surroundings;

11 (5) The practice of allowing grass to grow taller to
12 conserve water; and

13 (6) Schedule systems to run water at night;

14 provided that best management practices for maintenance may also
15 include periodic practical water audits to review the system
16 components and verify that the components meet the original
17 design criteria for the efficient operation and uniform
18 distribution of water.

19 "Best management practices for new installations or major
20 renovations" includes the use of:

21 (1) New installations that require a coverage test prior
22 to acceptance; and irrigation system designs, plans,



- 1 and specifications that remain on site and contain
2 water conservation language;
- 3 (2) Systems designed with sprinklers spaced head-to-head
4 coverage or better, and with a precipitation rate not
5 exceeding the soil infiltration rate;
- 6 (3) Systems designed to irrigate similar site, slope, sun
7 exposure, soil conditions, and plant materials with
8 similar water use on the same circuit;
- 9 (4) Climate-based automatic irrigation controllers
10 utilizing either evapotranspiration and weather
11 sensors, or soil moisture sensors;
- 12 (5) Flow sensors with a malfunction valve shutoff system
13 capability in an irrigation controller and water
14 submeters that measure outdoor water usage on larger
15 sites;
- 16 (6) Water conserving irrigation components and check
17 valves and drip irrigation for individual specimen
18 plants;
- 19 (7) Storm water design methods, including infiltration
20 beds, swales, and basins that allow water to collect
21 and soak into the ground on site, utilizing low impact
22 development principles;



- 1 (8) Nonpotable water sources when available; and
- 2 (9) A qualified irrigation designer, such as an Irrigation
- 3 Association-certified irrigation designer, Irrigation
- 4 Association-certified irrigation contractor, and a
- 5 maintenance contractor with water conservation
- 6 expertise.

7 SECTION 2. The department of accounting and general
8 services, department of transportation, and department of land
9 and natural resources shall each submit a report regarding the
10 results of the one-year irrigation water conservation best
11 management practices pilot program, including any proposed
12 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
13 to the convening of the regular session of 2015.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

15

INTRODUCED BY: Shoanne Ann Oswald



Report Title:

Water Conservation; Best Management Practices; Public Agencies

Description:

Establishes a one-year pilot program requiring DAGS, DOT, and DLNR to implement irrigation water conservation best management practices, as established by the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii. Requires DAGS, DOT, and DLNR to submit a report regarding the results of the pilot program. Effective 07/01/2013.

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