

ORDINANCE NO. _____
**CONCERNING MOISTURE AND RAINFALL SENSORS AND NOTIFICATION OF
SHUT OFF INSTRUCTIONS FOR IRRIGATION SYSTEMS**

WHEREAS, water conservation is an important issue affecting the City of Stamford; and

WHEREAS, in order to engage in ongoing water conservation in the City of Stamford, irrigation systems will be required to have a sensor that suspends the system during periods of moisture or rainfall; and

WHEREAS, in order to conserve water during drought conditions, residential property owners may be required by governmental regulation or directive to not operate their irrigation systems; and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with such regulation or directive, residential property owners must know how to shut off their irrigation systems; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is in the best interests of the City of Stamford to require installers of irrigation systems to attach instructions for shutting off irrigation systems to the controls to such systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT:

Chapter 239, Irrigation Systems, is hereby adopted:

Sec. 239-1. – Installation of Rain/ Moisture Sensors to Irrigation Systems.

- A. New irrigation systems. At the time of installation of a new irrigation system to distribute water, the installer shall install a rain/moisture sensor that will suspend operation of the irrigation system during during periods of moisture or rainfall
- B. Existing irrigation systems. During repairs to existing irrigation systems that require replacement of the control box and or replacement of the entire system, the installer shall install a rain/moisture sensor that will suspend operation of the irrigation system during periods of moisture or rainfall.
- C. The installer shall make the property owner aware of the sensor required by paragraphs (A) and (B) above.

Sec. 239-2.– Attachment of Instructions to Irrigation System controls.

- A. At the time when the installation of an irrigation system to distribute water is completed, the installer shall affix to the control panel of the system a permanent, waterproof sticker, printed with waterproof ink, which provides:
 - (1) the installer's name, license number, company name, company address and phone number; and
 - (2) simple instructions explaining how to shut the irrigation system off so that no water is used.

B. The installer shall make the property owner aware of the location of the control panel and of the sticker required by paragraph (A) above, and shall make the property owner aware that the sticker contains instructions for shutting off the irrigation system.

C. Whenever an irrigation system installer performs routine maintenance on an irrigation system, or repairs an irrigation system, and said system does not have affixed to its control panel the sticker required by paragraph (A) above, then upon the completion of such maintenance or repair the installer shall affix the sticker required by paragraph (A) above to the system's control panel. At such time, the installer shall also comply with paragraph (B) above.

Sec. 239-3.– Penalties.

A. Any person who violates any provision of this Chapter shall pay a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each separate offense.

B. The Board of Representatives at any time may adjust the fines contained in this ordinance by resolution. The Mayor may recommend CPI adjustments to the fines set forth in this ordinance or any subsequent ordinance or resolution provided that the maximum adjustment of any fine shall be no more than the Consumer Price Index for Northeast Urban Consumers prepared by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, using July 1 of the year in which the ordinance or resolution is adopted as the base period. The Board of Representatives shall be informed of any such adjustment at least sixty (60) days prior to the adjustment going into effect. Furthermore, within sixty (60) days of notification the Board of Representatives may reject the proposed adjustments by simple majority vote; otherwise the fines shall take effect. This provision for CPI adjustments shall not restrict the Mayor from proposing other fines provided herein.

C. In addition to other available methods of enforcement, this Chapter may be enforced through the civil citation process.

Sec. 239-4.– Effective Date.

This Chapter shall become effective 60 days after the date of its adoption by the Board of Representatives.