

CGTF Water Conservation Recommendations 8-16-09

1. To provide subsidy and/or rebate program, possibly supported by grants, which would retrofit interested West Palm Beach property owners with low flush toilet replacements, low water use washing machines, hot water recirculation devices, drip irrigation, rain sensors and rain barrels.
2. To amend the City's code to encourage rainwater harvesting and allow irrigation cisterns for applicable homes and commercial properties.
3. To require rain sensors with automatic shut-off for new irrigation systems and to phase into existing irrigation systems.
4. To amend the City's landscape requirements (as part of our building code) to require the use of native and xeric plants and reduce the required area of planting water-thirsty grass lawns while at the same time ensuring adequate pervious surface for rain/storm water infiltration.
5. To aggressively pursue a policy of removal of invasive non-native vegetation and have a program to replace them with appropriate native xeric vegetation. This should be coupled with an education program so citizens understand their role in saving water and preserving our environment.
6. The City Green Task Force recommends to Mayor Frankel that native plants be included, to the extent possible within the existing budget, in the landscaping of the Waterfront Pavilion.