

ADOPTED

MAR 8 2005

ORDINANCE NO. 116A-36

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JAMES CITY COUNTY
VIRGINIA

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 11, HEALTH AND SANITATION, OF THE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF JAMES CITY, VIRGINIA, BY AMENDING ARTICLE VII, OUTDOOR WATER USE, BY ADDING NEW SECTION 11-66, AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION SYSTEM; AND BY RENUMBERING OLD SECTION 11-66, VIOLATIONS OF ARTICLE, TO SECTION 11-67.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of James City, Virginia, that Chapter 11, Health and Sanitation, is hereby amended and reordained by adding new Section 11-66, Automatic irrigation system; and by renumbering old Section 11-66, Violations of article, to Section 11-67.

Chapter 11. Health and Sanitation

Article VII. Outdoor Water Use

Sec. 11-66. *Automatic irrigation system.*

(a) Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them as follows:

Automatic irrigation system. A device or combination of devices having a hose, pipe, or other conduit installed in the landscape which transmits James City Service Authority (JCSA) water, through which device or combination of devices JCSA water or a mixture of JCSA water and chemicals is drawn and applied to residential or commercial lawns, landscapes or greenspace.

Rain sensor. An electronic device that measures rainfall and will override the irrigation cycle of an automatic irrigation system, thus turning it off, when a predetermined amount of rain has fallen. To meet

the requirements of this section, the device shall be mounted in an open area outdoors, above ground in an unobstructed location, well suited for gauging rain, according to the manufacturer's specifications. The rain sensor shall override the irrigation controller when adequate rainfall has occurred, which will keep the automatic irrigation system from watering in the rain.

(b) Requirements.

(1) In order to protect the public, health and welfare and insure the integrity of the JCSA water system, all irrigation systems installed in James City County and supplied water by the JCSA after March 8, 2005, shall have a rain sensor gauge set at one-fourth inch or less such that the system is turned off when one-fourth inch or more rain has fallen.

(2) JCSA customers with automatic irrigation systems that were installed prior to March 8, 2005, without a rain sensor are encouraged to install a rain sensor.

(3) All automatic irrigation systems must have a backflow preventor device.

(c) Maintenance.

All rain sensors shall be adjusted and set at one-fourth inch or less so that they automatically shut off when one-fourth inch of rain has fallen. All rain sensors shall be installed according to the manufacturer's instructions in a location that will provide full exposure to rainfall such that accuracy of operation is assured and shall be maintained in good working condition. No person shall adjust either the rain sensor or automatic irrigation system so that the rain sensor is not able to override and turn off the automatic irrigation system after one-fourth inch of rain has fallen. The rain sensor shall automatically interrupt the watering schedule of the automatic irrigation system and return it to its normal schedule after

the rain event ends. The even/odd watering day schedule will still apply notwithstanding any provisions in this ordinance.

State law reference - Power of authority, Code of Virginia § 15.2-5114.

Sec. 11-667. Violations of article.

A violation of any provision of this article shall constitute a misdemeanor by a fine of up to \$2,500.00 and each day that a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.



Michael J. Brown, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Sanford B. Wanner
Clerk to the Board

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors of James City County, Virginia, on this 8th day of March, 2005.

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